

**Course:** BI121-D/DN Old Testament Survey I (blended\*)  
**Credit:** 3 Semester Hours  
**Semester:** Fall 2021 Cycle 3 (October 25-December 17, 2021)  
**Time:** Monday 1-4 pm  
**Location:** Langmade  
**Instructor:** Christopher Johnson B.A., M.A., Ph.D. in Progress  
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*\*About This Class: This is a blended class, meaning that both campus and online students take this class together. Campus students attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom. All interaction and assignments for campus and online students are done in the online classroom.*

*\*About Changes to this Syllabus: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus at any time during the course, but any changes made will only be done after clearly communicating the need for the change and the specific change to be made via in-class announcement and Canvas announcement.*

## I. DESCRIPTION

An intensive overview of the historical books of the Old Testament (Genesis to Esther). The authorship, time of writing, key words and verses, theme, purpose, and an outline are covered for each book as well as the highlights of their contents. (Prerequisite: BI115)

## II. OBJECTIVES

The basic goal of this course is general introduction. As such, your primary responsibility will be assembling a basic body of facts about the Old Testament books from Genesis to Esther. This information will then be used as a foundation in more advanced Bible courses. At the very least, you should accomplish all of the following by the end of the course:

- A. Become aware of the basic facts and issues associated with Old Testament history. (PLO's: 1) (Assignments: Readings, Discussions, Exams)
- B. Understand the basic issues and techniques associated with the study of Old Testament history. (PLO's: 1, 2) (Assignments: Readings, Discussions, Exams, Overviews)
- C. Know the basic content of each book. (PLO's: 1) (Assignments: Readings,

- Discussions, Quizzes, Overviews)
- D. Interpret specific historical passages using the grammatical-historical hermeneutic. (PLO's: 1, 2, 5) (Assignments: Readings, Discussions, Quizzes, Overviews)
  - E. Relate the teachings of the individual books of Old Testament history to the basic teachings of Old Testament and Scripture as a whole (PLO's: 3, 4, 5) (Assignments: Readings, Discussions, Quizzes).
  - F. Make practical—and interpretively sound—applications of the material from these books (PLO's: 3, 4) (Assignments: Discussions, Overviews).

### III. REQUIRED MATERIALS

#### A. Bible

**The Bible** is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB), English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.

#### B. Other Textbooks

Cone, Christopher. *A Concise Bible Survey: Tracing the Promises of God*. Ft. Worth, TX: Exegetica Publishing, 2012. ISBN: 978-0-9765930-2-7. Retail: \$16.00

Hindson, Ed, Gary Yates. *The Essence of the Old Testament: A Survey*. Nashville, TN: B&H Publishing Group, 2012. ISBN: 978-14336-7707-6. Retail: \$44.99.

### IV. ASSIGNMENTS

\*All assignments should be completed and turned in through Canvas. Please email/call me with any questions regarding the use of Canvas.

#### **OTM Topic & Class Participation (200 points)**

Even though class instruction has moved even more toward encompassing remote learning to facilitate safe distancing (and other legitimate reasons), class participation is still a vital and necessary method for learning. As such, all students must interact in the Discussions section of Canvas to receive points.

Each week in Discussions, an OTM (Old Testament Matters) topic will be posted for everyone to interact around. The goal of the OTM is to bring students together to discuss further the topics taught in class. These questions will only be identified during the lecture, so please watch the class videos to identify the OTM.

*Two-Part Grading Rubric for OTM's (33 total pts possible ea. wk.)*

Responses

16.5 pts for a single response which justifies the student's opinion w/in 48 hrs. of OTM's posting.

7.9 pts for a response after 48 hours to the question which justifies the student's opinion.

0% for no post

The reason for this is to allow time for others to interact with your response during the week.

Interaction

16.5 pts for interaction with five or more students in the thread.

7.9 pts. for less than five students.

