



LEAVELL COLLEGE

AT NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Old Testament Survey:LCCF1320-01, 80CIV, 87CIV Fall 2021 (221)

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

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will be introduced to the background and literature of the Old Testament. After a background study of the historical and cultural factors of ancient Israel within the context of the ancient Near East, students will explore the metanarrative of the Old Testament. Emphasis will be given to introductory matters for each book and a content summary. This course is a prerequisite to all Old Testament Interpretation courses. *Prerequisite: None*

COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the conclusion of the semester, the student will:

- Develop an appreciation for and enjoyment of the Old Testament.
- Identify the key issues in the critical study of the Old Testament.
- Identify the purpose and message of each book of the Old Testament.
- Demonstrate the significance of Old Testament as Christian Scripture.
- Understand the metanarrative developed by the Old Testament and the continuation of that narrative in the New Testament and the contemporary church.

COURSE TEXTS

The following textbooks are required:

Hill, Andrew E. and John Walton. *A Survey of the Old Testament*, 3rd edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2009.

One of the following translations of the Bible: Christian Standard Bible, English Standard Version, New International Version, New Revised Standard Version, New American Standard Bible.

The following textbook is optional:

Brisco, Thomas V. *Holman Bible Atlas: A Complete Guide to the Expansive Geography of the Bible*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1998.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. *Reading Reflections* (25%) - Students will complete weekly reflections on the readings from the textbook and from the Old Testament source material. Each week's reading reflection will cover the reading material assigned for the week on the course schedule included in the syllabus. Reading reflections are due each week by Sunday at 11:59pm and are submitted on Blackboard.
2. *Essay* (25%) - Students will write a 4–6 page doublespaced essay on "Why the Old Testament matters." Address the following questions: Why is the OT important for Christians? What is the overarching story told by the OT? What does the OT teach Christians about Jesus? What role should the OT play in the teaching/preaching ministry of the local church? The essay does not have to be in official Turabian form, though it must be consistent and presentable. Students are to use 12 point Times New Roman font with 1" margins at top and bottom of the page.
3. *Sectional Exams* (30%) - Two sectional exams will be given on the dates indicated on the course schedule below. The exams will consist of a combination of multiple choice, matching, map, and essay questions. Each exam is self-contained and will cover the material presented in class lectures.
4. *Final Exam* (20%) - The final exam will be a cumulative exam, which focuses on the material from the entire term. The exam will consist of a combination of multiple choice, matching, map, and essay questions. In addition, students will be given a list of 40 Bible verses—one verse from each book of the OT with one book having two verses listed. Students must identify the biblical book in which each verse is located.

GRADING SCALE

- A: 93 - 100
- B: 85 - 92
- C: 77 - 84
- D: 70 - 76
- F: below 70

COURSE OUTLINE

Week	Date of Class Meeting	Topic/OT Reading	Reading and Assignments
1	August 16	Introduction to the Course Approaching OT study	

		The formation of the OT Scriptures.	
2	August 23 (Dr. Barnes in North Georgia)	Introduction to the Pentateuch Genesis	Bible Reading*; H&W 77–99; Reading Reflection
3	August 30	Exodus–Leviticus	Bible Reading; H&W 100–141; Reading Reflection
4	September 6 (Labor Day, No Class)	Numbers–Deuteronomy (Watch Lecture on Blackboard)	Bible Reading; H&W 142–179, Reading and Lecture Reflection
5	September 13	Introduction to the former prophets Joshua	Sectional Exam #1 (Approaching OT, Formation of OT Scriptures, OT Geography, Gen–Deut)
6	September 20 (Dr. Barnes in North Georgia)	Judges–1 Samuel	Bible Reading; H&W 216–233, 234–247, 256–277; Reading Reflection
7	September 27	2 Samuel–Kings	Bible Reading; H&W 278–307; Essay Due on Blackboard by 11:59 on Oct. 3.
8	October 4	No Class, Fall Break	Enjoy your Break!
9	October 11	Introduction to the latter prophets Isaiah–Jeremiah	Bible Reading; H&W 518–541; Reading Reflection
10	October 18	Ezekiel–Daniel	Bible Reading; H&W 552–579; Reading Reflection
11	October 25	Book of the 12	Bible Reading; H&W 566–713; Reading Reflection
12	November 1	Sectional Exam #2	Sectional Exam # 2 (Introduction to the former prophets, introduction to the latter prophets, Jos–Book of the 12)
13	November 8 (Dr. Barnes in North Georgia)	Psalms, Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs	Bible Reading; H&W 400–479; Reading Reflection
14	November 15	Introduction to the Writings Lamentations, Chronicles, Ezra–Nehemiah, Esther, Lamentations	Bible Reading; H&W 308–355; 542–551; Reading Reflection
15	November 22	Thanksgiving Break	Enjoy Your Break!

16	November 29 (Dr. Barnes in North Georgia)	Ruth How the OT prepares us for the NT Jesus in the OT	Bible Reading; H&W 248–54; Reading Reflection
Finals	December 6	Final Exam	Monday, December 6

* - See Old Testament Reading Schedule on page 6 of syllabus.

ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION

1. Attendance Policy: Leavell College follows the attendance policy as stated in the Leavell College catalog.
2. Policy for Late Submissions: Students will not receive credit on assignments submitted after the due date listed on the course schedule
3. Plagiarism Policy: A high standard of personal integrity is expected of all Leavell College students. Copying another person's work, submitting downloaded material without proper references, submitting material without properly citing the source, submitting the same material for credit in more than one course, and committing other such forms of dishonesty are strictly forbidden. *Although anything cited in three sources is considered public domain, we require that all sources be cited.* Any infraction may result in failing the assignment and the course. Any infraction will be reported to the Dean of Leavell College for further action.
4. Classroom and Online Decorum: Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of the others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity is expected at all times. Electronic devices should be used only for classroom purposes as indicated by the professor.
5. Special Needs: If you need accommodations for a disability, please set up a meeting with the professor for consideration of any modifications you may need.
6. Emergency Plan: In the event the NOBTS schedule is impacted due to a natural event, go to the seminary's website for pertinent information. Class will continue as scheduled through the Blackboard site. Please note announcements and assignments on the course's Blackboard site.
7. Technical Assistance: For general NOBTS technical help, go to www.NOBTS.edu/itc/
8. Style Guide: A copy of the approved NOBTS Style Guide can be found in the course Blackboard shell, or it can be located online at the Writing Center's page on the seminary website at: https://www.nobts.edu/_resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf

9. COVID-19: During the COVID-19 pandemic Leavell College is abiding by all New Orleans governmental guidelines and CDC safety guidelines. This includes practicing social distancing, washing hands frequently, and wearing face masks. Students are expected to abide by such policies while on campus.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Audirsch, Jeffrey G. *The Legislative Themes of Centralization: From Mandate to Demise*. Eugene, OR: Pickwick, 2014.

Berry, Donald K. *An Introduction to the Wisdom and Poetry of the Old Testament*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1999.

Bill T. Arnold, and Bryan E. Beyer. *Readings from the Ancient Near East: Primary Sources for Old Testament Study*. Encountering Biblical Studies. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2002.

Blenkinsopp, Joseph. *The Pentateuch: An Introduction to the First Five Books of the Bible*. The Anchor Bible Reference Library. New York: Doubleday, 2000.

Brisco, Thomas V. *Holman Bible Atlas: A Complete Guide to the Expansive Geography of the Bible*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1998.

Coogan, Michael David. *The Old Testament: A Historical and Literary Introduction to the Hebrew Scriptures*. 3rd ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 2014.

Goldingay, John. *An Introduction to the Old Testament: Exploring Text, Approaches and Issues*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2015.

Hasel, Gerhard. *Old Testament Theology: Basic Issues in the Current Debate*. 4. ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.

Hill, Andrew E., and John H. Walton. *A Survey of the Old Testament*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2009.

Imes, Carmen Joy. *Bearing God's Name: Why Sinai Still Matters*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2019.

Merrill, Eugene H. *Kingdom of Priests: A History of Old Testament Israel*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2008.

Moberly, R. W. L. *Old Testament Theology: Reading the Hebrew Bible as Christian Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2013.

Richter, Sandra L. *The Epic of Eden: A Christian Entry into the Old Testament*. Downer's Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2008.

Sailhamer, John. *The Pentateuch as Narrative: A Biblical-Theological Commentary*. Library of Biblical Interpretation. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.

VanGemeren, Willem. *Interpreting the Prophetic Word*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1990.

Walton, John H. *Ancient Near Eastern Thought and the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2006.

Yamauchi, Edwin M. *Persia and the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996.

OT Reading Assignments for OT Survey

Week 2 – Gen 1–50

Week 3 – Ex 1–12; 14; 17; 20:1–18; 21:1–11; 32–33, Lev 1–5; 9–10; 16–17; 25–27

Week 4 – Num 1–2; 6; 9; 11; 13–14; 22–24; 33–36, Deut 1–8; 17; 20; 27–28; 34

Week 5 – Sectional Exam No reading assignment

Week 6 – Joshua 1 – 12; 23–24, Judges 2–9; 11; 17–21, 1 Sam 1–6; 8–11; 15–21; 24; 31

Week 7 – 2 Sam 1–7; 9; 11–15; 18–19; 23–24, 1Kgs 1–22; 2 Kgs 1–25

Week 8 – Fall Break

Week 9 – Isa 1–9; 20; 22; 30; 36–40; 42; 46; 49; 50; 52–53; 66, Jer 1 – 2; 7; 11–12; 16–20; 21; 23; 25; 29; 31; 32; 37; 39; 40 – 43; 52

Week 10 – Ezekiel 1 – 2; 4; 10; 12; 15 – 17; 24; 33–34; 37; 40–48, Dan 1–7; 12

Week 11 – Hosea–Malachi (Read all the minor prophets)

Week 12 – Sectional Exam No reading assignment

Week 13 – Psalms 1 – 6; 22–23; 88–89; 90–92; 119; 146–150, Job 1 – 9; 32–34; 38–42, Proverbs 1–4; 26; 31, Song of Songs 1–8, Ecclesiastes 1–12

Week 14 – Thanksgiving Break

Week 15 – Ruth; Lamentations 1–5; Esther 1–10; Ezra 1; 4–6; 9–10, Nehemiah 1 – 4; 6; 8; 13, 1 Chron 29–34, 2 Chron 36;