



**OTEN5300 Exploring the Old Testament**  
**New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary**  
**Division of Biblical Studies**  
**Spring Semester 2016-17**

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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 2016-17 academic year is *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.”

**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 3, 2017.

**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<sup>d</sup> 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](mailto:Selfserve@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the [Selfserve.nobts.edu](http://Selfserve.nobts.edu) site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. [BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu](mailto:BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System [NOBTS.Blackboard.com](http://NOBTS.Blackboard.com).
3. [ITCSupport@nobts.edu](mailto:ITCSupport@nobts.edu) - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. [www.NOBTS.edu/itc/](http://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 for the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

### Course Schedule

Jan	25	Introduction to the course Introduction to the Old Testament – OTS, pp. 585-631
Feb	1	The Primeval History– Genesis 1-11; OTS, pp. 3-31 The Patriarchal History– Genesis 12-50; OTS, pp. 32-51 The Exodus Event and Sinai– Exodus; OTS, pp. 52-79
Feb	8	The Tabernacle and Holiness before God– Leviticus; OTS, pp. 80-98 Wilderness Wanderings– Numbers; OTS, pp. 99-110
Feb	15	Moses' Last Words--Deuteronomy; OTS, pp. 111-127 Conquest of the Land/Apostasy– Joshua; Judges; OTS, pp. 131-164
Feb	22	<b>First Sectional Exam</b> 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  
Introduction to the Prophets/ Isaiah– Isaiah 1-39; OTS, pp. 221-230; 276-312

Mar 8 Isaiah (cont.) – Isaiah 40-66; OTS, pp. 688-694  
Jeremiah– Jeremiah; OTS, pp. 328-355

**Mar 14-18 Spring Break**

Mar 22 Ezekiel–Ezekiel; OTS, pp. 356-369  
“The Twelve”– Hosea/Joel/Amos/Obadiah; OTS, pp. 243-269; 370-380

Mar 29 “The Twelve”– Jonah/Micah/Nahum/Habakkuk; OTS, pp. 270-275; 318-327; 381-389  
“The Twelve”– Zephaniah/Haggai/Zechariah/Malachi; OTS, pp. 313-318; 390-422

Apr 5 **Second Sectional Exam**  
The Writings/Psalms: Books I-II– Psalms 1-72; OTS, pp. 425-446

Apr 12 Psalms: Book III-IV – Psalms 73-106; OTS, pp. 231-242  
Psalms: Book V– Psalms 107-150

Apr 19 The Trials of Job – Job 1-42; OTS, pp. 471-496

Apr 26 Introduction to Wisdom/ Proverbs– Proverbs; OTS, pp. 447-470  
Megilloth– Ruth/Song of Songs/Ecclesiastes/Lamentations/Esther; OTS, pp. 497-541

May 3 Post-Exilic Judah and the Chronicler– Ezra; Nehemiah; 1 & 2 Chronicles; OTS, pp. 542-565  
Apocalyptic Literature--Daniel 1-12; OTS, pp. 566-582  
**Embedded Summative Assignment due**

**May 10 - Final Exam - 9:00 - 11:00 AM**

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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**

The Student	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> demonstrated and articulated a comprehension of the literary, historical, and theological contents and contexts of the Old Testament.</li><li><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.</li><li><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.</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> was unable to identify or explain the literary, historical, and theological contents and contexts of the Old Testament.</li></ul>
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**Application**

The Student	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> demonstrated a valuing and embracing of the authority of the Old Testament and its theological themes for Christian faith and living.</li><li><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.</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> reflected a lack of appreciation the authority of the Old Testament and its theological themes for Christian faith and living.</li><li><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.</li></ul>
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**Communication**

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.
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**GRADING MATRIX  
FOR SUMMATIVE ASSIGNMENT**

<u>Grammar.</u> ..... 15%  Spelling 10 ____ Grammar 50 ____ Sentence Structure, Clarity 20 ____ Verb Tenses 10 ____ Misplaced/Dangling Phrases 5 ____ Split Infinitives 5 ____	<u>Content.</u> ..... 60%  Appropriateness of Discussion (75%) Addressed historical issues 15 ____ Addressed genre issues 15 ____ Addressed theological issues 30 ____ Accuracy of information 25 ____ Reasoning 15 ____ Utilization of Resources (25%) Interaction w/ resources 50 ____ Quality of resources and tools 50 ____
<u>General Composition.</u> ..... 15%  Paragraph flow 25 ____ Style (readability) 25 ____ Focus 25 ____ Depth of Analysis 25 ____	<u>Documentation.</u> ..... 10%  Footnote Form 50 ____ Bibliography 50 ____
<u>Timeliness</u> The Summative Assignment is due at the beginning of class on May 3, 2016. Twenty percent (20%) of the total grade for the assignment will be deducted per day the assignment is late (this includes weekends). The Summative Assignment will not accepted after five days late.	