



NEW ORLEANS

BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

BSCM2310-30: Old Testament Survey

Spring 2019 (193)

Thursday, 6:00 pm – 7:59 pm

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The mission of Leavell College 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

Each academic year, a core value is emphasized. This academic year, the core value is *Doctrinal Integrity*. —“Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. Our confessional commitments are outlined in the Articles of Religious Belief and the Baptist Faith and Message 2000.”

Course Description

The purpose of Old Testament Survey is to prepare the student for more intensive studies in the Old Testament. Emphasis is placed upon gaining an overview of the Old Testament through a survey of geographical and historical backgrounds and a book-by-book study. Attention is given to the structure of each biblical book, significant interpretative problems, and major theological themes.

General Education Competencies (GECs)

Leavell College has identified four General Education Competencies:

1. Critical Thinking
2. Oral Communication
3. Written Communication
4. Quantitative Reasoning

This course addresses GEC #1 and #3.

Bachelor of Arts in Christian Ministry Program Student Learning Outcomes (BACM PSLOs) AND Bachelor of Arts in Music with an Emphasis in Worship Program Student Learning Outcomes (BAM PSLOs)

Leavell College has identified three Program Student Learning Outcomes for the BACM and three Program Student Learning Outcomes for the BAM:

1. Biblical Interpretation (BACM PSLO #1)
1. Worship Leadership (BAM PSLO #1)
2. Service and Leadership (BACM PSLO #2 and BAM PSLO #2)

3. Historical and Theological Interpretation (BACM PSLO #3 and BAM PSLO #3)

This course addresses BACM PSLO #1 and #3.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of the semester, the student will be able to demonstrate:

1. Identify purposes and themes of the Old Testament.
2. Recognize with the major characters of the Old Testament.
3. Recall the chronological (metanarrative) framework of the Old Testament.
4. Describe the theological, cultural, and historical aspects of the plotline of the Old Testament.

Course Texts

The following textbooks are required:

1. The primary text is the Old Testament itself. Students are encouraged to use a modern translation/version of the Old Testament such as RSV, NRSV, NIV, HCSB, NASB, ESV, NET, etc.
2. Walton, John and Andrew Hill. *Old Testament Today*. 2nd Edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2014. ISBN: 9780310498209
3. Schlimm, Matthew. *This Strange and Sacred Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2015. ISBN: 978-0801039799

Course Requirements and Grading

1. *Reading Quizzes:*
Reading is an integral part of the course objectives, providing important background material to the lectures. Students are required to complete the assigned reading for the week of class. Weekly quizzes will be given to determine the quality of the student's reading from the Bible. Quizzes will consist of true/false and multiple-choice questions, and they will only cover the material specified on the syllabus schedule. The quizzes will be administered through Blackboard. Missed quizzes cannot be made-up. *This assignment relates to GEC #1, BACM PSLOs #1, #3, and CSLOs #1, and #2.*
2. *Examinations:*
Three (3) exams will cover the material discussed in class as well as pertinent material from the required textbook and the assigned Bible readings. The exams will consist of multiple choice, true/false, matching, listing, and critical essays. Exams will be given at the beginning of the class period on the date given. Students will be given no more than the time allotted for the class to complete the exam. *This assignment relates to GECs #1, #3, BACM PSLOs #1, #3, and CSLOs #1, #2, #3, and #4.*
3. *Book Summary and Critique:*
The Old Testament contains wonderful, vivid stories that resonate with many Christians; however, there are several topics in the Old Testament that are strange, confusing, and divisive. In an effort to highlight some of these topics, each student will read and write a summary on Schlimm's *This Strange and Sacred Scripture*. The summary must be typed in Times New Roman, 12pt font with one inch margins. The summaries must be a minimum of 4 complete pages. Also, students must include critical remarks on each chapter. Citations must be given when paraphrasing and/or quoting from the book. The summary must be completed by May 8, 2018. LATE SUMMARIES will not be accepted. *This assignment relates to GECs #1, #3, BACM PSLOs #1, #3, and CSLO #4.*
4. The grading scale as outlined in the Leavell College catalog will be utilized:
A = 93–100
B = 85–92

C = 77–84
 D = 70–76
 F = 69 and below

5. The final breakdown for the course will be tabulated according to the following percentage breakdown:

Attendance/Quizzes	20%
Exams (3)	60%
Book Summary	20%

Course Outline

All topics and dates (excluding the final exam) are subject to change. Note: Reading should be completed prior to coming to class.

