

**OTEN5300 Exploring the Old Testament, Fall 2013, 3 Hours**  
**Hybrid class, Pensacola CIV to JAX 12:00-1:50pm**  
**August 26; September 9, 23; October 7, 21; November 11, 18; December 2**  
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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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 2009, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (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 complete quizzes and discussion question reports which will be posted to Blackboard and due by the next Class period. These will be taken through the “assignments” page in Blackboard. This course is specifically designed for the Hybrid format. Students are expected to participate in all class discussions on the assigned chapter readings.

### **Student Responsibilities**

1. Read and follow the Syllabus. Study all addition class notes provided by the professor.
2. Students will complete reading assignments as noted in the Assignment Schedule and will complete the assigned questions/quizzes posted for each period.
3. The chapter discussion questions will be given in class and posted to Blackboard. Students are to type the question and answer to each question with a thoughtful and informed response. The answers should be one or two paragraphs in length and discussion oriented. One sentence answers are not sufficient.
4. Read the text of the OT in one other modern translation of the Bible.
5. Read the assigned pages in the Text books.
6. There will be a midterm and final.

### **Uploading Assignments:**

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.”

### **Class Grading**

10% Class participation  
30% Discussion Questions  
20% Quizzes  
20% Mid-Term  
20% Final Exam

## COURSE SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Reading Assignments</u>	
Aug. 26	Intro. Pentateuch & Genesis.	SOT: 98 ROT: 1-6,313-372,421-448.
Sept. 9	Pentateuch (Exodus-Deut.)	SOT: 101-201 ROT: 241-312
Sept. 23	History Books (Josh-Kings)	SOT: 204-306 ROT: 7-64,81-128,159-240
Oct. 7	History Books (Chron-Esther)	SOT: 308-371 ROT: 65-80
Oct. 21	Poetry/Wisdom Lit. (Job – S of S)	SOT: 375-499 <b><u>MID-TERM</u></b>
Nov. 6	The Prophets (Isa.-Amos)	SOT: 503-616 ROT: 373-420
Nov. 18	The Prophets (Obad.-Malachi)	SOT: 619-712
Dec. 2	Conclusions	SOT: 715-732 <b><u>FINAL EXAM</u></b>

*Discussion question answers and quizzes are due midnight Saturday before Class.*

## Bibliography: General References

### Dictionaries, etc.

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*Eerdmans Dictionary of the Bible.* (rev. ed.) Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000.

*Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels.* Joel B. Green, et. al. (eds.) Leicester: Intervarsity Press, 1992.

*Dictionary of Paul and his Letters.* Gerald F. Hawthorne, et. al. (eds.) Leicester:InterVarsity Press, 1993.

*Dictionary of the Later New Testament and Its Developments.* Gralph P. Martin & Peter H. Davids (ed.), 1997

*Dictionary of New Testament Backgrounds.* Craig Evans & Stanley Porter (eds.). Leicester: InterVarsity Press, 2000.

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## **Atlases**

*The Macmillan Bible Atlas* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.), Y. Aharoni, et.al., New York: Macmillan Publishing Co., 1993

*New Bible Atlas*, J.J. Bimson, et.al., Leicester: InterVarsity Press, 1985.

Cleave, Richard. *Pictorial Archive: ANE History; Student Map Manual*. Jerusalem, 1975.

*Zondervan NIV Atlas of the Bible*, C. Rasmussen, Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1989.

## ***Historical Geography***

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Gower, Ralph. *The New Manners and Customs of Bible Times*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1987.

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## ***Archaeology***

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## History

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### Egypt

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### Ancient Palestine

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