

Syllabus for
GBIB 774—Jewish Apocalyptic Literature
3 Credit Hours
Fall 2010

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Examines the cultural setting and the historical circumstances that gave rise to the Jewish apocalyptic literature. Studies selected apocalyptic literature from the Old Testament as well as the Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha.

Prerequisites: GBIB 551 or 571.

II. COURSE GOALS

The purpose of this course is to enable the student to do the following:

- A. Study the development of Jewish apocalyptic.
- B. Examine the religious concepts and understanding of the world that gave birth to Jewish apocalyptic writings.
- C. Study the historical and cultural background of the Second Temple Period to achieve a greater appreciation for the relevancy of the method and the message of Jewish apocalypses for the close of the Old Testament Period and the beginnings of Christianity.

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. Discuss the historical background of Jewish apocalyptic thought and literature.
- B. Express familiarity with the content of apocalyptic writings from the Second Temple Period either orally or in writing.
- C. Discuss the impact of Jewish apocalyptic literature upon early Christianity.

IV. TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER LEARNING RESOURCES

A. Required Materials

1. Textbooks

Charlesworth, James H. *The Old Testament Pseudepigrapha, Vol. 1*. Colorado Springs, CO: Doubleday Religious Publishing Group, 1983.
ISBN: 978 0 385 09630 0

Charlesworth, James H. *The Old Testament Pseudepigrapha, Volume 2: Expansions of the Old Testament and Legends, Wisdom and Philosophical Literature, Prayers, Psalms and Odes, Fragments of Lost Judeo-Hellenistic Works*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1985.
ISBN: 978 0 300 14020 0

Flusser, David. *Judaism of the Second Temple Period: Qumran and Apocalypticism*, vol. 1. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2007.
ISBN: 978 0 802 82469 1

Helyer, Larry R. *Exploring Jewish Literature of the Second Temple Period*.
Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2002. ISBN: 9780830826780

Vermes, G. *The Complete Dead Sea Scrolls in English*. New York: Penguin, 2004.
ISBN: 9780140449525

- 2. Other
None
- B. Optional Materials
 - 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, electronic, 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 Whole Person Assessment requirements. Students should consult the WPA 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 are received but are 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/or Procedures

- 1. Evaluation Procedures

Research Paper	35%
Testaments Paper	20%
Midterm Examination	15%
Final Examination	20%
Class Participation and Pop Quizzes	10%

Grading Scale:

A=100-90%

B=89-80%

C=79-70%

D=69-60%

F=59% and below

2. WPA Requirement

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

3. Other Policies and/or Procedures

- a. Students are responsible for all the material in the reading of class assignments.
- b. Class attendance and participation in seminar discussions are required in accordance with ORU policy.
- c. Students must read and submit a summary and analysis of *The Testaments of the Twelve Patriarchs* or other early work subject to the approval of the professor. The historical and critical analysis must be four to eight typewritten pages according to the approved ORU format.
- d. A research paper on an approved subject that deals with the issues raised in the readings, lectures, or discussions of the course is required. The paper must adequately deal with the theme and should be 8-10 pages in length excluding the notes and the bibliography. The approved ORU format is required with documentation and bibliography.

- e. Periodical unannounced quizzes over the material are given.

VI. COURSE CALENDAR

Week	Topic
1-2	The Nature of the Jewish Apocalypse
3	Dualism and Cosmology
4	The Concept of God
5	The Day of Recompense
6-7	The Law and Revelation
8	Midterm Examination
9	Apocrypha, Pseudepigrapha, Apocalyptic, and the Dead Sea Scrolls
10	Prophecy and Apocalyptic
11	Angels and Demons
12	Personal Piety – Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving
13	Eschatology – Messianism and the Future Redemption
14	Jewish Conceptions of the Messiah in Apocalyptic Thought
15	Final Examination

Inventory for Student Learning Outcomes
School of Theology and Missions
M. A. Biblical Literature/Judaic-Christian Studies

GBIB 581—744 Jewish Apocalyptic Literature Dr. Brad Young, Instructor

Fall 2010

This course contributes to student learning outcomes for the M. A. Biblical Literature/Judaic-Christian Studies degree 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.

Degree Program Outcomes		Significant Contribution	Moderate Contribution	Minimal Contribution	No Contribution
Translation, Biblical Languages					
	Demonstrate proficiency in translating the Hebrew Old Testament and Greek New Testament.				X
Major Old Testament Themes					
	Correlate the major Old Testament themes and formulate a coherent Old Testament theology.		X		
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	Correlate the major New Testament themes and formulate a coherent New Testament theology.		X		
Rabbinic/Judaic Literature and Culture					
	Demonstrate ability to perform research in rabbinic literature and reflect knowledge of the influence of Jewish culture and theology upon Christian faith and literature.	X			
Concepts/Practices of Judaism					
	Relate the concepts and practices of Judaism in the period of the Second Temple to the ministry and teachings of Jesus and Paul for sound theological understanding.			X	
Critical Methods of Exegesis					
	Utilize critical methods of exegesis and tools for interpreting and appreciating the central themes of Scripture and related Judeo-Christian literature within the matrix of early Jewish and Christian communities.		X		
Tools/Methods of Research					
	Use biblical critical tools and methods to write an advanced research M.A. thesis in the OT/NT and employ Jewish literature and theology in the discipline of Judaic-Christian studies.		X		