

Syllabus for  
**BIB 303 Jewish Civilization**  
3 Credit hours  
Spring 2015

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION: Explores Jewish civilization as expressions of history, faith, culture, social and religious practice of the Jewish people.

Prerequisites: Hermeneutics  
Course fee: None

II. COURSE GOALS

This course is a beginning exploration of the history, structure, methodology and content of the Jewish Scriptures and people of 2000 years ago. Jesus was a Jewish rabbi who taught within this culture. An understanding of the family structure, prayers and benedictions, festivals, halakah, and religious structure of this society will benefit the student both scholastically, but also in their personal relationship with The Lord. The student will learn the vocabulary needed to function within this culture and in future classes on this topic. An in-depth analysis of Exodus 18-20 is included in this course.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE

A. Terminal Objectives

As a result of successfully completing this course, the student will be able to do the following:

1. Recognize Hebrew vocabulary words when they encounter them in the text.
2. Discuss the history of the Jewish nation from its creation until 70 A.D.
3. Be aware and understand the Jewish sources as a companion to the Bible.
4. Explain the festivals and customs attached to them.
5. Discuss the different kinds of relationships within a Jewish community.
6. List the festivals of God and tell how they relate to the New Testament passages.
7. Discuss in-depth Exodus 18-20.

B. Unit Objectives

As a result of successfully completing this unit, the student will be able to do the following:

1. Write an essay showing an understanding of how the community was structured around the synagogue.
2. Present a presentation on the Festivals of God, or an assigned topic.
3. Comfortably pass a vocabulary test over the words in the Glossary so that the student can operate in this area of study in other courses.
4. Discuss in-depth Exodus 18-20.

IV. TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER LEARNING RESOURCES

A. Required Materials:

1. Elwell and Yarbrough, Editors. *Readings from the First-Century*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1998. ISBN: 9780801021572.

2. Booker, Richard. *Celebrating Jesus in the Biblical Feasts: Discovering Their Significance to you as a Christian*. Shippensburg, PA: Destiny Publications, 2009. ISBN: 978076842737-0.
3. Fishbane, Berlin, and Brettler. *The Jewish Study Bible featuring the Jewish Publication Society TANAKH Translation*. NY: Oxford University Press, 2004. ISBN: 9780195297515.
4. Vamosh, Miriam. *Daily Life at the Time of Jesus*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2000. ISN: 9780354015615.
5. Dickson, Athol. *The Gospel According to Moses: What my Jewish Friends Taught me about Jesus*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2003. ISBN: 978-158743-048-0

B. Optional Materials:

1. NONE

## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. University Policies and Procedures

1. Attendance at each class or laboratory is mandatory at Oral Roberts University. Excessive absences can reduce a student's grade or deny credit for the course.
2. Students taking a late exam because of an unauthorized absence are charged a late exam fee.
3. Students and faculty at Oral Roberts University must adhere to all laws addressing the ethical use of others' materials, whether it is in the form of print, video, multimedia, or computer software. Plagiarism and other forms of cheating involve both lying and stealing and are violations of ORU's Honor Code: "I will not cheat or plagiarize; I will do my own academic work and will not inappropriately collaborate with other students on assignments." Plagiarism is usually defined as copying someone else's ideas, words, or sentence structure and submitting them as one's own. Other forms of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to) the following:
  - a. Submitting another's work as one's own or colluding with someone else and submitting that work as though it were his or hers.
  - b. Failing to meet group assignment or project requirements while claiming to have done so;
  - c. Failing to cite sources used in a paper;
  - d. Creating results for experiments, observations, interviews, or projects that were not done;
  - e. Receiving or giving unauthorized help on assignments.

By submitting an assignment in any form, the student gives permission for the assignment to be checked for plagiarism, either by submitting the work for electronic verification or by other means. Penalties for any of the above infractions may result in disciplinary action including failing the assignment or failing the course or expulsion from the University, as determined by department and University guidelines.
4. Final exams cannot be given before their scheduled times. Students need to check the final exam schedule before planning return flights or other events at the end of the semester.

