



School of Theology and Christian Ministry

Bib 101: Old Testament History and Religion

2 Units

Spring 2019

T-R	Instructor: Chris Nafis
Section 3: 2:55pm-3:50pm LBRT 205 B	Phone: (619) 942-3692
Section 1: 4pm-4:55pm LBRT 205 B	Email: cnafis@pointloma.edu
Final Exam: Section 3: Tuesday, April 30th at 4:30pm Section 1: Thursday, May 2nd at 4:30pm	Office Hours By Appointment – please call or email to make an appointment

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 literary history and theological themes.”

This course is one of the components of the General Education Program at PLNU, under the category of “Responding to the Sacred.” By including this course in a common educational experience for undergraduates, the faculty supports the “study of Scripture and Christian heritage as foundational in the pursuit of knowledge and the development of personal values.”

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students 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.
4. Articulate the basic content of the books of the Old Testament and the methods appropriate to the interpretation of those books.

COURSE ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Class Participation: 5 pts

Attendance: You are expected to attend every class session. Your Bible is also expected to attend every class session. Attendance will be taken and school policies enforced.

Reading: Come to class prepared. Read everything that is assigned. Be prepared to discuss the content of the Biblical texts and the secondary reading.

Weekly(ish) Reflection Journal (On Canvas): 10 Points

10 Entries Required over the course of the Semester (one per week maximum)

Answer these questions in 280 characters or less:

What class content/discussion surprised you this week?

What class content/discussion challenged you, personally?

Was there any sort of paradigm shift for you this week? If so, what was it?

“Tell Us A Story”: 15 Points

Groups of 1-3 will present the class with a story from the Old Testament. Groups will aim to capture the drama/emotion/beauty/significance of a story in a 5 minute story-telling video. Groups/individuals will then stand for live Q & A about the significance of the story and how it was presented (questions from the class and the professor), with the expectation that they have spent time reflecting on the significance of the story for the people of God. **Dates to be assigned**

Experiential Learning: 15 Points

Students will visit a site and conduct an interview to gain a new perspective that will aid in bridging the cultural/experiential gap between contemporary PLNU students and the original hearers/writers of the Old Testament. Students will prepare an 800-1000 word reflection about this experience describing what was seen and heard, and reflecting on how this experience will affect their engagement with the Old Testament. See Canvas for more details.

Three Options (choose 1):

“Land” Option: Due February 1st (on canvas by midnight)

“Worship” Option: Due February 22nd (on canvas by midnight)

“Prophecy” option: Due March 29th (on canvas by midnight)

Reading Quizzes: 10 points (5 pop quizzes over the course of the semester)

Prophetic Imagination Quiz: 10 points (April 2nd)

Midterm: 15 pts (February 28th)

Final Exam (see above for dates/times): 20 pts (See above for dates)

WEEKLY COURSE SCHEDULE (subject to change)

	Tuesday	Thursday
Week 1 (1/10)		Syllabus, Intro to Old Testament
Week 2 (1/15, 1/17)	Intro to the Psalms/Lament and Cursing Psalms Read: Psalm 13, 22, 109, and 137 Davis 7-29	Praise Psalms Read: Psalm 8, 145, 150 Davis 30-44
Week 3 (1/22, 1/24)	Proverbs/Ecclesiastes Read: Proverbs 1, Ecclesiastes 6-7 Davis: 91-120	Job Read: Job 1-2, 23, 38 Davis 121-146
Week 4 (1/29, 1/31)	Creation Read: Genesis 1-2 Davis 183-201	Genesis 3-11 Read: Genesis 3-11 ** LAND OPTION DUE TOMORROW**
Week 5 (2/5, 2/7)	Call of Abram Read: Genesis 12-18:15	Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac Read: Genesis 20-23 Davis 50-64
Week 6 (2/12, 2/14)	Joseph Read: Genesis 37, 39-48	Moses Read: Exodus 1:1-7:7 Davis 45-49
Week 7 (2/19, 2/21)	The Exodus Read: Exodus 7:8-18:27	Torah Read: Leviticus 24-25, Deuteronomy 5-6 Davis 153-159

