



OTEN5300 Exploring the Old Testament
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Biblical Studies
Spring Semester 2018

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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.

Core Value Focus

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. The core value focus for the 201-18 academic year is *Servant Leadership*: “We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us.”

Curriculum Competencies

All graduates of NOBTS are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in each of the following areas: Biblical Exposition, Christian and Theological Heritage, Discipleship Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation. The curriculum competency addressed in this course is Biblical Exposition

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.

Embedded Assignment

This course includes an embedded summative assignment designed to assess student attainment of the desired outcomes for the course. The embedded assignment is a two-page paper summarizing the value to the church of an assigned Old Testament book and communicating how the book impacts the faith and life of the contemporary church. (See below for specific instructions.) The due date for the embedded assignment is May 10, 2018.

Textbooks

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

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.

Course Requirements

The student will:

1. Read the daily assignments in the Bible and textbook (see syllabus) and take the daily quizzes that cover the reading assignments. Quizzes will be given at the beginning of each 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.
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 - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.
3. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Help for Writing Papers at “The Write Stuff”

NOBTS maintains a writing center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer.

Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

Course Schedule

| | | |
|-----|----|--|
| Jan | 23 | Introduction to the course; Introduction to the Old Testament – OTS, pp. 585-618 |
| | 25 | The Primeval History – Genesis 1-11; OTS, pp. 3-31; 619-31 |
| | 30 | The Patriarchal History – Genesis 12-50; OTS, pp. 32-51 |
| Feb | 1 | The Exodus Event and Sinai – Exodus; OTS, pp. 52-79 |
| | 6 | The Tabernacle and Holiness before God – Leviticus; OTS, pp. 80-98 |
| | 8 | Wilderness Wanderings – Numbers; OTS, pp. 99-110 |
| | 13 | Mardi Gras – No Classes |
| | 15 | Moses' Last Words – Deuteronomy; OTS, pp. 111-127 |
| | 20 | Conquest of the Land/Apostasy – Joshua; Judges; OTS, pp. 131-164 |
| | 22 | First Sectional Exam |

- 27 Establishment of the Kingdom – 1 Samuel-2 Samuel; OTS, pp. 165-96
- Mar 1 Taking Away of the Kingdom – 1 Kings-2 Kings; OTS, pp. 197-220
- 6 Introduction to the Prophets/ Isaiah – Isaiah 1-39; OTS, pp. 221-230; 276-312
- 8 Isaiah (cont.) – Isaiah 40-66; OTS, pp. 688-694
- 13 Jeremiah – Jeremiah; OTS, pp. 328-355
- 15 Ezekiel – Ezekiel; OTS, pp. 356-369

Mar 19-23 Spring Break

- 27 “The Twelve” – Hosea/Joel/Amos/Obadiah; OTS, pp. 243-269; 370-380
- 29 “The Twelve” – Jonah/Micah/Nahum/Habakkuk; OTS, pp. 270-275; 318-327; 381-389
- Apr 3 “The Twelve” – Zephaniah/Haggai/Zechariah/Malachi; OTS, pp. 313-318; 390-422
- 5 **Second Sectional Exam**
- 10 The Writings/Psalms: Books I-II – Psalms 1-72; OTS, pp. 425-446
- 12 Psalms: Book III-IV – Psalms 73-106; OTS, pp. 231-242
- 17 Psalms: Book V – Psalms 107-150
- 19 The Trials of Job – Job 1-28; OTS, pp. 471-496
- 24 The Trials of Job – Job 29-42
- 26 Introduction to Wisdom/ Proverbs– Proverbs; OTS, pp. 447-470
- May 1 Megilloth – Ruth/Song of Songs/Ecclesiastes/Lamentations/Esther; OTS, pp. 497-541
- 3 Post-Exilic Judah and the Chronicler – Ezra; Nehemiah; 1 & 2 Chronicles; OTS, pp. 542-565
- 8 Apocalyptic Literature – Daniel 1-12; OTS, pp. 566-582
- 10 Concluding Matters; **Summative Assignment Due at Beginning of Class**

Thursday, May 17 - Final Exam - 2:00 - 4:00 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:

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, or 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

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|-------------|---|
| 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. |
|-------------|---|

Application

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| 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. |
|-------------|--|

Communication

| | |
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| 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. |
|-------------|--|

