

## **Fulfillment of the M.Div. OT Requirement via Prior Coursework**

All M.Div. students at YDS are required to complete twelve credit hours of coursework distributed between Hebrew Bible and New Testament. Ordinarily, this must include at least three credit hours in Old Testament Interpretation (REL 503/504) and at least three credit hours in New Testament Interpretation (REL 505/506). The YDS introductory courses are based on the denominational ordination requirements of the majority of our MDiv students. Many denominations require those seeking ordination to take a national exam on the contents of the Old and New Testaments and also require an exegesis paper on a passage that is determined each year by the denomination. In addition, many other courses in OT/HB require REL 503/4 as prerequisites.

It is rare for undergraduate courses to include comprehensive consideration of historical critical methods (source, form, tradition, and redaction criticism), as well as newer methods such as holistic reading, feminist criticism, canonical criticism, and various post-modernist approaches; to familiarize students with the historical and cultural context of the Hebrew Bible; and to require an exegesis paper. In exceptional cases, students may be equipped to substitute an alternate course in Hebrew Bible/Old Testament in fulfillment of their OT requirement. Students wishing to be considered for such advanced standing must bring this form and appropriate evidence of past coursework (syllabi and transcripts) to one of the faculty members who regularly teaches Old Testament Interpretation (REL 503/504).

**Student's name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Checklist:**

\_\_\_\_\_ The student has taken coursework dealing with major portions of the Old Testament

\_\_\_\_\_ The student has taken coursework covering historical critical and more recent methods of interpretation

\_\_\_\_\_ The student has taken coursework considering the history and cultural context of the Old Testament

\_\_\_\_\_ The student has written an exegesis paper on Hebrew Bible/Old Testament material

\_\_\_\_\_ The student has performed at a satisfactory level in the relevant coursework

**On the basis of my review of this material, I authorize this student:**

\_\_\_\_\_ To substitute a Yale HB/OT course other than OT I or II in satisfaction of the MDiv OT requirement\*

\_\_\_\_\_ To enroll in OT/HB courses that require REL 503/4 as prerequisite

\_\_\_\_\_  
Faculty member's name and signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\*The Registrar must be informed of the specific course that will be taken in substitution.

This form is to be returned to the Registrar. A copy should be retained by the student.