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**Anchorage Campus**

**School of Christian Studies**

**UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT**

Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused and distinctively Christian environment for professional success and service to God and humankind.

## COURSE NUMBER & NAME:

RLGN 1301 Old Testament History VC04

## TERM:

Spring Term, 2021, Session 1 (January 11 to March 6)

## INSTRUCTOR:

Dr. Jeff Anderson

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

Office phone: 907-227-0622

WBU Email: anderson@wbu.edu

## OFFICE HOURS, BUILDING & LOCATION:

This is an online class. Feel free to text, call, or email me if you need any assistance.

## COURSE MEETING TIME & LOCATION:

This is an online class

## CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

An introductory survey of the historical literature with special attention to the institutions, religion, and national life of the Hebrew people.

## PREREQUISITE:

None

## REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND RESOURCE MATERIAL:

Required:

| Title | Editor/Author | Publisher | Ed | Year | ISBN |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| NIV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible | Walton and Keener | Zondervan | 1 | 2016 | 978-0-310-43158-9 |

Recommended but not required:

| Title | Editor/Author | Publisher | Ed | Year | ISBN |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| The Old Testament: Its Story and History | Jeff S. Anderson | Lulu | 1 | 2010 | 978-0-557-71637-1 |

 Anderson, Jeff S. *The Old Testament: Its Story and History* (Lulu Press, 2010). A PDF of this book will be made available via Blackboard.

## Important message about Automatic Ebook:

If your course is using an E-textbook, please note that Wayland Baptist University has partnered with VitalSource to bring Inclusive Access, which is a digital copy of the required textbook available on Blackboard. You can access your textbook approximately one week before class begins. The prices are very competitive with the market and in most cases below the standard cost. If your course is using the VitalSource system, once you access the textbook on Blackboard you will be asked if you would like to opt-out. If you choose NOT to use the VitalSource provided textbook version, you MUST opt-out by the second week of class/census date or you will be charged (and refunds are not available). The price of the textbook will be billed automatically to your student account. To check the price of the textbook, please locate your required course material in Blackboard or go to your student services financial area.

Please keep in mind that VitalSource has to work with publishers to get your copy so check your Wayland email daily. A link may be provided in just a few hours, or it may take a few days.

For student access:

1. Every Course in Blackboard has a link to eTextbook [Vital Source] embedded in the course menu, with basic instructions.

2. Please encourage use of this textbook. Printed copies will NOT be available through our bookstore. Students can purchase via Amazon or similar vendor but the cost is usually substantially more expensive.

3. Student will “register”, just like you, to access their library, and opt out if desired.

4. They will be able to read and interact with their textbook from that location.

5. Some Cengage textbooks are just eTextbooks and will have direct Vital Source access in the classroom. Ask us if you are not sure.

6. IF your course is a Cengage, or Pearson with “access” to special courseware materials [MyLab, Mindtap with special assignments, accounting, etc.] you will need to set up the links to that in your Blackboard Classroom by Day 1 of the term. Students pay for the textbook and access via VitalSource, and be given a code in most cases, and will need that special link to the special materials you want them to access. WBUonline can assist you with this if you need help.

One final note on books: In an 8-week term, we must begin immediately. If you don’t have the textbooks prior to the start of the term, you will need to consider seriously whether you should drop the class. No special arrangements for those who don’t have a text.

## OPTIONAL MATERIALS

WBU Library Resources: The Wayland Library (Learning Resource Center) is available to all Wayland students via BlackBoard. Tutorials for accessing library resources are linked from the homepage.

## COURSE OUTCOMES AND COMPETENCIES:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the historical, religious, and social context of the Old Testament world
2. Demonstrate knowledge of some of the critical methods used in Old Testament studies.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the basic content of the Old Testament and its main teachings.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the canonical process producing a more complete understanding of the Old Testament.

## ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS:

As stated in the Wayland Catalog, students enrolled at one of the University’s external campuses should make every effort to attend all class meetings. All absences must be explained to the instructor, who will then determine whether the omitted work may be made up. When a student reaches that number of absences considered by the instructor to be excessive, the instructor will so advise the student and file an unsatisfactory progress report with the campus executive director. Any student who misses 25 percent or more of the regularly scheduled class meetings may receive a grade of F in the course. Additional attendance policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the University’s attendance policy.

## STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM & ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Wayland Baptist University observes a zero tolerance policy regarding academic dishonesty. Per university policy as described in the academic catalog, all cases of academic dishonesty will be reported and second offenses will result in suspension from the university.

## DISABILITY STATEMENT:

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Coordinator of Counseling Services serves as the coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291-3765. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS and GRADING CRITERIA:

1. Final Exam: The student's progress will be monitored by the final exam.

HOW DO I BEST PREPARE FOR THE FINAL? Go to “Important Docs” and grab the final study prep sheets. Keep it with you while in class and use it to trigger your questions and note taking. Also study your treasure hunts to prepare for the exams.

2. Treasure Hunts: Each week there will be an open book quiz with questions from the Bible and outside research. The quiz is due at 11:59 pm Bb (Central) time each Saturday evening. Simply read the questions, answer them carefully and submit your answers on Blackboard as instructed in class. All submissions must be carefully proofread. Cite any sources that you used in your preparation. Spend about 4 hours on the Hunt each week.

HOW DO I SUBMIT TREASURE HUNTS? Go to Blackboard, then “Submit Treasure Hunts Here” then attach an MS WORD file.

 3. Discussion Boards online. There will be at least four discussion boards assigned during the term. You will be graded on whether you respond on time and follow the basic instructions in each forum.

GRADING: (All grades will be on a ten-point scale. 90-100 is an A, 80-89 is a B, etc.)

Final: 100 points

Treasure Hunts: 140 points

Discussion Board: 30 points

**Grade Appeal Statement**: “Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Vice President of Academic Affairs/Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.”

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

WEEK ONE: January 11

The Nature of the Hebrew Scriptures/Old Testament

Text and Canon of the OT

The Old Testament World

Required: No required readings

Recommended: Anderson i-xiv, 1-20

WEEK TWO: January 18

Ancient Origins and Ancestors

Bible: Read Genesis 1-25

Recommended: Anderson 21-48

 Turn in your Treasure Hunt before class.

WEEK THREE: January 25

The Exodus and the Law of Moses

Bible: Read Exodus 1-20, Leviticus 16, 23, 25, Deuteronomy 6, 12, 27-28

Recommended: Anderson, 49-80

Turn in your Treasure Hunt before class time

WEEK FOUR: February 1

 Wilderness and Conquest

 Bible: Numbers 13-14, 20, Deuteronomy 1-4, Joshua 1-11, Judges 2-7, 13-16

 Recommended: Anderson 81-138

 Turn in your Treasure Hunt before class

WEEK FIVE: February 8

 The United Kingdom: Samuel, Saul, David, Solomon

 Bible: 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel 5-19, 1 Kings 1-11

 Recommended Anderson: 139-158

 Turn in your Treasure Hunt before class

WEEK SIX: February 15

 A Nation Divides

The Hebrew Prophets and the Fall of Israel and Judah

 Bible: 1 Kings 12, 2 Kings 17, 25, Amos, Jonah, Isaiah 6, 53, Jeremiah 7, 33

 Recommended Anderson: 159-210

 Turn in your Treasure Hunt before class

WEEK SEVEN: February 22

The Poetry of Israel: Wisdom and Psalms

Bible: Read Job 1-3, 42; Psalm 1, 23, 51, 119,

 150; Ecclesiastes,

Recommended: Anderson 211-223

 Turn in your Treasure Hunt before class

WEEK EIGHT: March 1

 Final Exam Online

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Disclaimer: Relax!, those of you who don’t know much about the Bible. I have found over the years that the things covered in this class are typically new to those who have never really read the Bible, and to those who have. In fact, some of you who know (or think you know) the Bible well may have to “unlearn” a few things. So don’t be intimidated by the Bible, or your classmates, or your instructor. I guarantee, you will enjoy and learn from most of what you read in the Bible (I said *most*).