



OTHB9433 STUDIES IN THE PENTATEUCH: LEVITICUS - NUMBERS Fall 2020

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Mission Statement

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

Core Value Focus

The seminary has five core values.

- 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 preparing students to grow in understanding and interpreting of the Bible.
- 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 reminding students that a dynamic relationship with God is vital for effective ministry.
- 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 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 deportment.

The core value focus for this academic year is **MISSION FOCUS**.

Curriculum Competencies

NOBTS faculty members realize that all ministers need to develop specific competencies if they are going to have an effective ministry. To increase the likelihood of NOBTS graduates having an effective ministry, the faculty developed a competency-based curriculum after identifying seven essential competencies necessary for effective ministry. All graduates are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in all of the following areas:

1. **Biblical Exposition:** to interpret and communicate the Bible accurately.
2. **Christian Theological Heritage:** To understand and interpret Christian theological heritage and Baptist polity for the church.
3. **Disciple Making:** To stimulate church health through mobilizing the church for missions, evangelism, discipleship, and church growth.
4. **Interpersonal Skills:** To perform pastoral care effectively, with skills in communication and conflict management.
5. **Servant Leadership:** To serve churches effectively through team ministry.
6. **Spiritual and Character Formation:** To provide moral leadership by modeling and mentoring Christian character and devotion.
7. **Worship Leadership:** To facilitate worship effectively.

Competencies Addressed in this course:

1. **Biblical Exposition.**
2. **Christian Theological Heritage**
3. **Spiritual and Character Formation**

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This seminar provides an overview of the Pentateuch with special attention to the overall narrative structure and literary and linguistic design, with a focus on the Hebrew texts of Leviticus and Numbers. Attention will be given to theological themes, Israelite historiography, and understanding the legal, narrative, and poetic texts in their Ancient Near Eastern literary contexts. The study engages with the current critical scholarly literature in Pentateuchal studies. Selected portions of the biblical texts will be studied in depth. This course will explore the major theories about the composition history of the Pentateuch

Course Objectives and Student Outcomes:

Students who successfully complete the seminar will have:

- A. Become acquainted with the key literature reflecting the development of modern literary analysis of the Pentateuch.
- B. The essentials of Hebrew narrative, legal, and poetic at all levels, including the major theories for explaining the collective nature of the Torah.
- C. Learned the key conceptual developments involved in the history of the study of the Pentateuch and how they are related to current trends in interpretation
- D. Examined various methods for reading and interpreting the Pentateuch
- E. Developed the skill of analyzing the literary structure in of narrative, poetic, and legal genre in the interpretation of the Pentateuch, with special attention to the Books of Leviticus and Numbers.
- F. Students will comprehend the roles of theological, historical, archaeological, socio-cultural, and literary background materials in the interpretation of the Old Testament Pentateuch.

Required Textbooks

Boda, Mark. *A Severe Mercy: Sin and Its Remedy in the Old Testament*. Siphrut 1. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2009.

Cole, R. Dennis. *Numbers*. NAC. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2000.

Greenberg, James A. *A New Look at Atonement in Leviticus: The Meaning and Purpose of Kipper Revisited*. Bulletin for Biblical Research Supplement. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 2019.

Knoppers, Gary N. and Bernard M. Levinson, eds. *The Pentateuch as Torah: New Models for Understanding Its Promulgation and Acceptance*. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2007.

Levine, Baruch A. *Leviticus*. JPS Torah Commentary. Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society, 2003.

Milgrom, Jacob. *Numbers*. JPS Torah Commentary. Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society, 1990.

Sailhamer, John H. *The Pentateuch as Narrative: A Biblical Theological Commentary*.

Wenham, Gordon. *The Book of Leviticus*. NICOT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1979.

SEMINAR PARTICIPATION – COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Reading—Annotated Bibliography (10%): Students are expected to read widely in the areas of Pentateuchal studies, in addition to the assigned reading indicated on the schedule below. This supplementary reading should reflect a variety of sources, including both book-length and article-length treatments. The reading must be accounted for by two annotated bibliographies (typed, single-spaced). The first half of the reading of approximately 500 pages is due at class time on **October 24**. The second is due on **December 15**, covering the remaining portion of the reading. Late or incomplete work will be penalized proportionately. Works read must be listed with full bibliographic information, and summarized (1) in one or more paragraphs (for each article) or (2) in a 1-2 page summary (for each book). Please (1) indicate total pages read from each work and (2) give a grand total for all reading.

2. Book Reviews (10% ea): Students will write 2 Book Reviews of 4–6 pages each as assigned in the initial class meetings.

3. Translation Presentations - Class Preparation and Participation (30%):

Students are expected to come to class each day fully prepared to engage in discussion based upon the work assigned for that day. This includes all the assigned readings indicated below. (This will be accounted for by the form below, to be handed in on March 10). Since this is a doctoral seminar, students are expected to display

preparation at an exceptional level, including wide reading in the areas of Pentateuchal Studies (see #1 above).

