

SYLLABUS FOR RELIGION 1301
OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY
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I. DBU Catalog Description:

A survey of the literature and message of the OT, including the interbiblical period and introduction to the Christian era.

II. Course Data

Professor: Dr. David Naugle
Days, Time, and place: MTWTF, May 19-23, 2003, N-Dallas Center
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III. Course Goals

Each student will become familiar with the basic periods of OT history and the main events and characters of each period.

Each student will understand the purpose and themes of each Old Testament book and period.

Each student will grasp the major critical issues concerning the authorship, compilation, and date of each OT book.

Each student will be introduced to the various literary types in the OT (law, history, poetry, prophecy, etc)

Each student will be exposed to the major theological themes of the OT

Each student will recognize the significance of the OT or his/her own life and its relevance in forming a Christian worldview.

III. Course Requirements, Grading, and Teaching Methods

"Reading maketh a full man;
Conference [conversation] a ready man;
Writing an exact man!"
—Francis Bacon, *Of Studies*

A. Course Requirements:

1. **Reading (20%):** each student will be required to read the textbook by E. Merrill, and selected portions of the OT. Reading the textbook is worth 10% of your total grade; reading the OT is worth 10% of your total grade. For the OT reading, pick one book from the Pentateuch, one from the history books, one from the poetic

wisdom books, and one from the major prophets. You will indicate whether or not you have read this material when all final assignments are due on June 20.

2. **Timeline (10%): make a timeline of the OT from Genesis through Malachi. On this timeline, you must divide it into the four basic OT periods as discussed in class; place the important events and people in the timeline, dating each item. Place the OT books in their proper place on the timeline. Any other information you deem pertinent. Due June 20.**
3. **Short research paper (20%). Each student will write a short research paper of 8-10 pages on a topic of importance to the OT. These topics could include character studies (Abraham, Moses, David, etc), theological themes (covenant, God, Messiah, sacrifice, etc), or events (creation, fall, flood, Babel, exodus, conquest, etc). Word-processed, properly documented. Due June 20.**
4. Class participation (10%): each student is expected to ask questions, make comments, take notes, and be attentive during class sessions
5. Internet assignment (10%): each students should surf the net and discover as much helpful information about the OT as possible. At least 3 good websites should be consulted, and a brief word-processed synopsis of what is discovered will be presented on paper on Wednesday, May 21. You might begin with <http://www.biblestudytools.net/>
6. Test (30%): One test will be given on Thursday, May 22, over all material covered in class up to that point.

B. Grading:

- A- = 90-93; A = 94-97; A+ = 98-100 % **Excellent:**
Excellent = top notch, superior, first rate/class, exceptional, superlative; paper and tests; class attitude, attendance, note taking, participation, posture, interest, etc. Comprehensive excellence is needed for a superlative grade in this course.
- B- = 80-83; B = 84-87; B+ = 88-89%: **Above average**
- C- = 70-73; C = 74-77; C+ = 78-79%: **Average**
Average = mediocre, commonplace, ordinary, passable, fair, run-of-the-mill, tolerable, so-so, mid point between extremes of excellence and failure.
- D- = 60-63; D = 64-67; D+ = 68-69%: **Below average**
- F = 59% and below: **Failure**—Omission or lack of satisfactory performance of action or task, inadequate, unsuccessful, inferior, impassable, etc.

C. Teaching Methods: Lecture, Q & A, open discussions, etc.

IV. Textbooks:

Bible (any acceptable translation. Class discussions/lectures will be based on NASB)

Eugene H. Merrill, *An Historical Survey of the OT*, 2nd ed (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1991).

V. Tentative Course Schedule:

Class #	Date	Subject	Assignments
1	May 19	<i>Foundations for Study of the OT;</i>	

		<i>Pentateuch (Gen-Deut)</i>	<i>Gen 1-11</i>
2	May 20	<i>Pentateuch, continued</i> <i>Historical Books (Josh-Esther)</i>	<i>Josh 1-12</i>
3	May 21	<i>Historical Books continued</i> <i>Poetic/Wisdom books (Job-Song Sol)</i>	<i>Internet Assignment</i> <i>Song Solomon</i>
4	May 22	<i>Test (morning)</i> <i>Poetic Wisdom books continued</i> <i>Prophets (Isaiah-Malachi)</i>	<i>Isaiah 53</i>
5	May 23	<i>Prophets continued</i>	<i>Hosea</i>

VI. Bibliography

- John Bright, *The History of Israel*
- R. K. Harrison, *Introduction to the Old Testament*
- Andrew E. Hill and John H. Walton, *A Survey of the Old Testament*
- Leon Wood, *A Survey of Israel's History*
- Jensen, Irving, *Jensen's Survey of the OT*
- William Dumbrell, *The Faith of Israel*

Classroom and University Policies and Procedures

I. Absences and Tardiness

- Students are expected to come to class regularly and be on time.
- Each student is allowed a maximum of three unexcused absences for MWF classes, and two unexcused absences for TTh classes per regular long semester without grade penalty. This number will be calculated proportionately for other semesters (short summer and winter terms, long summer and winter, mini terms, etc.). According to the DBU catalog, students cannot miss over 25% of classes & pass the course.
- Additional unexcused absences and habitual tardiness will result in a **significant grade reduction** which will be determined at the discretion of the professor. No credit is given for attendance, but excessive absences can be the basis for lowering the final grade at the discretion of the professor.
- Excused absences must be approved by the professor; in some cases, a note from a proper authority may be required. Students who will be away from class for an extended period of time (e.g., for emergencies, medical problems, military service, varsity sports, work related matters, etc.) are expected to notify and explain the situation to the professor. Failure to do so may result in grade reduction.

