

BIB101-6 FA15 - Old Testament History & Religion

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School of Theology and Christian Ministry

Point Loma Nazarene Bib101.6
University Old Testament History and Tradition
2 Credits

Fall 2015

Meeting day: Monday and Friday Wednesdays: Tutorial: 5:00-5:50 pm	Instructor: John W. Wright
Meeting times: 1:00-2:15 pm	Phone: 849-2254
Meeting location: Liberty Station 204B and online	E-mail: jwright@pointloma.edu
Additional info: Please contact me by email, not by office phone. I will check email twice a day during week; once around noon, once in the evening; once daily on weekends, if possible	Office hours: Email me for an appointment; we will meet as soon as possible at our mutual convenience. Canvas Conferences as needed for individuals and groups
Final Exam: 6-8 page paper submitted on Canvas by 11:00 pm, Wednesday, October 14, 2015.	Additional info: I win as a professor when you win as a student. Our goods are deeply intertwined.

PLNU Mission

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Within the context of the history of Israel, an overview of the literature of the Old Testament with special attention to its religious meaning.

The class will render intelligible to the student why the church has found the Old Testament indispensable to live faithfully to the Triune God as revealed fully in Jesus Christ. The class will have three movements.

(1) The first two days we will look at the theological formation within North American society as a parody of historic Christianity and will investigate the relationship between Scripture and Jesus Christ.

(2) The second movement will investigate the contents of the OT in how the Scriptures, in how its parts function within a greater whole, look forward to a messianic future yet to come.

(3) The third section will look at the social and historical factors in the composition, editing, function, and gathering of these texts into the Christian OT to form Judeans as worshippers of Yahweh alone amid a social and historical context that sought to pressure the Judeans/Jews/early Christians into conformity with larger, more powerful groups.

The last day we will see how the text, read in its parts within its larger whole within the church, still works to point to Jesus Christ and the life of the church to prevent the church from assimilating into larger, more powerful groups like the theological formation that occurs within North American society.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Course Learning Outcomes for PLNU General Education Program:

Upon the completion of this class the student will be able to:

- 1) Identify the historical contexts of the Old Testament;
- 2) Articulate the unity of the Old Testament and New Testament in its canonical context within the diverse literature of the Christian canon;
- 3) Articulate and appreciate the ways in which the Bible, understood as given by divine inspiration, functions as the church's central norm for Christian discipleship, faith and practice; and
- 4) Articulate the basic content of the books of the Old Testament and the methods appropriate to the interpretation of those books.

Course Objectives for NCS:

Upon the completion of this course, students in the Nazarene Ministerial Course of Study will be able to

- (1) Name important people and events in ancient Israel and early Judaism and within the Old Testament story and to understand how Israelite history and the Old Testament literature relate.
- (2) Provide a basic framework of the history of the Israelite and early Jewish communities.
- (3) Describe the basic compositional history and themes of the Old Testament literature in order to understand the character of the people of God that the Scripture calls forth.
- (4) Articulate the nature of the Old Testament as Christian Scriptures and the nature of their claim upon the life of the Church and individual Christians in today's world.

COURSE CREDIT HOUR INFORMATION

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 2 unit class delivered over 14 weeks. Specific details about how the class meets the credit hour requirement can be provided upon request.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

A Bible (translation, not paraphrase)

Michael Dauphinais and Matthew Levering, Holy People, Holy Land: A Theological Introduction to the Bible. Brazos Press, 2005. Pp. 7-135.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If you are absent from more than 10 percent of class meetings, I have the option of filing a written report which may result in de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, you may be de-enrolled without notice. If the date of de-enrollment is past the last date to withdraw from a class, you will be assigned a grade of W or WF consistent with university policy in the grading section of the catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) in the undergrad student catalog. For online lectures and submissions, the system will block your ability to continue through the course until you have covered the required pre-requisite material and submitted the assignments. You will need to plan for paced progress through the class.

