

OTEN5300 Exploring the Old Testament, Spring 2013, 3 Hours
Hybrid class CIV, Orlando to Miami 3:00-4:50pm
January 28, February 11 & 25, March 11 & 25, April 8 & 29, May 6
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Catalog 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.

Seminary 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. These values shape the context and manner in which all curricula are taught, with "doctrinal integrity" and "characteristic excellence" especially highlighted in this course. The core values of this course will add to the spiritual vitality of the student through interaction with the Scripture.

Goals & Objectives

1. The student will read the Old Testament for the purpose of comprehending the literary structure and content of the various books contained within.
2. The student will apply principles of interpretation (Biblical Hermeneutics) to the text of the Bible in order to glean its meaning and importance for the Christian community of faith in the 21st century.
3. The student will explore materials related to cultural and religious practices among the ancient Israelites and other ethnic cultures of the Ancient Near East to better understand their relationship to the Old Testament.
4. The student will learn to appreciate the divine nature of the Old Testament and its unique content and character when compared to the cultural settings it was written in.

Core Values Addressed

1. Characteristic Excellence – Diligence in the study of God's Word to know and understand Him and His revelation.
2. Spiritual Vitality – The study of God in the Old Testament that will bring transformation to the life and heart of the individual.
3. Doctrinal Integrity – Reading and Interpreting God's Word with a conviction that it is His Authoritative and Inerrant revelation.

Class Texts

1. Walton, J & Hill, A., A Survey of the Old Testament, Zondervan 2000 (SOT)
2. Kitchen, K., On The Reliability of the Old Testament, Eerdmans, 2003 (ROT)

Class Methodology/Format

The student in this class will come to grasp an overall knowledge of the theological, critical, and historical settings of the books of the Old Testament. This will be accomplished by reading the biblical text and notes provided in the Course Documents on Blackboard. Students will also answer weekly questions which will be posted to Blackboard and participate in collaborative learning groups. These groups will prepare assignments as a group based upon specific questions listed in the syllabus and will be graded on their content, collaboration, and participation. The remainder of the class will read the assignment reports and respond to them on the discussion board as assigned. Both individual and group assignments will help the student better comprehend the flow of the OT, the uniqueness of each OT book and learn answers to certain critical issues of selected books. Class time will consist of discussion of key critical issues.

Getting Started

Several items are required in preparation for the course.

1. Purchase all required texts.

Required textbooks are available through the Lifeway Store on campus in New Orleans. Students may purchase any of the optional or recommended texts at their discretion.

2. Follow instructions for use of the Blackboard Tools

A. To upload your group projects in a file to share with other students. . .

Click on the link for Then click on the link for Communication>Groups. You should see a link for "Group Zeta, Everybody." Once you have clicked on your link, you should be able to click on a link entitled "File Exchange." You should then see an icon and link entitled "Add File." Once you click on that link, you will be prompted to add a title for the document you will be posting. This does not need to be the file name, but should include your name and the passage. Then click on the link entitled "Browse" to locate the document in your computer you want to upload to Blackboard.

B. For collaboration with your group...

To join your group in collaboration for your projects, go to Blackboard>>Communication>Groups> [Select your group]> and choose Discussion Board or Collaboration.

C. To upload other assignments for the professor and teaching assistant only. . .

To upload assignments for the professor and teaching assistant only. In the Introduction to Greek course on Blackboard

1. Click on "Assignments"
2. Click on the name of the assignment
3. Click on "Browse my Computer" and choose the file you want to upload from your computer.
4. In "Comments" textbox enter your name and the name of the lesson you are submitting.
5. Click "Submit."

3. Download PowerPoint Reader

If needed, visit the www.microsoft.com/downloads site and download a PowerPoint Reader to view the class documents in this format. If you have any questions along the way, please don't hesitate to be in touch with the professor or ITC.