5. Students are to be in compliance with University, school, and departmental policies regarding the Whole Person Assessment requirements. Students should consult the Whole Person Assessment handbooks for requirements regarding general education and the students' majors.
  - a. The penalty for not submitting electronically or for incorrectly submitting an artifact is a zero for that assignment.
  - b. By submitting an assignment, the student gives permission for the assignment to be assessed electronically.

C. Department Policies and Procedures

Note: Attendance policy is enforced. Excessive absences will affect your grade. See syllabus attendance policy.

1. Completion of a Course

- a. Late work will not be accepted. Assignments are due on or before the deadline given.
- b. Under rare circumstances, exceptions may be made in consultation with the faculty member for the course. However, except in extreme emergencies, students must contact faculty members before the assigned due date and request an exception to the policy.

2. Incompletes

- a. An incomplete is given only after the student establishes with the instructor and the department chair by written petition that his or her work is incomplete for good cause (i.e., lengthy illness, death in the family). **Incompletes are rarely granted.** Only those absences that are incurred within the time period of the extenuating circumstances prompting an incomplete will be excused. The student is still accountable for any other absences and will be penalized for them according to the attendance policy.
- b. A Petition for Incomplete Grade with all supporting documentation must be submitted for approval at least one week prior to the end of normal classes. The submitting of a petition does not automatically ensure the granting of an incomplete. The petition must be approved by the appropriate academic committee of the Undergraduate Theology Department.

3. Examinations and Other Assignments

- a. Early examinations **are not** allowed.
- b. Late examinations are administered only when extenuating circumstances are present (such as a death in the family the week before exams, sudden and major illness the week of exams that is documented by a physician). In fairness to all students, some persons should not have more time to prepare for an examination than others. **The granting of a late examination request is rare.**
- c. A Petition for Late Examination without penalty must be signed by the professor and the chair. Proper documentation must accompany the petition and must be submitted to the Undergraduate Theology Department. The student must schedule the makeup exam with the professor of the course. The exam must be taken no later than five (5) calendar days after the

approval of the petition. **Grade penalties may be applied as indicated by the Academic Affairs Committee.**

- d. **All** exams will be given as scheduled. It is the student's responsibility when purchasing airline tickets, for example, to take this schedule into consideration. **Not being present for the final examination automatically results in failure of the course.**
  - e. These requirements apply to all quizzes, tests, and examinations administered by the Undergraduate Theology Department.
4. Attendance Policy
- a. The Official Attendance Policy for the Undergraduate Theology Department is as follows:
    - (1.) If class meets three times a week, 3 unexcused absences will result in 1 grade letter reduction; 6 unexcused absences will automatically result in an "F" for the course.
    - (2.) If class meets two times a week, 2 unexcused absences will result in 1 grade letter reduction; 4 unexcused absences will automatically result in an "F" for the course.
    - (3.) If class meets one time a week, 1 unexcused absence will result in 1 grade letter reduction; 2 unexcused absences will automatically result in an "F" for the course.
  - b. **The absences allowed prior to grade reduction are designed to allow for emergencies and illnesses, only. (Faculty may require documentation.)** Administrative excuses are granted only when a student is on official University business and has received approval in advance from the University administration.
  - c. The penalty for tardies is at the discretion of the instructor.

D. Course Policies and Procedures

- 1. Evaluation Procedures
  - a. Grading Scale: A = 90-100; B=80-89; C=70-79; D = 60-69; F=below 59
  - b. Assignments:
    - Book(s) Critique/Review 10%
    - Mid-Term 20%
    - Final Exam 40% - "Tell everything you know about Exodus 18-20"
    - Daily Assignments 20% \* No extra credit can be earned if daily work is not complete.
    - Quizzes 10%
- 2. Whole Person Assessment compliance (0% or one letter grade reduction for noncompliance)
  - a. To be "compliant" the student will have correctly submitted the required reports electronically as an artifact for assessment. To be "noncompliant" the student has either not submitted or incorrectly submitted the research paper electronically. Noncompliance will result in a one letter grade reduction of the final grade for the course.
  - b. [It is the student's responsibility to ensure that he/she is in compliance. Compliance is verified by checking for the assessment results in one's Whole Person Assessment. If there is a problem you may receive notification by the professor/assessor through one's **ORU Group Wise e-mail address.**]

- c. Course Policies and Procedures
- 3. E-Portfolio Requirements: None
- 4. Other Policies and/or Procedures: None

## VI. COURSE CALENDAR

Week One: Overview, Syllabus, and Assignments. The Importance of Discipleship.

