

GATEWAY SEMINARY
Ontario Campus
S4013-11: Jewish Second Temple Literature
Gary P. Arbino
Spring 2017

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Course Description

This seminar will survey selections from Second Temple Jewish Literature not found in most Protestant Bibles: Apocrypha, Pseudepigrapha, Qumran texts and others. Clearly related to the textual, ideological and canonical developments of the TaNaKh (Old Testament), this literature and its contexts give necessary insight into the world and ideas in which and to which Jesus taught and out of which the early Christians wrote and from which sprang early rabbinic Judaism.

Purpose

After completing this course, the student should have a basic grasp of the nature and contexts (historical, theological and cultural) of the writing produced by the Jewish community/s in the Second Temple Period, as well as the issues involved in their interpretation and significance for biblical (OT & NT) and theological study.

Format

This class is a readings-based seminar wherein class discussion will be essential to the learning experience. **This course is heavily dependant on readings** (ca 1000 pgs). These readings must be done in advance of the class periods so that discussion is of the proper quality. It is strongly suggested that students make notes from their readings so that participation in discussions may be smooth and cogent. Each student will be expected to participate in all aspects of the class.

Evaluation

Evaluation of students' work will be based on the following four areas

- 1) Participation in Discussions
- 2) Reading: Students are expected to read the assigned materials

NOTE: At the first seminar session in Seminar Week, each student will turn in a statement indicating that she or he has read the required reading for Parts I & II and is prepared to discuss said material. Failure to submit this will have dire negative consequences. - **Form to be completed is found at end of this syllabus.**

- 3) Apocrypha Presentations – On Weekend 2, students will lead brief discussions on selected works from the Apocrypha.
- 4) Research Paper (25-30 pages) and Presentation. Details during Seminar Week.

TEXTBOOKS

One course “textbook” is required, along with access to numerous primary texts.

Collins, J.J. and D.C. Harlow, eds. (2012) *Early Judaism: A Comprehensive Overview*. Eerdmans (*EJ*).

-this book is a compendium of the essays and two articles from the larger work: Collins, J.J. and D.C. Harlow, eds. (2010) *The Eerdmans Dictionary of Early Judaism*, Eerdmans (*DEJ*). Although for ThM students the shorter text will suffice, I would strongly suggest that PhD students own the full Dictionary itself. All will benefit from the dictionary entries pertaining to individual primary texts.

In addition, students will need access to

- the **Apocrypha** (available in several printed forms as well as online, and LOGOS);
- assigned texts in the **Pseudepigrapha** (available in several printed forms – Charlesworth, Bauckham, Charles, etc - as well as online, and LOGOS);
- assigned texts from **Qumran** (available in several printed forms -García Martínez, F. (1996), García Martínez, F. and E.J.C. Tigchelaar (1997-98), Parry & Tov (2004-05) – with some, but not all, of this material online). Students are encouraged to contact the professor if they have difficulty locating this material.
- *Josephus* (printed or online)
- *Philo* (printed or online)
- LXX

Other non-required resources the student might utilize include:

Eshel, H. (2008) *The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Hasmonean State*. Eerdmans

Feldman, L.H., J.L. Kugel and L. Schiffman, eds. (2013) *Outside the Bible: Ancient Jewish Writings Related to Scripture*, JPS/U Nebraska

Grabbe, L.L. (2008) *A History of the Jews and Judaism in the Second Temple Period. Volume 2. The Coming of the Greeks: The Early Hellenistic Period (335- 175 BCE)*. T&T Clark.

Grabbe, L.L. (2010). *An Introduction to Second Temple Judaism*. T&T Clark.

Helyer, L. (2002) *Exploring Jewish Literature of the Second Temple Period*. IVP

Henze, M., ed.(2012) *A Companion to Biblical Interpretation in Early Judaism*. Eerdmans

Lipschits, O. et al, eds. (2007) *Judah and the Judeans in the Fourth Century B.C.E.*. Eisenbrauns

Meyers, E and Chancey, M. (2012) *Alexander to Constantine: Archaeology of the Land of the Bible*, Yale

Nicklesburg, G.W.E. (2005). *Jewish Literature Between the Bible and the Mishnah*, 2nd ed. Fortress

Nickelsburg, G. and M. Stone, eds. (2009) *Early Judaism. Texts and Documents on Faith and Piety*. Rev. Ed. Fortress

Schiffman, L. and J. VanderKam. (2000) *Encyclopedia of the Dead Sea Scrolls*. 2 Volumes. Oxford

Stone, M. (2011) *Ancient Judaism: New Visions and Views*. Eerdmans

Tsedaka, B., ed. and trans. (2013). *The Israelite Samaritan Version of the Torah*. Eerdmans

White-Crawford, S. (2008) *Rewriting Scripture in Second Temple Times*. Eerdmans

SCHEDULE:

Seminar Week (January): Context & Qumran

Part I. Context:

Required Reading:

- *EJ*. Essays 1-4 (pp 1-120), 10-13 (253-390).
 - *NOTE*: in *DEJ* these are 1-4, 10-11, plus Entries on Josephus and Philo
- Josephus. *Antiquities of the Jews*, Books 12.1-14.4; *Wars of the Jews*, Book 1, Chapters 1-9
- Philo. “*On the Migration of Abraham*” (I-III =1-17)

Part II: Qumran Texts

Required Readings:

- *EJ*: Essay 8 (204-227)
- Specific Texts (do not read for details; get a general impression of the writing and content and perhaps a few items that catch your eye):
 - Damascus Document (CD)
 - Rule of Congregation (1QSa/11Q28a)
 - Rule of Community (1QS)
 - War Scroll (1QM/4QM) - long but fragmentary: skim
 - Temple Scroll (11Q19) – long but fragmentary: skim
 - Halakic Document (4QMMT)
 - Habakkuk (1QpHab)
 - Nahum (4QpNah)
 - Testimonia (4Q175)
 - Melchizedek (11Q13)
 - Songs of the Sabbath Sacrifice (The Angelic Liturgy) (11Q17),

Weekend One: Rewritten Scriptures & Pseudepigrapha (February)

Part I: Translated and Re-Written Scripture and other texts

Required Readings:

- *EJ*. Essays 5-6 (121-178)
- Translations:
 - *Letter of Aristeas*
 - *LXX (Ex 35-40; 1 Samuel/Kingdoms 17-18; compare with MT)*
 - *Peters, MKH. “Septuagint” in Anchor Bible Dictionary* (provided PDF)
- Re-Written Scripture:
 - *Genesis Apocryphon (1QapGen ar)*
 - *Jubilees*
 - *Testament of Reuben (in Testament of the 12 Patriarchs)*
 - *Pseudo-Philo*

Part II: Pseudepigrapha

Required Readings:

- *EJ*, Essay 7 (179-203)
- Selections from the Pseudepigrapha –
 - *1 Enoch*
 - *Joseph and Aseneth*
 - *Testament of Moses*

- *Apocalypse of Abraham*
- *Testament of the 12 Patriarchs*
- *Testament of Job*
- *Testament of Abraham*
- *The Life of Adam and Eve*
- *Sibylline Oracles: Book 3*
- *Psalms of Solomon*

Weekend Two: Apocrypha & Issues (March)

Part I. The Apocrypha

Required Readings:

- All of the Apocrypha
- *EJ*. Essay 9 (228-252).

Each student will focus on chosen books in order to assist the class in understanding those specific books and their significance. This assistance will take the form of a brief presentation (ca 10-15 minutes each) of each of the selected works. The presentation should discuss the basic issues surrounding the texts (composition, themes, problems, relation to “canonical” texts, etc.). The presentation should distill the aspects of the work and help the class to understand its significance, remembering that all students have read each book.

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|--|--|
| A. Tobit, Judith | |
| B. Additions to Esther, Prayer of Manasseh | |
| C. Additions to Daniel: Prayer, Bel, Susanna | |
| D. Baruch, Letter of Jeremiah | |
| E. Wisdom of Solomon | |
| F. Ben Sirach (Ecclesiasticus) | |
| G. 1 (&2) Esdras | |

Weekend Three: Papers (April)

Assignment 4: Paper

Papers will be turned in one week prior.
 Presentations (25 min max) will be made during the seminar time.
 Evaluation Form turned in by all students for each paper – see end of syllabus.
 Topics and Details during Seminar Week.

ASSIGNMENT 1 – Reading for Seminar Week

PRINTED NAME _____

I have completed the following required readings and am prepared (at some level) to discuss them during Seminar Week:

| Check if read | Pgs | TITLE |
|---------------|-----|--|
| | 290 | <i>EJ</i> Essays 1-4, 8, 10-13 |
| | 55 | Josephus. <i>Antiquities of the Jews</i> , Books 12.1-14.4; <i>Wars of the Jews</i> , Book 1, Chapters 1-9 |
| | 10 | Philo. “ <i>On the Migration of Abraham</i> ” (I-III =1-17) |
| | 200 | Qumran materials (11 documents): |
| | | <i>Damascus Document (CD)</i> |
| | | <i>Rule of Congregation (1QSa/11Q28a)</i> |
| | | <i>Rule of Community (1QS)</i> |
| | | <i>War Scroll (1QM/4QM)</i> - long but fragmentary: skim |
| | | <i>Temple Scroll (11Q19)</i> – long but fragmentary: skim |
| | | <i>Halakic Document (4QMMT)</i> |
| | | <i>Habakkuk (1QpHab)</i> |
| | | <i>Nahum (4QpNah)</i> |
| | | <i>Testimonia (4Q175)</i> |
| | | <i>Melchizedek (11Q13)</i> |
| | | <i>Songs of the Sabbath Sacrifice (The Angelic Liturgy) (11Q17)</i> |
| TTL | 555 | |

Signed: _____

SECOND TEMPLE LITERATURE: Paper Evaluation Form (Spring 2017)

Student writing this evaluation: _____

Paper Title: _____

Paper Author: _____

Author's main conclusion to the research question:

Three Questions to ask the paper author:

1.

2.

3.

Evaluation:

Use the categories:

1 = Excellent; 2 = Good; 3 = OK, 4 = poor, in addition to your evaluative comments.

1 Adequacy (depth) of preparation (utilization of both primary and secondary resources, including appropriate use of journals and foreign language materials and the biblical languages where appropriate):

2 Clarity and development of the paper. Was the main research question answered cogently with demonstration of critical thinking skills - fairly evaluating differing positions and arguments? Was the methodology(s) appropriate and employed critically and soundly.

3 Readability and style:

4 Suggestions for improvement: