



## OTEN5300 EXPLORING THE OLD TESTAMENT

### New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

### Division of Biblical Studies

### Spring Semester 2016

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#### **Mission Statement**

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has five core values. The core value focus for 2015-2016 academic year is *Mission Focus*. This course supports the five core values of the seminary.

1. **Doctrinal Integrity:** Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. This course addresses Doctrinal Integrity specifically by equipping students to understand and gain ability to articulate biblical, theological, and historical truths.
2. **Spiritual Vitality:** We are a worshiping community emphasizing both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary family for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word. Spiritual Vitality is addressed by challenging students to grow in spiritual and moral integrity through the study of the biblical text and spiritual and ethical practices.
3. **Mission Focus:** We are not here merely to get an education or to give one. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries. This course addresses Mission Focus by helping students understand the biblical foundations for fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments.
4. **Characteristic Excellence:** What we do, we do to the utmost of our abilities and resources as a testimony to the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Characteristic Excellence is addressed by preparing students to excel in their ability to understand and interpret Scripture, which is foundational to effective ministry.
5. **Servant Leadership:** We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us. Servant Leadership is modeled by classroom department.

#### **Curriculum Competencies**

The seminary has seven curriculum competencies: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Discipleship Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. This course addresses six competencies directly.

1. **Biblical Exposition:** by preparing students to understand, interpret, and communicate the Bible accurately.
2. **Christian and Theological Heritage:** by reminding students of the heritage of interpretation of the Old Testament
3. **Discipleship Making:** by modeling the principles of discipleship through classroom department.
4. **Interpersonal Skills:** through interaction among students within the group.
5. **Servant Leadership:** by modeling and reflecting the attitude of Christ in the life of a disciple.
6. **Spiritual and Character Formation:** through discussion and modeling of spiritual disciplines.

#### **Course Description**

This course is an introduction to the literary, historical, and theological contents and contexts of the Old Testament. Significant interpretive issues are noted, major theological themes covered, and their relevance for Christian living addressed.

## Student Learning Outcomes

In order to interpret and communicate the Bible accurately, the student, by the end of the course should:

1. Be able to apply his/her knowledge and comprehension of the literary, historical, and theological contents and contexts of the Old Testament to the practice of interpreting and communicating the Bible accurately to the community of faith.
2. Value the following concepts as needful in interpreting and communicating the Bible accurately:
  - a. The authority of the Old Testament in all matters of faith and practice for Christian living and Church growth.
  - b. Old Testament interpretive issues and major theological themes for Christian living.
3. Be able, with the help of resources, to interpret and communicate the Old Testament accurately.
4. Develop practical skill in studying the Old Testament through standard resources.

## Course Teaching Methodology

The course will involve the following methodologies:

1. The material for each lesson is introduced in a lecture format.
2. The theological and ministry implications of the Old Testament are explored through class discussion.
3. Accountability for the readings from the textbooks is administered through daily quizzes.
4. Students will understand the Old Testament more fully through reading the biblical text and the textbook.

## Textbooks

1. The Holy Bible in a modern translation (e.g., RSV, NRSV, NASV, NIV).
2. LaSor, William Sanford, David Allan Hubbard, and Frederic Wm. Bush. *Old Testament Survey*. 2<sup>d</sup> ed. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1996.

## Course Requirements

The student will:

1. Read the daily assignments in the Bible and textbook (see syllabus). Daily quizzes will be given on the reading assignments. Quizzes will be given at the beginning of class. **NO MAKEUP QUIZZES WILL BE GIVEN.**
2. Complete two sectional exams and a final exam. Students missing an exam must contact the professor prior to the exam, if possible. The student must schedule a makeup exam within one week of returning to class. Students missing a scheduled exam will be assessed a penalty of five points on the makeup exam.
3. Access Blackboard for lecture notes and other items related to the course. Enrollment Code for access to the Blackboard portion of the course is "OTEN5300MOS" (letters all capitalized).
4. Complete a Summative Assignment summarizing the value to the church of an OT book (see below).

## Course Evaluation

The student's grade will be computed as follows:

Daily Quiz Average .....	25%
Three Exams (20% each exam) .....	60%
Summative Assignment .....	15%

## Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. [Selfserve@nobts.edu](mailto:Selfserve@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the [Selfserve.nobts.edu](http://Selfserve.nobts.edu) site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. [BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu](mailto:BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System [NOBTS.Blackboard.com](http://NOBTS.Blackboard.com).
3. [ITCSupport@nobts.edu](mailto:ITCSupport@nobts.edu) - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. [www.NOBTS.edu/itc/](http://www.NOBTS.edu/itc/) - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

