**AMHERST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

**SYLLABUS FOR: CFOT-140**

**PSALMS & PROVERBS**

**MEET YOUR MENTOR:**

**NAME:**

**EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_@srcministry.org**:

### **TEXTS, MATERIALS, AND SUPPLIES:**

**- *The Bible*  Bible versions that are deemed acceptable include the following:**

American Standard Version

Holman Christian Standard Version

King James Version

New King James Version

New International Version

New American Standard Bible

Revised Standard Version

New Living Translation

**GRADING SCALE:**

90-100 A

80-89 B

70-79 C

60-69 D

59-Below F

**GRADING:** Your final grade is determined by dividing the number of questions by 100 then adding up your total points. If there are 10 questions, then each question is worth 10 points. Example: If you were to get 10 points on 8 questions, 8 on one and 9 on another, Your final grade would be 80+8+9=97.

## **ASSIGNMENTS:**

### In this course, you are given 10-12 questions designed to make you reflect, think, and comment on the assigned book(s) of scripture. You may use any and all ***VALID***  Christian resources as determined by your mentor, vice-chancellor, and chancellor. After you answer all the questions, submit your answers for discussion with your mentor. You may be required to resubmit or revise one or more of your answers. The idea is to engage in a back and forth discussion that is beneficial to both parties. The mentors ultimate decision regarding grades is final in all cases.

### **COURSE SCHEDULE**

While there are no set dates, we do expect that you will be disciplined and work on a regular and consistent basis. Please submit your completed assignments to your instructors as indicated.

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|  | **QUESTIONS** |
| 1 | Explore the diversity of emotions expressed in the Book of Psalms, from joy and praise to lament and despair. Discuss how these emotions reflect the depth of human experience and provide solace and guidance for readers facing similar feelings today. |
| 2 | Examine the significance of the messianic Psalms in the context of the Old Testament. Discuss how these Psalms, such as Psalm 22 and 110, point to the coming of the Messiah and how they are interpreted in the New Testament in relation to Jesus Christ. |
| 3 | Investigate the theme of repentance in the Penitential Psalms (such as Psalm 51) and discuss the heartfelt pleas for forgiveness and restoration. Reflect on the universal human experience of sin and the spiritual lessons offered by these Psalms. |
| 4 | Analyze the imagery and metaphors used in Psalms to describe God, including God as Shepherd, Rock, and Refuge. Discuss how these metaphors contribute to the understanding of God's character and the relationship between humanity and the divine. |
| 5 | Explore the concept of worship in the Psalms, including the various forms of praise and adoration expressed. Discuss the importance of worship in the life of believers and how the Psalms provide a rich source of inspiration for personal and communal worship. |
| 6 | Discuss the historical context of the royal Psalms, focusing on Psalms related to the reign of King David. Analyze how these Psalms reflect the challenges and triumphs of the monarchy in ancient Israel and their enduring relevance for contemporary discussions about leadership and authority. |
| 7 | Examine the theme of wisdom in the Book of Proverbs. Discuss the characteristics of a wise person according to Proverbs and explore the practical advice offered for living a virtuous and meaningful life. Reflect on the distinction between worldly wisdom and divine wisdom. |
| 8 | Investigate the role of parents and mentors in the teaching of wisdom in Proverbs. Discuss the passages that emphasize parental guidance and instruction, exploring the importance of passing down wisdom from one generation to the next. Reflect on the cultural and moral values emphasized in this teaching. |
| 9 | Analyze the portrayal of the "fool" in Proverbs and discuss the consequences of folly as described in the text. Explore the contrast between wisdom and folly, highlighting the moral and social implications of foolish behavior. Reflect on the warnings and lessons embedded in these portrayals. |
| 10 | Discuss the theme of the fear of the Lord in Proverbs. Analyze the relationship between the fear of the Lord and wisdom, exploring how reverence for God shapes ethical decision-making and moral conduct. Reflect on the theological implications of this theme in the context of Proverbs. |
| 11 | Explore the theme of speech and words of the mouth in Proverbs. Discuss the significance of truthful and wise speech, as well as the dangers of gossip, lies, and slander. Analyze the moral and social impact of words and how Proverbs provides guidance for effective communication and interpersonal relationships. |
| 12 | Examine the role of women in Proverbs, including the portrayal of the virtuous woman in Proverbs 31. Discuss the cultural and social context of these depictions and explore the lessons about wisdom, diligence, and character that can be derived from these passages. Reflect on the relevance of these teachings for contemporary discussions about gender roles and virtues. |