

**Logos Evangelical Seminary**

**Old Testament Survey I**

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**Fall, 2015**

**Mondays 12:20-3:00 PM**

**Course Description:**

This course is a two-part course designed to introduce the Old Testament. The first course is to introduce the Pentateuch and the Historical Books. Attention will be given to the literary, historical and theological messages of the books and their interconnections with other OT books.

**Course Learning Outcomes:**

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessments
1. Students will have a clear understanding of the content, issues, and theological messages of the books in the Pentateuch and the Historical Books	1. Weekly assigned reading and reflection
2. Students will have an in-depth understanding of a specific topic in the Pentateuch and the Historical Books	1. Group paper on a theological question 2. Final paper
3. Students will learn to think critically and theologically by responding to the questions raised by the text	1. Group paper on a theological question

### Course Textbooks:

Tremper Longman III & Raymond B. Dillard, *An Introduction to the Old Testament*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Grand Rapids, Mich. Zondervan, 2006); (中文版: “21 世紀舊約導論” 劉良淑譯, 台北:校園, 1999)。

Victor P. Hamilton, *Handbook on the Pentateuch* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Academic, 2005); (中文版: 維特漢彌頓。 「摩西五經導論」。胡加恩譯。台北:華神, 2003)。

David M. Howard Jr., *An Introduction to the Old Testament Historical Books* ( Chicago: Moody Press, 1993); (中文版: 大衛. 郝渥德, 胡加恩譯, 「舊約歷史書導論」, 華神, 1998)。

John H. Walton, *Chronological and Background Charts of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich. Zondervan, 1994); (中文版: 梁潔瓊譯: 「舊約背景與年代表」, 北美華神, 2005)。

### Course Requirements:

1. Weekly reading and reflection	30%
2. Group project and presentation	30%
3. Final Paper	30%
4. Attendance	10%
Total	100%

#### 1. Weekly Reading and Reflection (30%)

Students are to read the assigned scripture weekly and write a weekly reflection, about one paragraph (100 words). Students may choose a specific passage to write a reflection on a prayer responding to a passage. The assigned weekly reading is in the calendar of the syllabus.

#### 2. Group Project and Presentation (30%)

Students will form groups of 3-4 members for an assigned topic to be presented in class. The presentation will be graded by accuracy, clarity, and convincing argument. Students are to research on different views regarding the issue and then formulate their own position with evidence. The presentation time is 20 minutes. Word count: 4000-4500.

The topics are listed as follows:

Group 1: How do we explain the wrath of God in Exodus 32:25-29?

Group 2: Why would God command the Israelites to exterminate the Canaanites? Isn't it genocide?

Group 3: The Bible did not show signs of disapproval for Esther's marriage to a Persian king. How do we reconcile her marriage and God's command for the Israelites to be separated from the gentiles?

Group 4: Why would God choose Saul when He intended David to be the king?

Group 5: How do we reconcile 1 Samuel 15:11 and 15:29?

Group 6: Compare and contrasts 1 Chronicles 1-9 and Matthew 1. What are their similarities and purposes?

Group 7: Respond to the theory: the Book of Ruth was composed during the time of Ezra-Nehemiah to counter inter-racial marriage.

### 3. Final Paper (30%)

This paper should be academic in nature, not descriptive in nature, about 4500-5000 words. Consult 5-8 resources. Each student will present the paper at the end of the course.

Below is the list of suggested topics:

- a. Research on the development and significance of covenant in the Pentateuch and the Historical Books.
- b. Research on the identity of the elect and the non-elect in the Pentateuch.
- c. Research on the significance of holy war in Israel's history.
- d. Research on the concept of holiness in the Book of Leviticus.
- e. Compare and contrast on the theology and messages of the Books of Genesis and Exodus
- f. Develop the theme of temple theology from the Pentateuch to the Historical Books.
- g. What is the place (role) of the books of Ruth and Esther in the OT historical books?
- h. What are the principles of restoration in Ezra-Nehemiah?
- i. Character study: Select a person from the Pentateuch or the Historical Books and study his or her spiritual relationship with God (E.g. Moses, Joshua, Samuel, Samson, Saul, David, Solomon, Esther).
- j. God study: Research on the portrayal of God in a selected book from the Pentateuch or the Historical Books.

