



Washington University of Virginia

**OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY, BOT101E
COURSE SYLLABUS
SPRING, 2015
INSTRUCTOR: William Attaway**

OFFICE: I am an adjunct instructor and do not have an office on campus
OFFICE HOURS: I will be available to meet with you from 11:45-12:15 on
Wednesdays (before class), and at other times by appointment
E-MAIL ADDRESS: wattaway@wuv.edu
PHONE: 703-579-7642
WEB PAGE: <http://www.wuv.edu>
CLASS HOURS: 12:15-2:45 p.m. Wednesdays

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

1. School Catalog Description

A foundational course of the entire Old Testament in its historical and cultural context in order to understand its general content, including its decisive features and fundamental teachings. It is intended to discover the place of each Scripture in God's total, progressive revelation and to apply practical principles for contemporary Christian living.

2. Instructor's Supplement

This course is intended to assist students in building a foundation for future reading and study of the Old Testament by gaining an understanding and appreciation of the historical, geographical, and cultural context in which it was written. By understanding what it meant then, the student can make appropriate application to what it means for readers today.

B. COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. The Student will be familiar with the basic history and event progression of the Old Testament.
2. The Student will have a general historical and geographical understanding of the lands of the Bible.
3. The Student will be able to identify the author and historical events of the Pentateuch.
4. The Student will identify the historical books of the Old Testament.
5. The Student will describe the chronological events of Old Testament history.
6. The Student will identify the Hebrew poetical and wisdom literature.

7. The Student will describe the historical background and significance of Prophets to the Hebrew culture and Bible.
8. The Student will be able to list the books of the Old Testament.

C. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

1. Class format will be primarily lecture. Students are expected to maintain careful notes.
2. A synopsis of the lecture material will be made available to assist the student.
3. Class participation through discussion and questions is strongly encouraged.
4. Audio visual materials and archaeological artifacts will be used whenever possible.

D. TEXTS

1. REQUIRED:

English Bible: NIV, NASB, NRSV, or ESV

Arnold, Bill T. and Bryan E. Beyer. *Encountering the Old Testament: A Christian Survey*. Baker Publishing. Second Edition, 2008.
ISBN: 978-0-8010-3170-0

2. RECOMMENDED:

Attaway, William. *Lead: Leadership Lessons from the (Not So) Minor Prophets*. Eriall Press, 2014.

Brisco, Thomas V. *The Holman Bible Atlas*. Broadman and Holman Reference, 1999.

E. REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING POLICY

1. Reading

- a. Weekly assigned textbook reading from *Encountering the Old Testament*
- b. Supplemental reading (as assigned)

2. Writing - a 5-7 page paper (due May 6) on a topic related to the Old Testament - topic to be chosen by the student from a provided list (10% of your grade)

3. Evaluations

- a. Weekly quizzes over assigned reading (35% of your grade)
- b. Midterm and final exams (each 20% of your grade)

4. Attendance and discussion/engagement in class (10% of your grade)

5. Reading of the Old Testament during this semester (5% of your grade). A sample weekly reading plan is provided with your assigned reading in the class schedule section of this syllabus.

F. ATTENDANCE POLICY

It is highly recommended that students not miss class. Regular class attendance is expected; attendance will be recorded in every class. Students will be excused for up to three absences per semester. Three tardies will equal one absence.

If a class must be missed, it is the students' responsibility to contact instructors for assignments to make up the course work they have missed. The instructor may allow up to two weeks for students to complete the make-up assignments.

The grade for all make-up work not completed within the given time frame will be

recorded as zero by the instructor. Students in danger of failing the classes due to excessive absences and/or tardiness will be notified by their instructors.

G. ACCOMODATION STATEMENT

Individuals with documented impairments who may need special consideration for exams, participation, or assignments must contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester for such consideration to be given.

H. GRADING SCALE

A	95-100	A-	90-94	B+	86-89	B	83-85
B-	80-82	C+	76-79	C	73-75	C-	70-72
D+	66-69	D	63-65	D-	60-62	F	0-59

I. CLASSROOM CODE

1. Cell phone use is prohibited in class. You may use laptops/tablets to take notes, but use them responsibly (i.e. don't spend time with e-mail or internet surfing instead of paying attention in class)
2. No tampering is allowed with audio-visual recording equipment in the classroom.
3. Questions related to the topic are encouraged and may be asked during the lecture in the designated time set by the professor.
4. Courtesy and integrity are expected in all interactions with other students and with the professor.

J. TECHNOLOGY

On the Virginia campus, students may use the following for wireless internet access:
 SSID: WUV or WUV1 (in the library, use WUV Library)
 Password: wuv12345

K. CLASS SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Assigned Reading</u>
Wed, Jan 28, 2015	Course introduction, Old Testament backgrounds, geography	Chapter 1-2, Gen. 1 - Ex. 4
Wed, Feb 4	Genesis	Chapter 3-5 Ex. 5 - Lev. 14
Wed, Feb 11	Exodus-Deuteronomy	Chapter 6-9 Lev. 15 - Num. 30
Wed, Feb 18	Historical Books: Joshua, Judges, Ruth	Chapter 10-12 Num. 24 - Josh. 9
Wed, Feb 25	Historical Books: 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 Kings	Chapter 13-15 Josh. 10 - 1 Sam. 10
Wed, Mar 4	Historical Books: 2 Kings-Esther	Chapter 16-18 1 Sam. 11 - 1 Kings 1
Wed, Mar 11	Poetical Books: Job-Psalms	Chapter 19-21

		1 Kings 2 - 2 Kings 19
Wed, Mar 18	Midterm exam	2 Kings 20 - 2 Chr. 22
Wed, Mar 25	Spring break (no class)	2 Chr. 23 - Job 12
Wed, Apr 1	Poetical Books: Proverbs-Song of Songs	Chapter 22-23 Job 13 - Psalm 88
Wed, Apr 8	The Prophets: Isaiah	Chapter 24-26 Psalm 89 - Song 7
Wed, Apr 15	The Prophets: Jeremiah and Ezekiel	Chapter 27-30 Song 8 - Jer. 5
Wed, Apr 22	The Prophets: Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos	Chapter 31-32 Jer. 6 - Lam. 3
Wed, Apr 29	No class	Lam. 4 - Daniel 1
Wed, May 6	The Prophets: Obad-Mal (paper due)	Chapter 33-34 Daniel 2 - Mal. 4
Wed, May 13	Final exam	

L. SUGGESTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Brisco, Thomas V. *The Holman Bible Atlas*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman Reference, 1999.

Harrison, R.K. *Introduction to the Old Testament: With a Comprehensive Review of Old Testament Studies and a Special Supplement on the Apocrypha*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1969.

LaSor, William Sanford, Hubbard, David Allen, and Busch, Frederic William. *Old Testament Survey: The Message, Form, and Background of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1982.