4. Term Paper (40%): Each student is to prepare a term paper of no less than 20 text pages (excluding title page, bibliography, appendixes, etc.), to be presented orally in class on the date indicated below. The written paper is due one week before the oral presentation. The paper is to be on Students must obtain the professor's approval for the topic chosen by October 16. A 1-2 page handout highlighting the paper's major points should be prepared to pass out in class in the week *prior* to the paper's being read.

Students will have one hour in which to make their paper presentations. This will include reading of the paper itself, with appropriate reference to the handout, and the entertaining of questions. (Suggested time for reading/presentation of papers: 30-45 minutes, with 15-30 minutes devoted to discussion.) *All* students are expected to have read the paper *prior* to coming to class, and all are expected to enter into the discussion of the day.

EVALUATION

Seminar Translation/Participation	30%
Book Reviews (10% ea)	20%
Research Paper	40%
Annotated Bibliography	10%

Seminar Schedule

August 31 Pentateuch Studies

- Sailhamer, John H. *The Pentateuch as Narrative*. Zondervan, 1992.
- Alexander, T. D. *From Paradise to the Promised Land: An Introduction to the Pentateuch*. 2nd ed. Baker, 2002.
- Averbeck, Richard E. "Clean and Unclean," "Leviticus, Theology of," and "Offerings and Sacrifices." Pages 477-86, 907-923, and 996-1022 in vol. 4 of *New International Dictionary of Old Testament Theology & Exegesis*.
- Baden, Joseph. *The Composition of the Pentateuch: Renewing the Documentary Hypothesis*
- Cassuto, Umberto. *The Documentary Hypothesis and the Composition of the Pentateuch*. Jerusalem: Magnes Press, 1835.1961.
- Fretheim, Terence E. *The Pentateuch*. Interpreting Biblical Texts. Abingdon, 1996.
- Hamilton, Victor. *Handbook on the Pentateuch: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2015.
- Hartley, John E. "Excursus: Ritual Purity." In *Leviticus*. WBC. Vol. 4. Word, 1992: 140-47.
- Knoppers, Gary N. and Bernard M. Levinson, eds. *The Pentateuch as Torah: New Models for Understanding Its Promulgation and Acceptance*. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2007.
- Rainey, Anson. "Sacrifices and Offerings." Pages 194-211 in vol. V of *Zondervan Pictorial Encyclopedia of the Bible*.
- Wellhausen, Julius. *Prolegomena to the History of Ancient Israel*. 1878 German ed., 1885. English.
- Wenham, Gordon J. "Introduction," and "Unclean Animals." In *The Book of Leviticus*. NICOT. Eerdmans, 1979: 3-37, 161-85.
- Whybray, R.N. *The Making of the Pentateuch*. JSOT Supp. 53. JSOT, 1987.

September 14 Leviticus Translations Ch. 1, 4

- Milgrom, Jacob. *Studies in Levitical Terminology*.
- Milgrom, Jacob. *Studies in Cultic Theology and Terminology*.

September 28 Leviticus Translations Ch. 16-17

- Greenberg, James A. *A New Look at Atonement in Leviticus: The Meaning and Purpose of Kipper Revisited*. BBR Sup 23.
- Watts, James W. *Ritual and Rhetoric in Leviticus: From Sacrifice to Scripture*
- Klingbell, Gerald. *Bridging the Gap: Ritual and Ritual Texts in the Bible*
- Porter, Anne and Glenn Swartz *Sacred Killing: The Archaeology of Sacrifice in the Ancient Near East*
- Anderson, Gary A. *Sacrifices and Offerings in Ancient Israel: Studies in Their Social and Political Importance*.

October 12 Leviticus**Translations Ch. 23, 24, 27**

Wenham, Gordon. *The Book of Leviticus*. NICOT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1979.
Levine, Baruch A. *Leviticus: אִקְרָא*.

October 26 Numbers**Translations Ch. 1, 6, 10**

Douglas, Mary. *In The Wilderness: The Doctrine of Defilement in the Book of Numbers*.
Cole, R. Dennis. *Numbers*. NAC. 2000.
Stubbs, David L. *Numbers*. Brazos Theological. 2009.

November 9 Numbers**Translations Ch. 13-15**

Levine, Baruch. *Numbers 1-20, A New Translation with Introduction and Commentary*.
Anchor Bible. 1993.
_____. *Numbers 21-36, A New Translation with Introduction and Commentary*.
Anchor Bible. 2001.
Milgrom, Jacob. *Numbers במדבר*. The JPS Torah Commentary. Philadelphia:
Jewish Publication Society, 2003.

November 30 Numbers**Translations Ch. 22-24**

Roskop, Angela. *The Wilderness Itineraries: Genre, Geography, and the Growth of Torah*. HACL 3.

December 14**Paper Presentations****SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY****Pentateuch**

Alexander, T. D. *From Paradise to the Promised Land: An Introduction to the Pentateuch*. 2nd ed. Baker, 2002.

Averbeck, Richard E. "Clean and Unclean," "Leviticus, Theology of," and "Offerings and Sacrifices." Pages 477-86, 907-923, and 996-1022 in vol. 4 of *New International Dictionary of Old Testament Theology & Exegesis*.

