

## BI610 OLD TESTAMENT OVERVIEW I

<b>Course:</b>	<b>BI610 Old Testament Overview I</b>
<b>Credits:</b>	<b>3 credits</b>
<b>Semester:</b>	<b>Spring 2025 Session 1</b>
<b>Dates:</b>	<b>January 13 – March 7, 2025</b>
<b>Time:</b>	<b>Mondays 6:00 – 9:00 pm Central Time</b>
<b>Place:</b>	<b>Microsoft Teams</b>
<b>Professor:</b>	<b>Dr. Gary Gromacki</b> <b>Department Chair of Bible and Theology</b> <b>Director of the Master of Arts in Bible and Theology Program</b> <b>Director of the Ph.D. in Bible and Theology Program</b> <b>Professor of Bible and Theology</b>

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction and synthetic overview of the Old Testament historical books: Genesis through Esther.

*This course is offered in two formats: in-person and online. Students registered for in-person attend the classes in person. Online students attend the classes via the online classroom. For both in-person and online students, assignments and interaction outside of the class period are done in the learning management system.*

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

**General competencies to be achieved. The student will be able to:**

- 1.Explain the message, purposes and key verses of each of the Old Testament historical books (Genesis through Esther) (PLO 1, 2, 4) (A 1-8)
- 2.Give a summary argument of each of the Old Testament historical books (Genesis through Esther). (PLO 1, 2, 4) (A 1-8)
- 3.Explain the historical background of each of the Old Testament historical books (Genesis through Esther) (PLO 1, 2, 4) (A 1-8)

**Specific competencies to be achieved. The student will be able to:**

1. Interpret Old Testament narrative literature in its historical context (PLO 1) (A 1-8)
2. Outline the key historical events and people in Old Testament history (PLO 1) (A 1-8)
3. Make valid applications to life from the Old Testament historical books (Genesis through Esther) (PLO 5) (A 1-8)

**TEXTBOOKS**

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 Bible (NASB), English Standard Version (ESV), New King James Version (NKJV) or King James Version (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (paraphrases and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV) may be used for supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have any questions about a translations or version.

Merrill, Eugene. *Kingdom of Priests: A History of Old Testament Israel*. Second edition. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2008. ISBN -13: 978-0801031991 Amazon: \$37.99

**ASSIGNMENTS**

1. Read Genesis through Deuteronomy and *Kingdom of Priests* (pages 1-109) and indicate in a Word document that you have finished the reading and list 20 things you learned in your reading. Post the Word document in Assignments in Canvas (100 points)
2. Do Bible Book Chapter Summaries for Genesis through Deuteronomy. Each Bible Book Chapter Summary must include the Message of the Book, and a two to three sentence summary of each chapter. (Example: Genesis 1 – Creation. Moses gives a detailed account of six day creation. On Day 1 God created the heavens, the earth and light. On day 2 God created...) (100 points)
3. Read Joshua through 2 Samuel and *Kingdom of Priests* (pages 110-301) and indicate in a Word document that you have finished the reading and list 20 things you learned in your reading. Post the Word document in Assignments in Canvas. (100 points)
4. Do Bible Book Chapter Summaries for Genesis through Deuteronomy. Each Bible Book Chapter Summary must include the Message of the Book, and a two to three sentence summary of each chapter. (Example: Genesis 1 – Creation. Moses gives a detailed account of six day creation. On Day 1 God created the heavens, the earth and light. On day 2 God created...) (100 points)

5. Read 1 Kings through Esther and *Kingdom of Priests* (pages 302-527) and indicate in a Word document that you have finished the reading and list 20 things you learned from your reading. Post the Word document in Assignments in Canvas. (100 points)

6. Do Bible Book Chapter Summaries for Genesis through Deuteronomy. Each Bible Book Chapter Summary must include the Message of the Book, and a two to three sentence summary of each chapter. (Example: Genesis 1 – Creation. Moses gives a detailed account of six day creation. On Day 1 God created the heavens, the earth and light. On day 2 God created...) (100 points)

7. Research Paper: Write and type a research paper (12-15 pages double spaced) on a topic from the Pentateuch (Genesis-Deuteronomy) and the Historical Books (Joshua-Esther). The student can select the topic but it must be approved by the professor. The research paper must follow Turabian format. (300 points)

8. Final Exam: Take the Final Exam on the OT Historical Books (Genesis through Esther). There are 50 questions (true/false and multiple choice questions). No helps can be used. Do your best for the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ (100 points)

## **HELP FOR STUDENTS**

Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator ([aso@calvary.edu](mailto:aso@calvary.edu)) of any disabling condition that may require support.

The Clark Academic Center ([learning@calvary.edu](mailto:learning@calvary.edu)) is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for Calvary University 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.

## **EXPECTATIONS OF ALL STUDENTS**

All Bible and Theology research papers must follow the Turabian style according to *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. 8<sup>th</sup> edition.

Do not plagiarize. Plagiarism is defined as copying any part of a book or paper without identifying the source. This also includes taking another person's or AI entity's ideas or constructs and presenting them as your own. The use of AI generated content in student work is prohibited (even if cited) as it does not represent original work created by the student and is an unreliable aggregate of ideas from other sources. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. If a student plagiarizes the student will receive a zero (F) for the assignment and he/she will be reported to the dean of students and the chief academic officer.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1	Introduction to the Old Testament Genesis
Week 2	Exodus
Week 3	Leviticus and Numbers
Week 4	Deuteronomy
Week 5	Joshua, Judges and Ruth
Week 6	1 and 2 Samuel
Week 7	1 and 2 Kings 1 and 2 Chronicles
Week 8	Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

Arnold, Bill and Bryan Beyer. *Encountering the Old Testament: A Christian Survey*. Third edition. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2015.

Davis, John and John Whitcomb. *Israel: From Conquest to Exile: A Commentary on Joshua-2 Kings*. BMH Books, 1989.

Dyer, Charles and Gene Merrill. *The Old Testament Explorer*. Nashville: Word Publishing, 2001.

Hamilton, Victor. *Handbook on the Pentateuch*. Second edition. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2005.

Hindson, Ed and Gary Yates, editors. *The Essence of the Old Testament: A Survey*. Nashville, Tennessee: Broadman and Holman Academic, 2012.

Satterthwaite, Philip and J. Gordon McConville. *Exploring the Old Testament: A Guide to the Historical Books*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2007.