

EXPLORING THE OLD TESTAMENT OTEN 5300

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Biblical Studies Division –Fall 2009

Dr. Jim Parker, Assoc. Professor of Biblical Interpretation

Office: Dr. Parker –Office Ph. 504-816-8592

- Cell 504-495-2659

E-Mail: jparker@nobts.edu

Office: Dodd 200

NOBTS 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.

COURSE PURPOSE, CORE VALUE FOCUS AND CURRICULUM COMPETENCIES:

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. These values shape both the context and manner in which all curricula are taught, with “doctrinal integrity” and “academic excellence” especially highlighted in this course.

NOBTS also has seven basic competencies that guide our masters degree programs: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual & Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. This course addresses the “Biblical Exposition” competency especially helping the student learn to interpret the bible accurately.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to introduce the student to the study of the Old Testament. An understanding of the historical background, literary analysis, and theological message will be presented.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To develop a basic understanding of the purpose of the Bible, specifically the Old Testament
2. To understand the broad outline of the Old Testament
3. To related historical events to the Old Testament
4. To understand the basic meaning of the Old Testament message in light of its background
5. To see the Old Testament as the foundation upon which the New Testament developed

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

1. *Holy Bible*. In modern translation: RSV, NRSV, NASV, NIV or NASB
2. Lasor, Hubbard, & Bush. *Old Testament Survey: Message, Form and Background of the Old Testament* 2nd Edition

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:

A. **Lectures:** Due to the comprehensive nature of the course, although the learning experience is text driven (both LH&B and the Bible), there will be lectures that will deepen and clarify what the student will cover in his/her reading. Information given in the lectures will be a part of the material that the student is responsible for on the mid-term and final exams.

b.

B. Assignments:

1. Exams: There will be a Mid-term exam and a Final exam given. Dates for the exams are given on the class schedule below. These exams will be taken on Blackboard on the dates given. Whereas the quizzes are available at any time, the Mid-Term and Final exam will only be available at a specified time on the day of the exam. These times will be announced in class and posted on the Blackboard Announcement page. These exams will include the material that will be covered up to the time of the exam. The Final is NOT comprehensive, but only covers the material from the Mid-Term. There will only be one attempt allowed to take the test, so the student should be prepared before attempting the test(s). A set time limit will also be given for the tests. The time limit will be posted with the times the exams will be open.

2. Reading Quizzes: A quiz will be given over that week's assignment (Textbook and Bible). The quizzes will be taken on Blackboard after the student has read the material. The quizzes will be available at any time for the student to take, however, there will be a 20 minute time limit on each quiz. There will only be one attempt allowed on each quiz, so the student should be careful to prepare before attempting the quiz.

3. Reading Log: As a part of the reading assignment, the student will compile "weekly" reading logs for all of the course reading. A copy of this log will be presented at the end of the course on the day of the final. A digital copy will be provided in the "Course Documents" of Blackboard. The student should keep a record of his/her reading on this form and present it through the Digital Drop Box of Blackboard on or before the day of the final. Penalties will be assessed for any late work.

4. Chronology: (Timeline) – Each student will prepare a chronology of the Old Testament from Abraham to the period of Ezra-Nehemiah. Each chronology should include the names and dates of the patriarchs, other major figures such as kings of Israel and Judah, kings of rival states in the Ancient Near East, prophets, and other persons of interest, major wars, covenants and any other important events that affect the story of salvation history in the Old Testament. The student is free to choose the format that his/her information is to be presented, however, it must be his/her own work. The chronology should be put in digital format and submitted to the Digital Dropbox of

Blackboard. Other means of getting it to the professor for grading can be discussed, however, the professor prefers the above method if at all possible. The data for the chronology should be derived from research performed using the sources listed in the "Bibliography" given in the "Course Document" section of Blackboard. Any resources used should be cited and included in the final presentation. Citations should be made in Turabian format using the 7th or later edition. Grading will be based on how complete the information is and the amount of research shown to obtain the information. The Chronology is due December 5th.

C. Grading:

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. Exams | 20% each = 40% |
| 2. Quizzes | 30% |
| 3. Reading Logs | 10% |
| 4. Chronology | 20% |
5. Extra Credit: Up to 3 points on the final average can be earned by doing an extra credit project. The student can present a book review of a least 3 pages where the student is awarded 1 point per 150 pages read. The book must be germane to the study of the Old Testament and approved by the professor. The student can also prepare a research paper on a topic approved by the professor. The paper must be at least six pages in length, cite at least 10 sources, and be germane to the study of the Old Testament.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION:

- A. Absences: Due to the nature of the course (lectures) and the necessary fast pace of the class, unnecessary absences are discouraged. The NOBTS catalog guidelines regarding absences will be followed. Any student who misses more than 9 classroom hours can not receive credit for the course. A grade of "F" will be given to any student who does not attend the required minimum number of hours.
- B. Plagiarism and Cheating: Any student who plagiarizes or who is caught cheating will be immediately reported to the Dean of Students and given a grade of "F" for the course.

Class Schedule: Exploring the Old Testament OTEN 5300

Wk	Date	LH&B Chpts	Description	Bible Reading	Notes
1	8/22	44-51	Authority, Revelation, Canon, Formation of the OT, Geography, Chronology, Archaeology,		
2	8/29	1-3	Pentateuch, Genesis	Genesis	
3	9/5	4-5	Exodus	Exodus	
4	9/12	6-8	Lev, Num, Deut.	Lev / Num	
5	9/19	9-11	Former Prophets, Joshua, Judges	Deut/Josh/Jud	
6	9/26	12-15	Birth of the Monarchy, David & Solomon Divided Monarchy, Judah Alone	1 Sam 1:1-1 Kin 11:43	
7	10/3	16-18	Prophets & Prophecy, Heb. Poetry, Amos	1 Kin 12:1-2 Kin 25:	
8	10/10	19-21	Hosea, Micah, Isaiah Background	Amos/ Hos,/Micah	Mid-Term
9	10/17	22-23	Isaiah Message, Zeph, Nahum, Habakkuk	Isaiah	
10	10/24	24-25	Jeremiah, Ezekiel	Nahum/Hab/ Ezekiel	Break
11	10/31	26-28	Obadiah, Joel, Jonah, Haggai	Jeremiah	
12	11/7	29-32	Zechariah, Malachi, Writings, Psalms	Obadiah/Joel/Jonah Haggai/ Zech/Malachi	
13	11/14	33-34	Wisdom, Proverbs	Psalms	
14	11/21	35-36	Job, Ecclesiastes	Proverbs / Job	
15	11/28	37-40	Songs, Ruth, Lamentations, Esther	Eccles/Songs/Ruth/ Lam/Esther	Thanksgiving
16	12/5	41-43	Chronicler's Perspective, Ezra-Nehemiah, Daniel	Ezra/Neh/Daniel	Chronology Due
17	12/12		Final		Final

Dates highlighted in yellow are dates the class will meet on the campus and at the extension centers via CIV. Class will begin at 8:00 am EST, have appropriate hourly breaks, break for lunch from 11:00 am EST until 12:00 Noon EST, reconvene and then meet until approximately 3:00 pm EST.

Exploring the Old Testament - Fall 2008

Reading Log

Name:

Date	LH&B Pages	Bible Book,/Chs/Verses
------	------------	------------------------

8/22

8/29

9/5

9/12

9/19

9/26

10/3

10/10

10/17

10/31

11/7

11/14

11/21

12/5