

Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership proudly offers:

## *Introduction to the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible*

**OCTOBER 17 – DECEMBER 1, 2018**

**8-WEEK ONLINE COURSE**

[\*\*REGISTER ONLINE\*\*](#)



### **Course Description and Objectives**

While the Church of the Brethren has long held the New Testament as its focus, the Old Testament or Hebrew Bible is the basis of much of the New Testament's faith. In this course, we will work through the various books of the Hebrew Bible and look at their ancient context. We will attempt to better understand how these books interact and how they influence the New Testament texts. We will also look at a number of modern theories about these texts and how these theories influence how these books are read today.

Students will:

- TRIM/EFSM students- fulfills one M/MS unit
- Those seeking Continuing Education Units (2.0 CEU)
- Anyone seeking personal and spiritual enrichment

This course is available to:

- Critically analyze the text of the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible
- Identify and describe elements of the surrounding culture(s) informing the text of the Hebrew Bible.
- Interpret Hebrew Bible passages using the biblical text, scholarly commentaries, academic articles, and other external sources.
- Use this meaning from the text to a modern ministry-related application.

### **Instructor: Matt Boersma**

Matthew Boersma is a PhD candidate in Hebrew Bible and its Interpretation at Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, Ohio. He is beginning his dissertation work on how the early Jewish and Christian communities read the Bible within the wider Roman culture. Matt focuses on how both the Rabbis and the Christians treated gender and sexuality in their reading and application of biblical texts. Prior to Hebrew Union College, Matt graduated from Bethany Theological Seminary with an MA in 2011. Matt lives in Greensburg, Indiana, with his spouse Nykki and three children: Miriam (11), Malachi (7), and Salome (3).

Essentially, this course is open to ALL!

Course fee \$295.00

**Registration deadline:**

**September 12, 2018**

**Brethren Academy for  
Ministerial Leadership**

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Richmond, IN 47374

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**Course Withdrawal  
Refund Policy**

100% of course fee prior  
to registration

50% from the registration  
deadline to the first day

No refunds will be given  
once the class has  
begun

Exceptions require the  
approval of the Director  
of the Brethren  
Academy

## Reading List

Study Bible. The one from the Orientation course is fine. If you do not have that one, I suggest *The New Oxford Annotated Bible* (NRSV) (ISBN: 978-0-19-528955-8, though there are other printings of it. Any printing should suffice.)

Collins, John J. *A Short Introduction to the Hebrew Bible: Second Edition*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2014. (ISBN: 978-1451472943)

Other readings distributed in class.

## Expectations

Online learning requires students to be disciplined in their time management. Students are expected to spend 10 hours per week in course-related work

For online learning, students will need basic computer skills and access to the internet. If your computer is four years old or less, you should have the capabilities for this class. These capabilities include:

- Modem: Minimum 56 kbps speed is slow but adequate. A speed of 100 kbps (300 recommended) is needed for podcasts and 300 kbps (500 recommended) for videos
- An email account
- An up-to-date web browser; such as Firefox, Internet Explorer or Google Chrome

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[Register online](#) or fill out following information and return, along with payment to:  
Brethren Academy \* 615 National Road West \*Richmond, IN \* 47374

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Best contact phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I will be taking this course for: \_\_\_\_\_ TRIM credit \_\_\_\_\_ EFSM credit \_\_\_\_\_ CEUs (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Personal Enrichment  
**Course Fee: \$295 payable to Brethren Academy** Registration Deadline: September 12, 2018