

Shaw University Divinity School  
 OTS 596  
 Directed Studies in Old Testament  
 Spring 2009

**Welcome!**

Welcome! Shaw University Divinity School students are bright, mature, dedicated learners. We will together try to discern what God's Word has to say to us today.

**Instructor**

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**Office Hours**

Tuesday, 8:00 am to 6:00 pm  
 other days and times by appointment

**Divinity School Program Learning Outcomes**

**Mission Statements**

<b>MRE Program Mission</b>	<b>MDiv Program Mission</b>
The mission of the Master of Religious Education degree is to equip persons for competent leadership in Christian Education to serve congregational ministries and other religious institutions. This purpose is consistent with the mission of Shaw University Divinity School; the Master of Religious Education program focuses on leadership in the “practice of ministry,” particularly in the African American Church	The mission of the Master of Divinity degree is to prepare persons for ordained ministry, for chaplaincy, general pastoral and religious leadership responsibilities in congregations and other settings, and to prepare some students for admission to advanced programs oriented to theological research and teaching. The purpose is consistent with the mission of Shaw University Divinity School; the Master of Divinity program focuses on leadership in the “practice of ministry,” particularly in the African American church

**Program Goals**

<b>MRE Program Goals</b>	<b>MDiv Program Goals</b>
1. to equip students with the capacity for critical and constructive theological reflection regarding the content and processes of educational ministry;	1. to provide students with an intellectual atmosphere and a comprehensive, discriminating understanding of our religious heritage;

<b>MRE Program Goals</b>	<b>MDiv Program Goals</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. to help students understand the educational, social, and behavioral sciences that undergird educational practice, as well as the cultural contexts in which educational ministry occurs;</li> <li>3. to assist students with personal growth and spiritual maturity; and</li> <li>4. to provides skills in teaching and in design, administration, and assessment of educational programming.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. to enhance student training for Christian ministry, mindful of global, and diverse cross cultural, and non-American Christianities, and interaction with other faith traditions;</li> <li>3. to support students' development in the personal and spiritual capacities necessary for pastoral and religious leadership, advancing growth in personal faith, emotional maturity, moral integrity, and public witness;</li> <li>4. to expand programmatic activities, services, and academic programming to enhance student capacity for ministerial and public leadership.</li> </ol>

### Program Learning Outcomes

<b>MRE Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs)</b>	<b>MDiv Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs)</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Graduates will demonstrate a capacity to articulate an understanding of the scriptural, historical, and theological traditions of particular Christian traditions and of the broader community of faith</li> <li>2. Graduates will evaluate teaching and learning theories for the purpose of developing a distinctly Christian philosophy of educating God's people;</li> <li>3. Graduates will demonstrate a capacity for critical reflection on how their unique personalities, backgrounds, and gifts and abilities relate to the ministry of Christian education;</li> <li>4. Graduates will demonstrate a capacity to design and to carry out a lesson plan necessary for effective educational ministries</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Graduates will demonstrate a capacity to articulate an understanding of the scriptural, historical, and theological traditions of particular Christian traditions and of the broader community of faith</li> <li>2. Graduates will develop a consciousness about and a capacity to reflect critically on issues of diversity, globalization, and cross cultural concerns;</li> <li>3. Graduates will demonstrate a capacity for critical reflection on how their unique personalities, backgrounds, and gifts and abilities relate to the role of the minister as leader, guide, and servant of the faith community;</li> <li>4. Graduates will demonstrate a capacity to create programs and have a critical voice in ministerial and public leadership</li> </ol>

## Course Description

### OTS 596. Directed Studies in Old Testament II (3)

This is a special course in directed studies designed to allow one or more students to work with a professor in pursuing independent reading and research on particular topics in Old Testament.

#### Student Learning Outcomes

<b>Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)</b>  <b>At the completion of this course, students will be able to:</b>	<b>Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes (Assessment Tools)</b>	<b>Linkage to MDiv Program Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Linkage to MRE Program Learning Outcomes</b>
1. describe the major scholarly positions on an issue relating to the Old Testament	final assignment	1	1
2. plan and conduct independent research	final assignment	4	4

## Texts and Blackboard

### Required Texts

The instructor and student will agree on texts to be read during the semester, according to the topic. Please see the attached contract. Ordinarily there will be a minimum of 1000 pages in total reading.

### Blackboard

This class will use Blackboard. You can connect to the Blackboard site through the University's website [www.shawuniversity.edu](http://www.shawuniversity.edu).

## Course Requirements

The assignments will be agreed upon by the instructor and student. Please see the attached contract. Ordinarily there will be more than one assignment.

### M.Div./M.R.E. Assignments

Because this course is open to both M.Div. and M.R.E. students, assignments will be selected consistent with the differing Program Learning Outcomes for the different degrees.

### Plagiarism/Honor Pledge

All assignments are submitted with the following honor pledge implied.

I affirm that the content of this assignment is my own work. Nothing in this work is copied from a textbook, other book or online source, or another student except where

permitted and properly documented. I understand that if I violate this affirmation I will receive a failing grade on this assignment and possibly in the class.

The University Handbook states that repeated instances of plagiarism will result in suspension and/or expulsion from school.

## Attendance and Classroom Decorum

### **Attendance**

Because this is a directed study course, there will not be regularly scheduled class meetings. The student and instructor will set mutually convenient meeting times. Please see the attached contract.

## Evaluation

This course will employ a 10 point scale:

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
Below 60	F

**Please note:** because this is a required course, students must make a C or better, or the course will have to be repeated.

### **Incompletes**

An incomplete can only be given in extraordinary situations when there is a compelling reason why a student cannot complete the required work before the end of the semester. A student must request an incomplete, state a reason why she/he cannot complete the work, and sign an I-Grade Form before an incomplete can be granted. This must be done before the final date for grades to be submitted.

**OTS 596**

**Directed Studies In Old Testament**

**Independent Study Contract**

**Student:**

**Instructor:**

**Texts:**

**Requirements:**

**Due Dates:**

**Meetings with Instructor:**

**Signatures:**

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Student

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Instructor