Student Responsibilities

1. Read the Syllabus. Students will be graded on the requirements in the syllabus and PowerPoint presentation each week. Please begin with the Syllabus, and then read the PowerPoint each week.
2. A PowerPoint for each OT book will be posted on Blackboard in the Unit Folders in Course Documents.
3. Students will complete reading assignments as noted in the Assignment Schedule and will complete each week the assigned questions.
 - a. Read the text of the OT in one other modern translation of the Bible.
 - b. Read the required texts and review the PowerPoint notes posted in the Course Documents in conjunction with weekly assignments.
 - c. Keep a Reading Log which will include:
 - i. The date each OT book was read along with class text.
 - ii. The reading log is due according to the assignment schedule.
 - iii. *A penalty of four points per day will be assessed for late reading logs.*
4. Each student will participate in a learning group throughout the semester. These groups will prepare answers as a group to key questions supplied by the class text SOT (see schedule for page and question). The answers should be based upon all class texts, one's personal research and where applicable the PowerPoint presentations. The assignment will be graded on their content, collaboration, and participation.
5. Students will be required to read the group assignment reports of other groups and respond to them on the discussion board as noted in the assignment sheet. Response should be based upon your reading and research.
6. Students will answer individual questions each weeks supplied by the class text SOT (see schedule for page and question) and post answer on Blackboard.
7. There will be a midterm and final.
8. Research Paper
 - a. 8-15 pages, one can follow Turabian (6th ed.), SBL and MLS for style.
 - b. Research paper must either: 1) address an issue in Old Testament Studies (e.g. Date of the Exodus), 2) discuss a theological concept (e.g. sacrifice), see suggestions below.
 - c. Minimum bibliography = 10 sources, 6 of these sources must be from scholarly journals, see list below.
 - d. Research paper is due week 14, April 29th

Class Grading

10% Reading Log

10% Class participation (graded seriously).

10% Group Assignments based on content, collaboration, and participation in the group.

15% Individual Assignments

15% Research project

40% Midterm & Final Exam

Schedule & Topic	Reading SOT & ROT	Individual Assign Due Saturday at Midnight	Group Assign Due Friday at Midnight	Discussion Board Due Sunday at Midnight
<u>Wk 1, Jan 28</u> Intro to OT	SOT:18-46; & 290-302 & 384-399; ROT:1-6; 421-448	Questions from SOT Pg 26:2; & 42:2	No Group Assignment Page & Question from SOT	Evaluate one student's answer, Either question
Wk 2, Feb 4 Pent & Genesis	SOT:47-80 ROT: 421-448 & 313-372	Pg 61:2, 3; & 78:2, 3	Group Question Pg 61:1 or 78:1	Respond to the Group Report
<u>Wk 3, Feb 11</u> Exodus	SOT: 81-99 ROT: 241-312	Pg 97:1,2	Group Question 98:4	Respond to the Group Report
Wk 4, Feb 18, Lev-Deut	SOT:100-168	Pg 112:2 & 142:1	Group Question 112:4 or 142:4	Respond to the Group Report
<u>Wk 5, Feb 25</u> Historical Bks, Intro & Joshua	SOT: 169-191 ROT: 159-199	Pg 164-5:1, 4 & 191:4	Group Question 164-5:2 or 4	Respond to the Group Report
Wk 6, Mar 4 Judge & Ruth	SOT:192-208 ROT: 199-240	Pg 202:2 & 207:1	Group Question 202:3 or 207:2	Respond to the Group Report
<u>Wk 7, Mar 11</u> 1 & 2Sam	SOT: 209-226 ROT: 81-107	Pg 225:2	Group Question Page 225:4	Respond to the Group Report
Week 8, Mar 18, NO Class	Spring Break	No Assignments		
<u>Wk 9, Mar 25</u> Kings & Chron	SOT: 227-266 ROT: 7-64 & 107-128	Pg 248 Group Question:2, 3 & 265:1	Group Question Pg 248:4 or 265:5	Respond to the Group Report
Wk 10, Apr 1, Ezra-Neh-Est	SOT:267-306 ROT: 65-80	Page 279:5	Group Question Pg 279:1 or 286:2	Respond to the Group Report
<u>Wk 11, Apr 8</u> Poetical Books Intro-Job-Psalms	SOT:307-355	340:1, 2 & 354:2, 5	Group Question Pg 325:1 or 340:3	Respond to the Group Report
Wk 12 Apr 15, Prov-Ecc-SS	SOT:356-402	Pg 364:1& 372:2 & 381:1	Group Question Pg 372:3 or 381:2	Respond to the Group Report
Wk 13, Apr 22, NO Class	Easter	No Assignments		
<u>Wk 14, Apr 29</u> Prophets Intro- Isa-Daniel Paper due	SOT:403-461 ROT:373-420	Page 413:1, 4 & 423:4 & 460:2	Group Question Pg 413:2 or 432:2	Respond to the Group Report
<u>Wk 15, May 6</u> Hosea-Malachi	SOT:462-554	Pg 471:2 & 486:3 & 502:3	Group Question Pg 471:5 or 550:4	Respond to the Group Report

Assignments will be due on the date listed by Midnight
Class meeting times: Jan 28, Feb 11 & 25, March 11 & 25, April 8 & 29, May 6