0% for no interaction

**Reading and Reading Accountability (400 points total)**

**Textbooks: Cone (25 pts) and Hindson (75 pts) = (100pts)**

Every student should read the assigned pages in Cone and Hindson according to the class schedule. Each individual reading should be accompanied by an accountability text submission in Canvas.

**Bible: Old Testament Gen-Esther + Chap Summaries (300 pts)**

Every student should read the historical books of the Old Testament according to the class schedule. It is suggested you have a plan and execute it. This is a lot of reading. One tool that may help is [biblereadingplangenerator.com](http://biblereadingplangenerator.com). Along with the reading, you should write one pithy phrase for each chapter. The phrase at a minimum should include a subject, verb, and direct object.

Example: Gen 5– Enoch walked with God OR Gen 22– Abraham offers Isaac  
Each set of sentence summaries should be turned in through Canvas according to the class schedule.

**Creative Timeline (100 points)**

Create a timeline which shows creativity. This timeline should cover all major aspects of the historic books of the Old Testament. This assignment will be clarified further in class.

**Research Paper (250 points)**

Write and research a 6-page paper covering the background information for one of the historical books in the Old Testament. This paper should include author of the book, recipients, date of writing, date of events within the book, theme of the book, purpose of writing, key verses, as well as key issues within the book (perhaps how it points to a coming Messiah?). This paper should follow Turabian style (utilizing footnotes instead of in-text citations). Please follow the rubric in Canvas.

**Elevator Testimony (50 points)**

This assignment is to help you to condense all you have learned about the OT and be able to use it for evangelistic purposes. If you were in the elevator and someone asked you what the OT is about why the OT matters, how would you respond in less than 90 seconds? How does the history of Israel in the OT promote the gospel of Jesus Christ? This needs to be less than a page in length. I want to challenge you to leave this class with a witnessing tool, so while the paper is but a couple of paragraphs do not skimp in the thought process here. This one goes into your toolbelt to witness to the Lost! [or teaching a Sunday school lesson]

**V. METHODS**

**A. Grading**

	<b>Points</b>
1. Class Participation.....	200
2. Reading.....	400
3. Creative Timeline.....	100
4. Research Paper.....	250
5. <u>Elevator Testimony.....</u>	<u>50</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1000</b>

**VI. TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

	<b>Assignment/Reading Due</b>
Week 1	Assignment #1 Cone (1-64) OTM & Reading the OT
Week 2	Assignment #2 Hindson (1-50) OTM & Reading the OT
Week 3	Assignment #3 Cone (65-82; 140-141; 145-148) OTM & Reading the OT
Week 4	Assignment #4 Hindson (51-119) OTM & Reading the OT
Week 5	Assignment #5A Hindson (120-158) Assignment #5B Chapter Summaries thru Ruth OTM & Reading the OT
Week 6	Assignment #6 Hindson (159-200) OTM & Reading the OT
Week 7	Assignment #7A Hindson (201-231) Assignment #7B Creative Timeline & Finish Reading the OT Assignment #7C Chapter Summaries thru Ezra
Week 8	Assignment #8A Research Paper Assignment #8B Elevator Testimony

**VII. OTHER POLICY**

- A. Paper Formatting:** All class papers must follow the Turabian style according to A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 8th edition.
- B. Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is defined as copying any part of a book or paper without identifying the author. This also includes taking another person’s ideas and presenting them as your own. Any assignment that includes plagiarism will receive a zero credit.
- C. Disabilities:** Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator ([aso@calvary.edu](mailto:aso@calvary.edu)) regarding any disabling condition that may require support.
- D. Learning Aid:** The Clark Academic Center ([learning@calvary.edu](mailto:learning@calvary.edu)) is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for all CU students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.
- E. Late Work Policy:** Late work will not be accepted unless clearly communicated by the professor before the intended due date. Any late work, without permission from the professor will result in a 0%.
- F. Attendance Policy:** Attendance is verified by completion and participation with the OTM in Discussions on Canvas.