Week Two: History of the Jewish Civilization and Primary First-Century Sources

Week Three: The Patriarchs and Covenant

Week Four: Torah, Law and Geography

Week Five: Egypt

Week Six: Egypt

Week Seven: Egypt

Week Eight: The Festivals Overview – Passover through Pentecost

Week Nine: Exodus 18-20 discussion begins. The Oral Law and the Importance of Mt. Sinai

Week Ten: Exodus 18-20 continues.

Week Eleven: Exodus 18-20 continues.

Week Twelve: Exodus 18-20 continues.

Week Thirteen: Exodus 18-20 continues.

Week Fourteen: Exodus 18-20 continues.

Week Fifteen: Cushion Week

Week Sixteen: What now?

## Course Inventory for ORU's Student Learning Outcomes

### BIB 303 Jewish Civilization Spring 2015

This course contributes to the ORU student learning outcomes as indicated below:

**Significant Contribution** – Addresses the outcome directly and includes targeted assessment.

**Moderate Contribution** – Addresses the outcome directly or indirectly and includes some assessment.

**Minimal Contribution** – Addresses the outcome indirectly and includes little or no assessment.

**No Contribution** – Does not address the outcome.

The Student Learning Glossary at <http://ir.oru.edu/doc/glossary.pdf> defines each outcome and each of the proficiencies/capacities.

| OUTCOMES & Proficiencies/Capacities |  | Significant Contribution | Moderate Contribution | Minimal Contribution | No Contribution |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| <b>1</b>                            | <b>Outcome #1 – Spiritually Alive</b><br>Proficiencies/Capacities      |                          |                       |                      |                 |
| 1A                                  | Biblical knowledge   | X                        |                       |                      |                 |
| 1B                                  | Sensitivity to the Holy Spirit   | X                        |                       |                      |                 |
| 1C                                  | Evangelistic capability  | X                        |                       |                      |                 |
| 1D                                  | Ethical behavior   | X                        |                       |                      |                 |
| <b>2</b>                            | <b>Outcome #2 – Intellectually Alert</b><br>Proficiencies/Capacities   |                          |                       |                      |                 |
| 2A                                  | Critical thinking  | X                        |                       |                      |                 |
| 2B                                  | Information literacy   | X                        |                       |                      |                 |
| 2C                                  | Global & historical perspectives                                       | X                        |                       |                      |                 |
| 2D                                  | Aesthetic appreciation   | X                        |                       |                      |                 |
| 2E                                  | Intellectual creativity  | X                        |                       |                      |                 |
| <b>3</b>                            | <b>Outcome #3 – Physically Disciplined</b><br>Proficiencies/Capacities |                          |                       |                      |                 |
| 3A                                  | Healthy lifestyle  |                          |                       |                      | X               |
| 3B                                  | Physically disciplined lifestyle                                       |                          |                       |                      | X               |
| <b>4</b>                            | <b>Outcome #4 – Socially Adept</b><br>Proficiencies/Capacities         |                          |                       |                      |                 |
| 4A                                  | Communication skills   |                          |                       | X                    |                 |
| 4B                                  | Interpersonal skills   |                          |                       | X                    |                 |
| 4C                                  | Appreciation of cultural & linguistic differences                      | X                        |                       |                      |                 |
| 4D                                  | Responsible citizenship  |                          |                       | X                    |                 |
| 4E                                  | Leadership capacity  | X                        |                       |                      |                 |

*(Revised 3/01/12)*