

Syllabus for
GBIB 505—Introduction to Old Testament Literature
3 Credit Hours
Fall 2008

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A historical-thematic survey of the Old Testament. Examines the content of the Old Testament, with emphasis on the cultural, historical, and geographical background to the text.
Prerequisites: None.

II. COURSE GOALS

The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the content and world of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament (HB/OT).

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE

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

- A. Define and identify key names and terms that occur in the HB/OT.
- B. Arrange and present a given set of people or events in proper chronological order.
- C. Present a basic chronological outline of the events of the HB/OT.
- D. Identify the key persons and places in historical events.
- E. Trace broad cultural patterns in terms of migration, settlement, political organization, warfare, etc.
- F. Discuss the various types of literature in the HB/OT and give examples of each.
- G. Trace the revelation of God to Israel.
- H. Summarize and present the biblical teachings concerning themes discussed in the lectures.

IV. TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER LEARNING RESOURCES

- A. Required Materials
 - 1. Textbooks

Hester, H. I. *Heart of Hebrew History*. Nashville, TN: Broadman and Holman Publishers, 1980.

Wilson, Marvin R. *Our Father Abraham: Jewish Roots of Christian Faith*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2000.

Youngblood, Ronald. *The Heart of the Old Testament: A Survey of Key Theological Themes*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 1998.

2. Other
None
- B. Optional Material
1. Textbooks
None
 2. Other
None

V. 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. 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.
 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 ePortfolio requirements. Students should consult the ePortfolio handbooks for requirements regarding general education and the students' majors.
 - a. The penalty for not submitting electronically or for incorrectly submitting an ePortfolio artifact is a zero for that assignment.
 - b. By submitting an assignment, the student gives permission for the assignment to be assessed electronically.
- B. School of Theology and Missions Policies and Procedures
1. **Completion of Assignments**
Assignments are due on the dates established in the course calendar, which is published in the syllabus. **Any assignments turned in after the scheduled due date are penalized five percent (5%) of the original value per day including weekends, breaks, and holidays.** All work turned in two weeks after the assignment deadline is received but is granted a grade of zero for that assignment. **No work** is accepted after the final date of regular classes.
 2. **Incompletes**
 - a. An incomplete is given only after the student establishes with the academic committee by written petition that student's 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 are 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 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 academic committee of the School of Theology and Missions. Students are expected to continue all course work until an incomplete is granted.

3. **Examinations**

- a. Early examinations **are not** allowed. Late examinations without grade penalty are administered only when extenuating circumstances are present (such as a death in the family the week before exams or a sudden and major illness the week of exams that is documented by a physician).
- b. A Petition for Late Examination must be submitted to the academic dean's office. A **\$15 fee**, plus proper documentation, must accompany the petition. The academic committee reviews each petition and grade penalties are assessed. (Late exam fee is not a grade penalty.)
- c. Students taking late exams should expect alternate versions of the original exams.
- d. **Not being present for the final examination automatically results in failure of the course.**

4. **Attendance**

The Official Attendance Policy for the School of Theology and Missions is as follows:

- a. If the class meets three times a week, the missing of **6** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **one letter** grade. Missing **8** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **two letter** grades. Missing **12** class sessions automatically results in a **grade of F**. If a class meets twice a week, the missing of **4** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **one letter** grade. Missing **6** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **two letter** grades. Missing **8** class sessions automatically results in a **grade of F**. If the class meets once a week, then the missing of **3** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **one letter** grade. Missing **4** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **two letter** grades. Missing **5** class sessions automatically results in a **grade of F**.
- b. **The absences allowed prior to a grade reduction are designed to allow for emergencies and illnesses and are not designed for indiscriminate use.**
- c. Administrative excuses are granted only when a student is on official university business and has received approval in advance from the university administration.
- d. Students are expected to be prompt for classes.
- e. Students are expected to remain for the entire class session.
- f. Leaving early without permission constitutes an absence.

C. Course Policies and Procedures

1. Evaluation Procedures

Book Critique	25%
Exam 1	25%
Exam 2	25%
Final Exam	25%

Grading scale:
A=90-100%
B=80-89%
C=70-79%
D=60-69%
F=59% and below

2. ePortfolio Requirements

- a. All students entering the seminary are required to enroll in PRF 059 ePortfolio: Journey to a Transformed Life, which provides specific training to develop the skills needed to create an ePortfolio.
- b. ePortfolio requirements for this course:
None

3. Other Policies and/or Procedures

- a. A research paper is required. The paper should be written on an approved subject that deals with the issues raised in the readings, lectures, or word study related to reading, lectures, and class discussion. The paper must adequately deal with the theme of the class and should be 5-8 pages in length. The approved ORU format is required with documentation and bibliography.
- b. A 5-to-8-page book critique on Youngblood's *The Heart of the Old Testament* is required.
- c. A midterm and final exam are given.

VI. COURSE CALENDAR

Week	Topic	Assignment	Chapters
1	Introduction	<i>The Heart of Hebrew History</i>	1-4
3-4	From Creation	<i>The Heart of Hebrew History</i>	5-6
4	Research Paper Due		
5	To Captivity	<i>The Heart of Hebrew History</i>	7
6	From Egypt	<i>The Heart of Hebrew History</i>	8
7	To Canaan	<i>The Heart of Hebrew History</i>	8
8	From Jordan	<i>The Heart of Hebrew History</i>	8
9	To the United Monarchy	<i>The Heart of Hebrew History</i>	9
10	The Kingdom of Israel: 1052-931 B.C.	<i>The Heart of Hebrew History</i>	10
11	The Divided Kingdom: 931-586 B.C.	<i>The Heart of Hebrew History</i>	10
12	The Fall of Israel and Judah	<i>The Heart of Hebrew History</i>	11-12
	Book Critique Due		
13	Contemporary Literature	<i>The Heart of Hebrew History</i>	13
14	Restoration of the Remnant 536-400 B.C.	<i>The Heart of Hebrew History</i>	14
15	The Inter-Biblical Period	<i>The Heart of Hebrew History</i>	15
	Final Exam (university schedule)		

Course Inventory for ORU's Student Learning Outcomes
GBIB 505—Introduction to Old Testament Literature **Dr. William McDonald, Instructor**
Fall 2008

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
1	Outcome #1 – Spirit-filled Living				
1A	Entry-level competency —Possesses Christian character, personal integrity, a sense of calling, and a demonstrated interest in ministry-related endeavors	X			
1B	Mid-level competency —Exemplifies the fruit of the Spirit, spiritual gifts, ongoing spiritual growth, and clarification of a call to ministry		X		
1C	Candidacy-level competency —Demonstrates involvement in charismatic signs and wonders and integration of ethics and personal integrity in the healing ministry in obedience to a defined call to ministry		X		
2	Outcome #2 – Academic Excellence				
2A	Entry-level competency —Demonstrates an aptitude for graduate theological education		X		
2B	Mid-level competency —Practices theological reflection and sound scholarship in acquiring knowledge through learning and research	X			
2C	Candidacy-level competency —Evidences critical thinking, problem solving, and decision making		X		
3	Outcome #3 – Professional Competence				
3A	Entry-level competency —Demonstrates awareness of professional requirements		X		
3B	Mid-level competency —Communicates discipline-specific information effectively in written and spoken discourse as pertaining to ministry calling		X		
3C	Candidacy-level competency —Integrates leadership in ministry and academic excellence with Spirit-led practices of ministry		X		
4	Outcome #4 – Cultural Relevance				
4A	Entry-level competency —Demonstrates knowledge about cultural diversity	X			
4B	Mid-level competency —Pursues participation in diverse social/cultural contexts		X		
4C	Candidacy-level competency —Evidences skill while engaging in healing, ministry, and acts of justice and mercy in diverse contexts		X		