### 4. Attendance (10%)

Students are expected to be present in class. Absence of 3 classes will receive a failing grade. Each absence will deduct one point.

**Course Policies:**

1. Group projects are due at the beginning of the class on the due date.
2. **I DO NOT accept late papers.**
3. Academic Integrity: Students are expected to be honest in all aspects of your work. Violation of any of the following will result in a failing grade on the assignment and possibly in the course.
  - a. Submitting the same work from another course in whole or in part.
  - b. Submitting as one's own paper obtained from another source.
  - c. Plagiarism: unattributed quotations or paraphrases of ideas from published or unpublished sources.
  - d. Aiding other students on papers and tests in violation of these commitments.

**Grading Scale:**

A	93.5-100
A-	90.0-93.4
B+	86.5-89.9
B	83.5-86.4
B-	80.0-83.4

**Course Calendar:**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Assigned Reading before Class</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
1	8/24	Introduction to the OT Genesis 1-11	Read Genesis 1-11	
2	8/31	Genesis 12-50	Read Genesis 37-50	
3	9/7	<b>Labor Day, No Class</b>	Read Exodus 25-40	
4	9/14	Exodus	Read Leviticus 8-10, 16, 19, 23	
5	9/21	Leviticus	Read Numbers 1-14	
6	9/28	Numbers	Read Deuteronomy 18-30	
7	10/5	Deuteronomy <b>Group #1 Presentation</b>	Read Joshua 13-24 Judges 13-21	Group Project Due
8	10/12	Joshua Judges	Read Ruth 1-4 Esther 1-10	
9	10/19	Ruth, Esther <b>Group #2 Presentation</b>	Read 1 Samuel 9-20 2 Samuel 7, 11-19	Group Project Due
10	10/26	1 and 2 Samuel <b>Group #3 Presentation</b>	Read 1 Kings 1-11 2 Kings 15-25	Group Project Due
11	11/2	1 and 2 Kings <b>Group #4 Presentation</b>	Read 1 Chronicles 1-9 2 Chronicles 26-36	Group Project Due
12	11/9	1 and 2 Chronicles <b>Group #5 Presentation</b>	Read Ezra 1-10 Nehemiah 1-13	Group Project Due
13	11/16	Ezra, Nehemiah <b>Group #6 Presentation</b>		Group Project Due
14	11/23	<b>Society of Biblical Literature, No Class</b>		<b>Reflection Due</b>
15	11/30	<b>Final Paper Presentation</b>		

16	12/11			Final Paper Due
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## Bibliography

Arnold, Bill T. and G. M. Williamson, eds. *Dictionary of the Old Testament Historical Books*. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity, 2005.

Baker, David and T. Desmond Alexander eds. *Dictionary of the Old Testament Pentateuch*. Downers Grove, Ill.: IVP, 2003.

Clines, David J. A. *The Theme of the Pentateuch*. JSOTSupp 10. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1978.

Hamilton, Victor P. *Handbook on the Historical Books*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Academic, 2004.

Sailhamer, John H. *The Pentateuch as Narrative*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1992.

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Walton, John. *Ancient Near Eastern Thought and the Hebrew Bible: Introducing the Conceptual World of the Hebrew Bible*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Academics, 2006.

溫漢。「五經」。尹妙珍譯。香港：天道書樓，2008。

黃儀章。「舊約神學：從創造到新創造」。香港：天道書樓，2003。

范甘麥倫，「救贖進程：從創世到新耶路撒冷的救贖故事」。吳劍秋譯。台北：華神，1995（英文原版：VanGemeren, Willem. *The Progress of Redemption: The Story of Salvation from Creation to the New Jerusalem*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1988）。

賴建國，「五經導論」。香港：天道書樓：2011。

吳理恩，「以色列史綜覽」。張宰金，梁潔瓊合譯，華神：1970。

羅達理，「耶和華神是信實的：歷代志註釋」。香港：中國浸信會神學院，2011。