Week	Class Dates	Content	Assigned Reading
1	1/24	Syllabus Overview How to Read the Bible History, Literature, and Theology Overview of the Old Testament	Walton, pp. 2–24; and 46–75
2	1/31	Creation Adam to the Fall	Genesis 1–5 Walton, pp. 26–75
3	2/7	Noah and the Deluge The Life of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph	Genesis 6–22 Walton, pp. 76–87
4	2/14	The Story of Moses: Yahweh and Monotheism The Plagues and Passover	Exodus 1–12; Deut 6 Walton, pp. 88–96
5	2/21	Exam 1 Moses, God, and Sinai: The Ten Commandments	Exodus 20, 23, 25–26, Leviticus 16, Deuteronomy 5, 12– 18 Walton, pp. 123–36
6	2/28	Identifying the Sacred: Space, Status, and Time The Threat to the Cult: Idolatry in Genesis–Deuteronomy	Exodus 32–34; Deut 1–11, 26–28

		Covenant Renewal and Continuation	Walton, pp. 96–116
7	3/7	Tribal Amphictyony: The Beginnings of Chaos	Walton, pp. 197–204
8	3/14	The United Monarchy: The Rise of Saul, David, and Solomon	1 Samuel 1–18; 2 Samuel 1–8 Walton, pp. 204–208
9	3/19-22	Spring Break: No Class	
10	3/28	United Monarchy, cont. Exam 2	
11	4/4	The Divided Monarchy The Demise of the Kingdom: Judah Falls to the Babylonians	1 Kings 1–19 Walton, pp. 209–229
12	4/11	The Demise of the Kingdom: Judah Falls to the Babylonians The Exile	
13	4/18	Prophecy in Ancient Israel	Isaiah 1–11; Jeremiah 3–7; 31–33 Ezekiel 34–37 Walton, pp. 250–78; 298–319
14	4/25	Psalms and Wisdom Literature	Psalms 1, 2, 15, 23, 51, 110, 125–150 Walton, pp. 324–357
15	5/2	Critique of <i>This Strange and Sacred Scripture</i>	Critiques Due
16	5/9	Exam Review	
Final Exam	5/16	Final Exam is at 12:00 pm	

Additional Course Information (Please include the following information as stated. Other information specific to the course may be added as needed.)

1. Attendance Policy: Per the Leavell College catalog, school policies regarding absences and tardies will be strictly enforced. Any student missing more than nine hours will automatically receive a grade of “F” for the course. Every three occasions of arriving late for class or leaving early for class will be counted as one hour of absence. The student is responsible for contacting the teacher if he or she is tardy and the roll has been taken. The student is responsible for all material, including that which was covered during an absence.

2. *Blackboard/Self-Serve*: The student is responsible to check Blackboard for grades, assignments, course documents, and announcements. The student is also responsible for maintaining current information and current e-mail address on the Blackboard system and Self-Serve. As Blackboard and Self-Serve do not communicate with one another, students will need to enter updates on both platforms.
3. *Netiquette*: Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity is expected at all times in the online environment.
4. *Classroom Behavior*: Students are expected to maintain a Christian attitude both inside and outside the classroom. Derogatory and abusive language will not be tolerated. Any behavior not becoming of a minister may result in dismissal from class. First time offenses will be documented and subsequent offenses will be submitted to the Dean of Leavell College.
5. *Academic Honesty Policy*: All students, whether on-campus, Internet, or extension center students, are expected to adhere to the highest Christian standard of honesty and integrity when completing academic assignments for all courses in every delivery system format. The Bible provides our standard for academic integrity and honesty. This standard applies whether a student is taking tests, quizzes, exams, writing papers, completing Discussion Boards, or any other course requirement.
6. *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.
7. *Emergency Plan*: In the event the NOBTS schedule is impacted due to a natural event or epidemic, 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.
8. *For Technical Assistance*: For general NOBTS technical help, go to: www.NOBTS.edu/itc/

Selected Bibliography

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Specialized Introductions

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