II. Papers, Tests, Printers, and Academic Misconduct

- Students are expected to turn assigned work in on time, that is, during the class period for which it is assigned. Papers (essays, term themes, etc) will be accepted late, **but they will be penalized 10 points per day they are late, including weekends if there is no proper excuse for its tardiness.** For example, a paper due on a Wednesday, but not turned in until Friday will be docked 20 points. A paper due on a Friday, but not turned in until Monday will be docked 30 points.
- Students are also expected to take tests on the day they are assigned. In case of a *real* emergence (*severe* illness, accident, etc.), a student may take a test late without penalty (a note from a proper authority may be required to verify the emergency). Unexcused

absences on the day of testing will result in 10 point grade reduction per day until the test is taken weekends included. Students must make the necessary arrangements with the professor to make up the test *as soon as possible*.

- **Papers will not be accepted that are printed with a used, worn out ribbon that renders the paper virtually unreadable.** Students are responsible for having their paper printed in such a way that the words are clear, dark, and clearly discernible.
- Incidents of cheating, plagiarism (presenting someone else's work as your own), collusion, abuse of resource materials, and computer misuse will be dealt with according to the guidelines in the most recent DBU catalog, and current schedule of classes. The faculty member endorses the **University Honor Code** and abides by the **University's Academic Appeal and Academic Misconduct Procedure** as stated in the *Student Handbook* and the *Schedule of Classes*.

III. Financial Aid, Disabilities, and Posting of Final Grades, ETC.

- **Financial Aid:** Students who are receiving federal, state, or institutional financial aid who withdraw or add hours during the semester may have their financial aid adjusted because of the withdraw or addition. This change in schedule may affect the aid they are receiving during the current semester, and could affect their eligibility for aid future semesters.
- **Disabilities:** The student has the responsibility of informing the Dean of Students at 214.333.5125 of any disabling condition for which the student will request course modifications. DBU provides academic adjustments and auxiliary aid to individuals with disabilities, as defined under law, who are otherwise qualified to meet the institution's academic requirements. It is the student's responsibility to initiate any request for accommodations. Required documentation must be provided before the University can make accommodations.
- **Posting of Final Grades:** Each faculty member has the right either to post or not post final course grades for each class. Final course grades provided to a student by a faculty member may not be relied upon as official. Official grade reports can be obtained only through the DBU Registrar's Office. The DBU undergraduate and graduate catalogs state that "all accounts must be paid in full before a student can receive grade reports." Students are not permitted to telephone the professor, contact the dean's office, or use email to inquire about their final grade. Please understand that this policy is for the purpose of protecting the privacy of student's grades.
- **Children in classes and unaccompanied children:** Minor children of DBU students are not permitted to attend class with their parents. Furthermore, minor children may not be unaccompanied at any location, or property where DBU classes are taught. If a minor child is brought to the DBU campus or any location where DBU classes are taught, the child must be accompanied by an adult at all times. For their safety and welfare, unaccompanied children on the DBU campus will be escorted to the Campus Security Office and the parents or guardians will be summoned to pick them up immediately.
- **Cell Phone Policy:** Classroom disruption by cell phones and paging devices is prohibited. A student facing the possibility of receiving emergency calls may leave the device on silent or vibrate during class if he/she has previously informed the professor. Otherwise, all cell phones and pagers must be turned off at the beginning of class. Routine work related calls or personal calls from friends are not considered emergencies. Most mini-term courses offer break times to attend to these types of calls.

IV. Classroom Attitude and Demeanor

Students are expected to exemplify proper classroom behavior, attitudes, and etiquette including such things as:

- **Sitting up straight**
- Listening attentively
- **Taking notes**
- Remaining focused
- Doing your very best
- Participating enthusiastically

Students are not allowed to:

- Talk or chatter disruptively, slouch or take a nap
- **Work on material for other classes while class is in session**
- **Read extraneous material while class is in session** (Newspaper, Sports Illustrated, Cosmo, etc.)

Based on your instructor's personal judgment, **Final Grades** will be influenced by how well students comply with the above attitudes and expected behavior. Remember: you are no longer in middle school or high school! When controversial topics are being discussed in class, before you speak out, you should (1) make sure you understand the ideas being presented, (2) learn something from them, (3) and then learn how to criticize them constructively and with civility. Also, make sure comments or questions **pertain to the subject matter** under consideration.

V. The New GPA Grading System:

A+.....	4.00	A	4.00	A-	3.67
B+.....	3.33	B	3.00	B-	2.67
C+.....	2.33	C	2.00	C-	1.67
D+.....	1.33	D	1.00	D-	0.67
F	0.				