## Course Schedule

- Jan 19 Introduction to the course; Introduction to the Old Testament – OTS, pp. 585-618  
21 The Primeval History– Genesis 1-11; OTS, pp. 3-31; 619-31
- 26 The Patriarchal History– Genesis 12-50; OTS, pp. 32-51  
28 The Exodus Event and Sinai– Exodus; OTS, pp. 52-79
- Feb 2 The Tabernacle and Holiness before God– Leviticus; OTS, pp. 80-98  
4 Wilderness Wanderings– Numbers; OTS, pp. 99-110
- 9 **Mardi Gras – No Classes**  
11 Moses' Last Words--Deuteronomy; OTS, pp. 111-127
- 16 Conquest of the Land/Apostasy– Joshua; Judges; OTS, pp. 131-164  
18 **First Sectional Exam**
- 23 Establishment of the Kingdom– 1 Samuel-2 Samuel; OTS, pp. 165-96  
25 Taking Away of the Kingdom– 1 Kings-2 Kings; OTS, pp. 197-220
- Mar 1 Introduction to the Prophets/ Isaiah– Isaiah 1-39; OTS, pp. 221-230; 276-312  
3 Isaiah (cont.) – Isaiah 40-66; OTS, pp. 688-694
- 8 Jeremiah– Jeremiah; OTS, pp. 328-355  
10 Ezekiel–Ezekiel; OTS, pp. 356-369
- Mar 14-18 Spring Break**
- 22 “The Twelve”– Hosea/Joel/Amos/Obadiah; OTS, pp. 243-269; 370-380  
24 “The Twelve”– Jonah/Micah/Nahum/Habakkuk; OTS, pp. 270-275; 318-327; 381-389
- 29 “The Twelve”– Zephaniah/Haggai/Zechariah/Malachi; OTS, pp. 313-318; 390-422  
31 **Second Sectional Exam**
- Apr 5 The Writings/Psalms: Books I-II– Psalms 1-72; OTS, pp. 425-446  
7 Psalms: Book III-IV – Psalms 73-106; OTS, pp. 231-242
- 12 Psalms: Book V– Psalms 107-150  
14 The Trials of Job – Job 1-28; OTS, pp. 471-496
- 19 The Trials of Job – Job 29-42  
21 Introduction to Wisdom/ Proverbs– Proverbs; OTS, pp. 447-470
- 26 Megilloth– Ruth/Song of Songs/Ecclesiastes/Lamentations/Esther; OTS, pp. 497-541  
28 Post-Exilic Judah and the Chronicler– Ezra; Nehemiah; 1 & 2 Chronicles; OTS, pp. 542-565
- May 3 Apocalyptic Literature--Daniel 1-12; OTS, pp. 566-582  
5 Concluding Matters; **Summative Assignment Due at beginning of Class**

**Tuesday, May 10 - Final Exam - 12:00 noon - 2:00 PM**

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**COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT RUBRIC – SUMMATIVE ASSIGNMENT  
OTEN5300 EXPLORING THE OLD TESTAMENT**

**Student** \_\_\_\_\_ **Site** \_\_\_\_\_ **Format** \_\_\_\_\_ **Semester** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

In order to interpret and communicate the Bible accurately, the student, by the end of the course should:

1. Be able to apply his/her knowledge and comprehension of the literary, historical, and theological contents and contexts of the Old Testament to the practice of interpreting and communicating the Bible accurately to the community of faith.
2. Value the following concepts as needful in interpreting and communicating the Bible accurately:
  - a. The authority of the Old Testament in all matters of faith and practice for Christian living and Church growth.
  - b. Old Testament interpretive issues and major theological themes for Christian living.
3. Be able, with the help of resources, to interpret and communicate the Old Testament accurately.
4. Develop practical skill in studying the Old Testament through standard resources.

**Summative Assignment:** (Due at the beginning of class May 5, 2016)

Write a two-page paper (New Roman Times 12 pt. font, single-spaced) summarizing the value to the church of one of the following books: Genesis, Exodus, Joshua, Psalms, Isaiah. Indicate the historical context, genre, major theologies, and interpretive concerns of the book. The paper should indicate research using appropriate resources and tools. The paper should indicate good form and documentation using footnotes as needed. Communicate how the book impacts the faith and life of the contemporary church.

**Understanding**

The Student	<input type="checkbox"/> demonstrated and articulated a comprehension of the literary, historical, and theological contents and contexts of the Old Testament. <input type="checkbox"/> reflected an awareness of the literary, historical, and theological contents and contexts of the Old Testament but did not explain them fully. <input type="checkbox"/> reflected an awareness of some of the literary, historical, and theological contents and contexts of the Old Testament but did not address all of the principles. <input type="checkbox"/> was unable to identify or explain the literary, historical, and theological contents and contexts of the Old Testament.
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**Application**

The Student	<input type="checkbox"/> demonstrated a valuing and embracing of the authority of the Old Testament and its theological themes for Christian faith and living. <input type="checkbox"/> reflected an appreciation for the authority of the Old Testament and its theological themes for Christian faith and living but did not fully embrace the need to study these concepts. <input type="checkbox"/> reflected a lack of appreciation the authority of the Old Testament and its theological themes for Christian faith and living. <input type="checkbox"/> rejected the authority of the Old Testament and its theological themes for Christian faith and living and saw no value in it.
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**Communication**

The Student	<input type="checkbox"/> demonstrated a high level of practical skill in interpreting and communicating concepts from the Old Testament. <input type="checkbox"/> demonstrated some practical skill in interpreting and communicating concepts from the Old Testament but did not relate the meaning fully. <input type="checkbox"/> demonstrated only a rudimentary practical skill in interpreting and communicating concepts from the Old Testament. <input type="checkbox"/> demonstrated no skill in interpreting and communicating concepts from the Old Testament.
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**GRADING MATRIX  
FOR SUMMATIVE ASSIGNMENT**

<p><u>Grammar</u>..... 15%</p> <p>Spelling 10____  Grammar 50____  Sentence Structure, Clarity 20____  Verb Tenses 10____  Misplaced/Dangling Phrases 5____  Split Infinitives 5____</p>	<p><u>Content</u> .....</p> <p>Appropriateness of Discussion (75%)  Addressed historical issues  Addressed genre issues  Addressed theological issues  Accuracy of information  Reasoning  Utilization of Resources (25%)  Interaction w/ resources  Quality of resources and tools 50</p>
<p><u>General Composition</u>..... 15%</p> <p>Paragraph flow 25____  Style (readability) 25____  Focus 25____  Depth of Analysis 25____</p>	<p><u>Documentation</u> .....</p> <p>Footnote Form  Bibliography</p>

Timeliness

The Summative Assignment is due at the beginning of class on May 5, 2016. Twenty percent (20%) of the total grade for per day the assignment is late (this includes weekends). The Summative Assignment will not accepted after five days la