



**OTEN5300-65, 37, 30 Exploring the Old Testament
Biblical Studies Division; Spring 2019
CIV from Orlando to Tallahassee & Miami
Monday 8x Hybrid, 11:00 – 12:50 pm
Class Dates: 1/28, 2/11, 2/25, 3/11, 3/25, 4/8, 4/22, 5/6**

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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

The seminary has five core values.

- 1. Doctrinal Integrity:** Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. This course addresses Doctrinal Integrity specifically by preparing students to grow in understanding and interpreting of the Bible.
- 2. Spiritual Vitality:** We are a worshiping community emphasizing both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary family for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word. Spiritual Vitality is addressed by reminding students that a dynamic relationship with God is vital for effective ministry.
- 3. Mission Focus:** We are not here merely to get an education or to give one. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries. This course addresses Mission Focus by helping students understand the biblical foundations for fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments.
- 4. 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. Characteristic Excellence is addressed by preparing students to excel in their ability to interpret Scripture, which is foundational to effective ministry.
- 5. Servant Leadership:** We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us. Servant Leadership is modeled by classroom deportment.

The core value focus for this academic year is **Doctrinal Integrity**.

Curriculum Competencies

NOBTS faculty members realize that all ministers need to develop specific competencies if they are going to have an effective ministry. To increase the likelihood of NOBTS graduates having an effective ministry, the faculty developed a competency-based curriculum after identifying seven essential competencies necessary for effective ministry. All graduates are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in all of the following areas:

1. **Biblical Exposition:** to interpret and communicate the Bible accurately.
2. **Christian Theological Heritage:** To understand and interpret Christian theological heritage and Baptist polity for the church.
3. **Disciple Making:** To stimulate church health through mobilizing the church for missions, evangelism, discipleship, and church growth.
4. **Interpersonal Skills:** To perform pastoral care effectively, with skills in communication and conflict management.
5. **Servant Leadership:** To serve churches effectively through team ministry.
6. **Spiritual and Character Formation:** To provide moral leadership by modeling and mentoring Christian character and devotion.
7. **Worship Leadership:** To facilitate worship effectively.

The curriculum competencies 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.

Course Texts (Note all can be purchased through Logos)

1. Walton, J & Hill, A., *A Survey of the Old Testament*, Zondervan 2009 (SOT)
2. Kitchen, K., *On The Reliability of the Old Testament*, Eerdmans, 2003 (ROT)

Recommended reading:

1. [*Bill T. Arnold, Bryan E. Beyer., Readings from the Ancient Near East Primary Sources for Old Testament Study. \(Baker, 2002\)*](#)
2. [*Philip J. King, Lawrence E. Stager. Life in Biblical Israel, \(Westminster John Knox Press, 2001\)*](#)
3. A good History of Israel – this will help many who are new to understanding the OT, it will also help one know the materials of the OT for the quizzes, see bibliography for suggestions.

Course Requirements and Grading

1. Read syllabus carefully
2. Students will complete all reading assignments (Bible, class text and notes) following the Reading Assignment Schedule, confirmation that reading has been completed and will be submitted along with assigned questions. A **penalty** of 2-points per day will be assessed for late reading and questions submission.
3. Students will answer individual questions each week supplied by the class text SOT (see schedule for page and questions to answer) and post answer on Blackboard, along with stating one has completed all readings to date.
4. A book summary of K. Kitchen's text, *Reliability of the Old Testament*, it must be at least 10 pages, not including the title page. Please be sure to summarize each chapter, as well as the introduction and conclusion if applicable. This assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday of Week 12 (4/19). The summary can be written as the reading is being done then collected into one coherent paper for submission. Each section should have its own heading in the paper. The major topics discussed in each section of the book should be summarized well. These are not intended to be book reviews, but summary re-statements of the authors' work in your own words. A 5 point per day reduction for late work. Please use the following guidelines
 - Limit direct quotations from the books. Summarize the authors' concepts in your own words.
 - Add a title page in Turabian format for Book Summary. Title page does not count toward the total number of pages.
 - With the exception of the title page, use 1-inch margins all around
5. There will be a midterm and final: Students will complete a midterm and a final exam. All late work will be assessed a deduction of 2pt. per day of the assignment's point value.
6. Discussion Board – a series of questions are posted on DB for students to interact with, dealing with specific topics related to critical issues of the OT (based on reading). Each student will post a 250-word post followed by a 200-word reply to one other students post the following week. So kept current 2-point penalty reduction for each day late.
7. Embedded 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 (Turabian style) as needed. Communicate how the book impacts the faith and life of the contemporary church.
8. Late work may not be penalized at the instructor's discretion in the event of a military deployment, medical emergency, death in the family, or other extenuating circumstances

Percentage of Grading

1. Reading & Class Questions = 15%
2. Book Summary = 15%
3. Discussion Board = 10%
4. Embedded project = 20%
5. Midterm & Final Exam = 40%

Grading Scale

The following grading scale is used at NOBTS (see the Graduate Catalog, available online)

