

**BS714 The Psalms**

<b>Instructor</b>	Dr. Rebecca Hancock
<b>Schedule</b>	Thursdays 6-8:30 p.m.
<b>Description</b>	This course will combine study of broader issues related to the Book of Psalms—including the history of interpretation, poetry in the Psalms, the Psalter as a collection, theology and the psalms, divine justice in the psalms, and the use of historical motifs—with exegetical study of individual psalms. Students will be introduced to current issues in biblical scholarship on the Psalms, and examine theological and ethical implications for both ancient and contemporary faith communities.
<b>Requirements</b>	Reading: Students will complete approximately 800 pages of reading and should come to class prepared to discuss the readings assigned.
	Writing: Three short papers (4-5 pages) plus one exegetical (research) paper (12-15 pages) for a total of 24-30 pages.
	Other Assignments: Psalms oral presentation

**Required Texts:**

Author and Title (Press, Year, Edition)	Cost	Pages to be read
Robert Alter, <i>The Book of Psalms: A Translation with Commentary</i> . New York: Norton, 2007. (ISBN 0393337049).	\$20	400
Bernhard W. Anderson, <i>Out of the Depths: The Psalms Speak for Us Today</i> . 3 <sup>rd</sup> edition. Rev. and Expanded. Louisville, Westminster John Knox, 2000. (ISBN-13: 978-0664258320).	\$25	200
William P. Brown, <i>Psalms</i> , Interpreting Biblical Text Series. Nashville: Abingdon, 2010. (ISBN 978-0687008452)	\$20	150
An academically- suitable study Bible.  Acceptable examples include The New Oxford Annotated Bible [NRSV], 5 <sup>th</sup> edition (Oxford University Press, 2018); The HarperCollins Study Bible [NRSV] (HarperOne, 2006); The New Interpreter's Study Bible [NRSV] (Abingdon Press, 2003); or The Catholic Study Bible [NABRE], 3 <sup>rd</sup> edition (Oxford University Press, 2016).		