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Sample Paper Topics

Ahab and Jezebel	Freedom of God	Oral Transmission
Alexandria	Gilgamesh Epic	Parallelism
Alphabetic Acrostics	Gleaning	Patriarchs
Amorite	Habiru	Pentateuch
Amos, Hosea, Jonah, Isaiah,	<i>Herem</i>	Polytheism
Micah, Zephaniah	<i>Hesed</i>	Predictive Prophecy
Amos' Vocation	Hexateuch	Primeval History
Amphictyony	Hezekiah's Tunnel	Prophecy
Ancient Versions	Historiography	Prophet
Apocalypse Writings	Hosea's Marriage	Prophetic Model of
Apocalyptic Eschatology	I Am Yahweh	Inspiration
Apocrypha	Imprecatory Writings	Prophets and Prophecy,
Ashdod Crisis	Inspiration	Proverb
Asherah/Asherim	Jeroboam	Proverbial Wisdom
Baal	Jeroboam II	Purification Offering
Babylonian Job	Joshua's Conquest	Purim
Baruch	Josiah	Qohelet
Battle of Carchemish	Jubilee Year	Rehoboam
Biblical Wisdom	Judge	Remnant
Book of the Law	Justice	Reparation Offering
Canaanite	Kingdom and Kingdoms	Rest
Canon	Kosher	Righteousness
Centralized Monarchy	Lamentations	Sabbatical Year
Cities of Refuge	Latter Prophets	Sacral Kingship
City Gate	Levirate Marriage	Samuel
Complaints	Levites	Seer
Confessions of Jeremiah	Literary Prophets	Sennacherib
Co-regencies	Maccabean Period	Sennacherib Crisis
Court History of David	Malachi	Sheshbazzar
Covenant	Manasseh	Solomon's Apostasy
Covenant	Marriage Alliance/Treaty	Son of Man (Daniel)
Cyrus	Masoretes	Son of Man (Ezekiel)
Date of the Exodus	Megilloth	Speculative
David's Census	Messiah	Suzerain-vassal Treaty
Davidic Covenant	Messianic Prophecy	Syro-Ephraimitic Crisis
Day of Atonement	Monarchy	Teleology
Dead Sea Scrolls	Monolatry	Tetragrammaton
Deuteronomic History	Monotheism	Tetrach
Dialogue	Mt. Carmel	Textual Criticism
Diaspora	Mt. Sinai	The Book of Kingdoms
Dirges	Nazarite	The Book of the Covenant
Documentary Hypothesis	New Covenant	The Chronicler
<i>Ebenezer</i>	Nineveh	The Chronological Puzzle
Edom	Old Testament Languages	The Day of the Lord
Enacted Prophecy	Omri	The Holy One of Israel
Enuma Elish	Oracle	The Lord's Anointed
Faith	Oral Prophets	The Passover
Fertility Religion	Oral Tradition	The Satan

The Servant of the Lord
The Shema
The Tabernacle
Theocracy

Toledoth
Torah
Uncover the feet
Woe Oracle

Yahweh of Hosts
Zedekiah
Zerubbabel
Zion Tradition

Biblical Studies Periodical List

Andrews University Seminary studies
Archaeology Odyssey
Australian Biblical Review
Bible Review
Bible Translator
Biblica
Biblical Archaeology Review
Biblical Research
Bibliotheca Sacra
Biblische Notizen
Biblische Zeitschrift
Bibliotheca Orientalis
Bulletin for Biblical Research
Bulletin of the American
 Schools of Oriental Research
Catholic Biblical Quarterly
Currents in Research: Biblical Studies
Dead Sea Discoveries
Estudios Biblicos
Interpretation of Scripture
Expository Times
Hebrew studies
Hebrew Union College Annual
Interpretation
Israel Exploration Journal
Jewish Bible Quarterly
Jewish Quarterly Review
Journal for the Study of the Old Test.

Journal of Biblical Literature
Journal of Cuneiform Studies
Journal of Jewish studies
Journal of Near Eastern studies
Journal of Northwest Semitic
Languages
Journal of Semitic Studies
Journal of the Ancient Near Eastern Society
Judaism
Levant
Near Eastern Archaeology (formerly
Biblical Archaeologist)
Old Testament abstracts
Orientalia
Palestine Exploration Quarterly
Qadmoniot
Qumran Chronicle
Review and Expositor
Revue Biblique
Revue de Qumran
Semeia
Syria
Textus
Vetus Testamentum
Zeitschrift fur Assyriologie
 und vorderasiatische Archeologie
Zeitschrift fur die
 alttestamentliche Wissenschaft

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