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

Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.
3. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. 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 from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

Class Reading and Assignment Schedule

Schedule & Topic Note Monday's Listed for Class	Reading SOT & ROT	Questions Assigned Due Saturday Midnight by end of each week listed	Additional Assignments Due – Exams, Discussion Board, etc.
Wk. 1, - 1/27 Class Day 1/28 Read before Cass - Intro to OT	SOT:17-54; 356-373; 480-501 ROT:1-6; 421-448	Pg. 31:2, 53:2; Due end of this week Saturday Midnight 2/2	
Wk. 2, -2/3 Pent & Genesis	SOT:57-98 ROT: 313-372	Pg. 73:2,3 & 97:2,3	Answer DB Q#1, by Sunday Midnight – 2/3
Wk. 3, - 2/10 Class Day - 2/11 Exodus	SOT: 100-123 ROT: 241-312	Pg. 121:1,2	Reply to One Student Sunday Midnight – 2/10
Wk. 4, - 2/17 Lev-Deut	SOT:124-179	Pg. 140:2 & 160:1	Answer DB Q#2, by Sunday Midnight - 2/17
Wk. 5, - 2/24 Class Day 2/25 Chronology & Intro Historical Bks,	SOT: 180-215 ROT: 159-199	Pg. 200: 2 & 4	Reply to One Student Sunday Midnight - 2/24

Wk. 6, - 3/3 Joshua	SOT:216-233 ROT: 199-240	Pg. 233:4	Answer DB Q#3, by Sunday Midnight - 3/3
Wk. 7, - 3/10 Class Day 3/11 Judge & Ruth	SOT: 234-255 ROT: 81-107	Pg. 247:2 & 254:1	Reply to One Student, Sunday Midnight - 3/10
Week 8, 3/17 NO Class, Yeah	Spr Break	No Assignments	
Wk. 9- 3/24 Class Day 3/25 1 & 2Sam	SOT: 256-277 ROT: 7-64 & 107-128	Pg. 275:2	Answer DB Q#4, by Sunday Midnight - 3/24
Wk. 100 - 3/31 Kings & Chron.	SOT:278-327 ROT: 65-80	Pg. 304:2,3 & 325:1	Reply to One Student, Sunday Midnight - 3/31
Wk. 11 – 4/7 Class Day- 4/8 Ezra-Neh-Est	SOT:328-355 ROT:373-420	Pg. 344:5	
Wk. 12 - 4/14 Poetical Books Intro-Job-Psalms	SOT:374-438 ROT: 449-500	Pg. 417:1,2 & 437:2,5	Book Report due, Friday 19th
Wk. 13- 4/21 Class Day 4/12 Prov-Ecc-SS	SOT: 440-479	Pg. 451:1 & 465:2 & 478:1	Answer DB Q#5, by Sunday Midnight - 4/21
Wk. 14 - 4/28 Prophets Intro-Isa-Daniel	SOT:480-579	Pg. 516:1 & 541:2	Reply to One Student, Sunday Midnight - 4/28
Wk. 15 - 5/5 Class Day 5/6 Hosea-Malachi	SOT: 580-712	No Questions Just Read Finish SOT:712-752	Paper due 5/5
Wk. 16 - 5/12	Study, Study		Take Final by 5/15-16

Additional Course Information

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 answer weekly questions (to be posted each week) and participate in Discussion Board questions.

Dropping a Hybrid Class

Hybrid students cannot receive credit for the course if they miss more than two class sessions of an eight-time hybrid course. A student may drop a Hybrid class before the second class meeting.”

If you have any questions about Blackboard, SelfServe, or ITC services, please access the ITC page on our website: www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Writing Center

This is the official NOBTS Writing Center online help site for writing academic papers and

essays. <http://www.nobts.edu/writing/default.html> You will discover writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help you become a better writer. Go here for Turabian and APA style helps and guidelines. You will also find language fonts for Greek and Hebrew.

Academic Honesty Policy

All graduate and undergraduate NOBTS 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.

Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Please be aware that plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. Refer to the NOBTS Student Handbook <http://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/studentervices/NOBTSHandbook.pdf> where the definition, penalties and policies associated with plagiarism are clearly defined.

Blackboard and ITC Technical Support

Blackboard is the instructional platform used in this class. Please make sure that your contact information is accurate and up-to-date. If you need assistance accessing Blackboard, Selfserve, or other technical support, please contact the Information Technology 504.816.8180. Here are other helpful links to ITC assistance.

SelfServe:

- Email Selfserve@nobts.edu for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)

Blackboard:

- Email blackboardhelpdesk@nobts.edu for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.

General Technology Requests or Questions:

- Email ITCSupport@nobts.edu for general technical questions/support requests.
- Call 504.816.8180 for any technical questions/support requests.
- Email www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ for general NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.
- For Student Assistance in using Blackboard, visit: [Student Bb Help](#)

Netiquette: Appropriate Online Behavior

Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online on the Discussion Board. 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.

Bibliography: General References

(Note a fuller bibliography is being updated regularly in BB under Information)

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