		WORSHIP OPTION DUE TOMORROW
Week 8 (2/26, 2/28)	Review/Catch Up	MIDTERM EXAM
Spring Break	NO CLASS	NO CLASS
Week 9 (3/12, 3/14)	Religious Development of Israel Read: Brueggemann 2-20	Conquest: Joshua Read: Deuteronomy 20, Joshua 7-8
Week 10 (3/19, 3/21)	Judges Read: Judges 4:1-6:10 Brueggemann 21-38	Samuel/Saul Read: 1 Samuel 7:3-11:15, 13:1-15 Brueggemann 39-59
Week 11 (3/26, 3/28)	David Kingship Read: 1 Samuel 15-17, 2 Samuel 5-7	David's Sin Read: 2 Samuel 11-12 **PROPHECY OPTION DUE TOMORROW**
Week 12 (4/2, 4/4)	Prophecy Read Brueggemann 60-81 *** PROPHETIC IMAGINATION QUIZ ***	Elijah/Elisha Read: 1 Kings 17-19, 2 Kings 2, 4
Week 13 (4/9, 4/11)	Exile Read: 2 Kings 20-25 Jeremiah	Ezekiel Read: Ezekiel 15-16, 33-34, 37
Week 14 (4/16, 4/18)	Isaiah Read: Isaiah 6, 25, 39-40, 58-60	Easter Recess (No Classes)
Week 15 (4/23, 4/25)	Minor Prophets Read: Micah 3-6, Habakkuk 1-3	Review/Catch Up
Finals Week (12/11, 12/13)	FINAL EXAM	FINAL EXAM

REQUIRED TEXTS AND RECOMMENDED STUDY RESOURCES

1. Standard Translation of the Bible. Professor will primarily use NRSV or NIV translations, but any modern translation is acceptable (**NOT** a paraphrase e.g. *The Message* or *The New Living Translation*). If you have questions about a translation, ask.
2. *Getting Involved with God: Rediscovering the Old Testament* - Ellen F. Davis (Cowley Publications 2001)
3. *The Prophetic Imagination, 2nd Edition* – Walter Brueggemann (Fortress Press 2001)

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class Participation – 5 pts • Reflection Journal Online – 10 pts • Story Video – 15 pts • Experiential Learning – 15 pts • Reading Quizzes – 15 pts • Prophetic Imagination Quiz – 5 pts • Midterm Exam – 20 pts • Final Exam – 20 pts 	<p><u>Grade Scale:</u></p> <table> <tr> <td>A=93-100</td> <td>C=73-76</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A-=92-90</td> <td>C-=70-72</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B+=87-89</td> <td>D+=67-69</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B=83-86</td> <td>D=63-66</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B-=80-82</td> <td>D-=60-62</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C+=77-79</td> <td>F=0-59</td> </tr> </table>	A=93-100	C=73-76	A-=92-90	C-=70-72	B+=87-89	D+=67-69	B=83-86	D=63-66	B-=80-82	D-=60-62	C+=77-79	F=0-59
A=93-100	C=73-76												
A-=92-90	C-=70-72												
B+=87-89	D+=67-69												
B=83-86	D=63-66												
B-=80-82	D-=60-62												
C+=77-79	F=0-59												

INCOMPLETES AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in when they are due—including assignments posted in Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination **on its scheduled day**. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Class Schedules](#) site. No requests for early examinations or alternative days will be approved.

PLNU 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.

PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. 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. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and

students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

If you have a diagnosed disability, please contact PLNU's Disability Resource Center (DRC) within the first two weeks of class to demonstrate need and to register for accommodation by phone at 619-849-2486 or by e-mail at DRC@pointloma.edu. See [Disability Resource Center](#) for additional information.

PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent from more than 10 percent of class meetings, the faculty member can file a written report which may result in de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation. See [Academic Policies](#) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog.

INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE

The School of Theology and Christian Ministry 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 school urges students, faculty, and staff to avoid sexist language in public discourse, in classroom discussion, and in their writings. Thus, terms like “man” or “mankind” or the pronoun “he,” should not be used to refer to all humans. Instead “people,” “humanity,” “humans,” and “he or she” better acknowledge women as full persons.

CANVAS SUPPORT

If you have questions about the content you find in my Canvas course or need clarification on assignment instructions please let me know. If you are unsure how to use any given feature in Canvas you will find the [Canvas Guides](#) to be a very helpful resource. If you cannot access something in my Canvas course or it appears that some part of the course is not working properly, please contact the Office of Instructional Technology for support at oit@pointloma.edu. Include specific information in the request (course ID, section, assignment or module name, etc.) to expedite the troubleshooting process. Screenshots are super helpful!