Baker, L. S., Jr., Kenneth Bergland, Felipe A. Masotti, and A. Rachel Wells, eds. *Exploring the Composition of the Pentateuch*. Philadelphia: Eisenbrauns/Penn State University Press, 2020.

Boda, Mark. *A Severe Mercy: Sin and Its Remedy in the Old Testament*. Siphrut 1. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2009.

Duvall, J. Scott and J. Daniel Hays. *God's Relational Presence*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2019.

Fretheim, Terence E. *The Pentateuch*. Interpreting Biblical Texts. Abingdon, 1996.

- Hartley, John E. "Excursus: Ritual Purity." In *Leviticus*. WBC. Vol. 4. Word Publishers, 1992: 140-47.
- Hess, Richard. "Leviticus" in *The Expositor's Bible Commentary: Genesis-Leviticus*. Expositor's Bible Commentary, 1. Revised. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Academic, 2008.
- Keck, Leander K. *The New Interpreter's Bible Commentary Volume I: Introduction to the Pentateuch, Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2015.
- Knafl, Anne K. *Forming God: Divine Anthropomorphism in the Pentateuch*. Siphrut 12, Literature and Theology of the Hebrew Scriptures. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2014.
- Knohl, Israel. *The Sanctuary of Silence: The Priestly Torah and the Holiness School*. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2007.
- Knoppers, Gary N. and Bernard M. Levinson, eds. *The Pentateuch as Torah: New Models for Understanding Its Promulgation and Acceptance*. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2007.
- Levinson, Bernard. *The Right Chorale: Studies in Biblical Law and Interpretation*. Winona Lake, Eisenbrauns, 2008.
- Lienhard, Joseph T., ed. *Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy*. Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture: Old Testament, Volume III. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2001.
- Lohr, Joel N. *Chosen and Unchosen: Conceptions of Election in the Pentateuch and Jewish-Christian Interpretation*. Siphrut 2. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2009.
- Martin, Glen. *Holman Old Testament Commentary - Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2002.
- Rainey, Anson. "Sacrifices and Offerings." Pages 194-211 in vol. V of *Zondervan Pictorial Encyclopedia of the Bible*.
- Regt, L. J. de, J. de Waard, and Jan P. Fokkelman, eds. *Literary Structure and Rhetorical Strategies in the Hebrew Bible*. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 1996.
- Sailhamer, John H. *The Pentateuch as Narrative*. Zondervan, 1992.
- Schmid, Konrad. *Genesis and the Moses Story: Israel's Dual Origins in the Hebrew Bible*. Siphrut 3. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2010.
- Ska, Jean-Louis. *Introduction to Reading the Pentateuch*. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2006.
- Walton, John. *The Lost World of the Torah: Law as Covenant and Wisdom in Ancient Context*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2019.
- Wenham, Gordon J. "Introduction," and "Unclean Animals." In *The Book of Leviticus*. NICOT. Eerdmans, 1979: 3-37, 161-85.
- Whybray, R.N. *The Making of the Pentateuch*. JSOT Supp. 53. JSOT, 1987.

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- Awabdy, Mark. *Leviticus*. Septuagint Commentary. Leiden: Brill, 2019.
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- Goldingay, John. *Exodus and Leviticus for Everyone*. The Old Testament for Everyone. Philadelphia: Westminster John Knox, 2010.
- Gorman, Frank H., Jr. *Divine Presence and Community: A Commentary on the Book of Leviticus*. International Theological Commentary. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.
- Greenberg, James A. *A New Look at Atonement in Leviticus: The Meaning and Purpose of Kipper Revisited*. Bulletin for Biblical Research Supplement. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 2019.
- Hartley, John. *Leviticus*, Word Biblical Commentary, 4. Waco, TX: Word Publishers, 1992. Kindle, 2018.
- Kleinig, John W. *Leviticus*. Concordia Commentary. St. Louis: Concordia Publishing, 2003.
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- Levine, Baruch A. *Leviticus*. JPS Torah Commentary. Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society, 2003.
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- _____. *Leviticus 1-16*. The Anchor Yale Bible Commentaries. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1998.
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- Radner, Ephraim. *Leviticus*. Brazos Theological Commentary on the Bible. Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2008.
- Rooker, Mark. *Leviticus: An Exegetical and Theological Exposition of Holy Scripture*. NAC. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2000.
- Ross, Allen. *Holiness to the Lord: A Guide to the Exposition of the Book of Leviticus*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2006.
- Sklar, Jar. *Leviticus*. Tyndale Old Testament Commentary. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2014.
- Sprinkle, Joe M. *Leviticus and Numbers*. Teach the Text Commentary Series. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2015.
- Tidbal, Derek. *The Message of Leviticus: Free to Be Holy*. Bible Speaks Today. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2005.
- Watts, James W. *Leviticus 1-10*. Historical Commentary on the Old Testament, 5. Leuven, Belgium: Peeters Publishers, 2013.
- Wenham, Gordon. *The Book of Leviticus*. NICOT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1979.
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- Abusch, I. *Babylonian Witchcraft Literature*. Brown Judaic Studies, 132. Atlanta: Scholars Press, 1987.
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 Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1980.
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