Attendance for online classes in the Blended Format: Students will have a minimum attendance requirement of two days each week. This means that students will log into Canvas and will post a substantive note on at least two days in each week. Any day missed below this minimum requirement will count as an absence. Students may be dropped from the course if two such absences are recorded during the class and will be dropped if four such absences occur or if a student fails to attend any classes in any given week.

Note: Students are expected to participate by entering the online class, reading class discussion notes, and responding with discussion notes or assignments according to the requirements of the course as listed in the syllabus. A substantive note is one in which a student participates in online discussion about academic matters or initiates contact (in Canvas) with faculty members to ask a question about the academic subject studied in the course. Logging into the online course without active participation or participation not related to the academic subject being studied in the course does not count as attendance.

INCOMPLETES AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments are to be submitted on Canvas by the beginning of the class session when they are due.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. As stated in the university catalog, "Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. Such acts include plagiarism, copying of class assignments, and copying or other

fraudulent behavior on examinations. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for a) that particular assignment or examination, and/or b) the course.” See the full policy in the undergraduate catalog at [Academic Honesty](#).

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

While all students are expected to meet the minimum academic standards for completion of this course as established by the instructor, students with disabilities may require academic accommodations. At Point Loma Nazarene University, students requesting academic accommodations must file documentation with the [Disability Resource Center](#) (DRC), located in the Bond Academic Center. Once the student files documentation, the Disability Resource Center will contact the student’s instructors and provide written recommendations for reasonable and appropriate accommodations to meet the individual needs of the student. See [Academic Policies](#) in the undergrad student catalog.

FERPA POLICY

In compliance with federal law, neither PLNU student ID nor social security number should be used in publically posted grades or returned sets of assignments without student written permission. This class will meet the federal requirements by (each faculty member choose one strategy to use: distributing all grades and papers individually; requesting and filing written student permission; or assigning each student a unique class ID number not identifiable on the alphabetic roster.). Also in compliance with FERPA, you will be the only person given information about your progress in this class unless you have designated others to receive it in the “Information Release” section of the student portal. See [Policy Statements](#) in the undergrad student catalog.

INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE STATEMENT

The Department of Philosophy and Religion is committed to the equality of women and men. Recognizing that people have often used the English language in ways that imply the exclusion or inferiority of women, the department urges students, faculty, and staff to avoid sexist language in public discourse, in classroom discussions, and in their writings.

FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination. You must submit the final exam online by required time, with ID # only.

USE OF TECHNOLOGY

Point Loma Nazarene University encourages the use of technology for learning, communication, and collaboration. I will teach the class utilizing technology to implement a hybrid face-to-face and online format. I expect complete attendance for the classroom meetings; if an emergency arises that you cannot be there, please email me before the class. You should complete carefully all online lectures as they are due. You will abide by [PLNU Netiquette policy](#) for all online interactions.

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

ASSIGNMENT	POINTS	Date and Time Due	GRADE
Quiz 1	40 possible points	Sept 3 11:00 pm	
Quiz 2	40 possible points	Sept 9 11:00 pm	
1-2 pp. response to prompt on Genesis 1-11	50 possible points	Sept 14 11:00 pm ID number only	
1-2 pp. on response to prompt on Genesis 12-Exodus 18	50 possible points	Sept 17 11:00 pm ID number only	
1-2 pp. response to prompt on Genesis 1 through Joshua	50 possible points	Sept 21 11:00 pm ID number only	
1-2 pp. response to prompt on Judges through 2 Kings	50 possible points	Sept 23 11:00 pm ID number only	
1-2 pp. response to prompt on 1 Chronicles through Esther	50 possible points	Sept 28 11:00 pm. ID number only	
1-2 pp. response to Job through Ecclesiastes	50 possible points	Sept 30 11:00 pm. ID number only	
3-4 pp. summary essay on Holy People, Holy Land	200 possible points	Oct 2, 11:00 pm. ID number only	
Quiz 3	40 possible points	Oct 6, 11:00 pm	
Quiz 4	40 possible points	Oct 7, 11:00 pm	
Quiz 5	40 possible points	Oct 8, 11:00 pm	
Final Exam: In class response to prompt given before	300 possible points	Oct 14, 11:00 pm	

in Canvas

GRADING SUMMARY CHART

Assignment	Total Points
Quizzes	200
Short Essays	300
Book Summary	200
Final	300

Grading Scale:

1000 - 930 = A	899-870 = B+	799-770 = C+
929-900 = A-	869- 830 = B	769-730 = C
	829-800 = B-	729-700 = C-
	699 - 600 = D	599 and below = F

Notes on Grading Scale: PLNU requires a minimum of a C average to remain in academically good standing. A C grade therefore shows that you have achieved the minimal academic mastery in the assignment to remain a PLNU student making progress toward your degree. Anything below a C suggests that improvement is needed. I encourage you to contact me if you receive an assessment below a C so that we might work together for the increase in your skills. Between a B and B- represents the “average” level of mastery for a PLNU student. Grades that ascend beyond a B into higher levels witness an standard deviation leap in the mastery and skills witnessed to in the assignment. Such a grading scale protects students from grade inflation, a phenomenon that hurts all students and the institution.

Students compete only against levels of mastery and full accomplishment of the outcomes – not against each other. Although the occasion has never arisen, I have no philosophical objections to the whole class receiving As – if each person’s work achieved an A level of achievement of course outcomes. Students do not compete against the professor, either, for the “scarce commodity” of good grades. A good professor requires good students. It is my job to make you good students, even as it is your job to make me a good professor. Our goods are not in competition, but together participate in the same good which we find together in the achievement of the outcomes of the class.

COPYRIGHT POLICY

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

Date	Details	
Tue Sep 1, 2015	Course Introduction	1pm
Wed Sep 2, 2015	Online: View Module 1	6pm
Thu Sep 3, 2015	Online: View Module 2	6pm
	Quiz over Module 1	11pm
Fri Sep 4, 2015	Processing Module 1 and 2; Introduce Module 3	1pm
Wed Sep 9, 2015	Quiz over Module 2	11pm
Thu Sep 10, 2015	Online: View Module 3	6pm
Fri Sep 11, 2015	Processing Module 3: Genesis 1-11	1pm
Mon Sep 14, 2015	Introduction to Modules 4-9: The Narrative of the OT	1pm
	Response to Prompt on Genesis 1-11	11pm
Tue Sep 15, 2015	Online: View Modules 4, 5, and 6	6pm
Thu Sep 17, 2015	Online: View Modules 7, 8, and 9	11pm
	Response to Prompt on Genesis 12-Exodus 18	11pm
Fri Sep 18, 2015	The Promise to David in the Structure of Genesis through 2 Kings	1pm
Mon Sep 21, 2015	Introducing Modules 10 and 11	1pm
	Responses to Genesis 1 through Joshua	11pm
Tue Sep 22, 2015	Online: View Module 10	6pm
Wed Sep 23, 2015	Response to Prompt on Judges through 2 Kings.	11pm
Thu Sep 24, 2015	Online: View Module 11	6pm
Fri Sep 25, 2015	Processing Module 10 and 11	1pm
Mon Sep 28, 2015	Introduction to the Module 12: The Prophetic Books	1pm
	Response to Prompt on 1 Chronicles through Esther	11pm
Tue Sep 29, 2015	Online: View Module 12	6pm
Wed Sep 30, 2015	Response to Job through Ecclesiastes	11pm
Fri Oct 2, 2015	The Messianic Structure of the Old Testament Book Summary	1pm
		11pm

Date	Details
Mon Oct 5, 2015	An Introduction to the Scrolls and History of Judah 1pm
Tue Oct 6, 2015	Online: View Modules 13.A. and 13.B. 6pm Quiz over Module 13.A. and B. 11pm
Wed Oct 7, 2015	Online: Modules 13.C. and 13.D. 6pm Quiz over Module 13.C. and D. 11pm
Thu Oct 8, 2015	Online: View Module 13.E. 6pm Quiz over Module 13.E. 11pm
Fri Oct 9, 2015	Course Conclusion 1pm
Wed Oct 14, 2015	Final 11pm