GRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTION

Term: Fall 2016
Instructor: Dr. Joshua Ezra Burns
Course #: THEO 8124
Course Title: Wisdom Books of Ancient Israel

Content:

This course will survey the so-called sapiential or wisdom books of the Hebrew Scriptures and Deuterocanonical Old Testament, which include Proverbs, Job, Ecclesiastes, Sirach, and Wisdom of Solomon. We will furthermore consider related writings speaking to the legacies of the biblical wisdom tradition in early Judaism and Christianity.

Format:

The course will follow a seminar format. Class meetings will feature analytical exercises involving the interpretation of selected scriptural texts as well as regular reports by students on related secondary literature.

Assignments and/or Examinations:

- The course requires a research paper approximately twenty pages in length on a topic to be determined in consultation with the instructor.

Language Pre-requisites:

- All reading assignments will be in English. Reading knowledge of classical Hebrew and/or Greek is recommended for doctoral students.