

OLD TESTAMENT HISTORY
RLGN 1301 VC03
COURSE SYLLABUS
WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY
Virtual Campus
SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES
WBU-Online
Spring 1 2026

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

Instructor: Dr. Donovan Martin

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- Conference Hours: email to set up an appointment

Course Number and Title: RLG1301 VC03, Old Testament History

Class Time and Location: **Work in this class will occur on Blackboard**

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

Resources- Required Texts

Title	Editor/ Author	Publisher	Edition	Year	ISBN #
NIV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible		Zondervan		2016	9780310431589
Encountering the Old Testament	Arnold/ Beyer	Baker Academic	4th	2024	1540965805

Course Outline and Calendar:

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|---------------|--|
| Jan 12 | #1 Introduction, Doctrine of Revelation/Inspiration
Canon, Archaeology, Geography, Genesis, |
| Jan 19 | #2 Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy |
| Jan 26 | #3 Historical Books Pt.1 - Joshua, Judges Ruth |
| Feb 2 | #4 Historical Books Pt.2-Samuels, Kings, Chronicles, Ezra,
Nehemiah, Esther |
| Feb 9 | #5 Poetical/Wisdom Writings- Job—Song of Solomon |
| Feb 16 | #6 Major Prophets- Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lam., Ezek., Daniel |
| Feb 23 | #7 Minor Prophets & Conclusions |
| Mar 2 | #8 Lecture Notes Completed |

Course Outcome Competencies: Students will:

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

Course Requirements:

-Blackboard usage- Understanding and using the Blackboard system is vital for success in this course. Follow all University Guidelines for Blackboard usage including Discussion Board etiquette.

- E-mail Communications-

- Students must use their WBU student e-mail accounts for communication in this class. Exceptions will be made for military students with special needs.

- Quizzes - 33%

- Reading of biblical text assigned each week with quizzes over readings. Quizzes may be taken for full credit at any point during the week on Blackboard until 11:59 p.m., Central Standard Time, on Saturday night of listed week. Once that time passes you will only receive 1/2 credit if taken prior to the Final. Quiz questions are worth 1 point each for a total of 20 possible points per quiz. This plus attendance/participation is 1/3 of the final course grade.

- Lecture Notes - 34%

- Students will watch weekly lectures covering the course materials while following along with the provided outline. At the end of weeks 2, 4 and 6 and 8 they will turn in a copy of their lecture notes to be graded for content. These may be either typed or hand written but the must be legible if written. If the instructor cannot read the materials then it does not meet the requirements. The outline will be in a Word document and a PDF so students may simply open the document and type as they listen to the lecture.

- Discussion Boards- 33%

- Students will participate in weekly discussion boards facilitated by the instructor with two entries per week by the deadlines. First Entry is the student's response to the question/statement and the second entry is a response to a classmate's entry.

- Weekly Requirements

- Students will read
 - All messages posted by the instructor in Blackboard
 - Assigned readings in the Encountering the OT and Study Bible as outlined below.
 - Articles in the Electronic version of the Bible are listed in Canonical Order in a chart at the back of the Bible. Read Articles that fall within the Biblical Chapters assigned.
- Students must participate in **Discussion Board** questions facilitated by the instructor-
 - Students must post at least two 100 word messages per week as outlined in the schedule below. (the paragraph below, “Attendance-External Campuses” is 145 words for example)
 - There are 8 graded forums.
 - You must log your first post on the Discussion Board before you will be able to view any other posts of classmates.
 - Proper grammar is expected when posting to the Discussion Board. If you need assistance with proper English grammar Wayland provides assistance in the writing lab. Please follow Wayland’s guide to online behavior as well. Be respectful of your classmates and their opinions
- **Weekly Quizzes** completed prior to weekly deadline listed above for full credit.
- **Lecture’s** watched/listened to and notes taken to be submitted.

NOTE WELL: All communication with the professor must be sent to the instructor’s email address.

Attendance - External Campuses

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 dean. 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. A student may petition the Academic Council for exceptions to the above stated policies by filing a written request for an appeal to the provost/academic vice president.

Course Evaluation (Method of Determining Grade)

***University Grading System**

A	90-100	I	INCOMPLETE**
B	80-89	Cr	FOR CREDIT
C	70-79	NCr	NO CREDIT
D	60-69	WP	WITHDRAWAL PASSING
F	BELOW 60	WF	WITHDRAWAL FAILING
		W	WITHDRAWAL

**A grade of incomplete is changed if the deficiency is made up by midterm of the next regular semester; otherwise, it becomes "F". This grade is given only if circumstances beyond the student's control prevented completion of work during the semester enrolled and attendance requirements have been met. A grade of "CR" indicates that credit in semester hours was granted but no grade or grade points were recorded.

•Procedure for computations of final grade:

Lecture Note	34%
Discussion Boards	33%
Weekly Quizzes & Attendance/participation	33%

Academic Honesty (Plagiarism):

University students are expected to conduct themselves according to the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, forgery, or plagiarism. Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one's own work. It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with penalties associated with plagiarism stated in the catalog.

Services for the Disabled

It is university policy that no otherwise qualified disabled person 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 Dean of Students serves the University as coordinator or activities for the handicapped and should be contacted concerning initial contact with the Dean of Student's office as soon as possible before registration to ensure adequate time **for** assistance.

**DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE
READING, QUIZZES, JOURNALS & LECTURE SCHEDULE**

Week	Weekly Requirements
1	<p>-Lecture Topics: Doctrine of Revelation; Inspiration; Canon; Archaeology; Geography; Genesis</p> <p>-Read Cultural Study Bible: - Author's Introduction VIII-XI; Genesis 1-12 including articles</p> <p>-Read Encountering the O.T.; Chapters 1-5</p> <p>-Introduction Discussion Board by Tuesday of Week 1 (not graded but necessary)</p> <p>-Discussion Board #1 by Friday at Noon</p> <p>-Respond to another Discussion Board by midnight Saturday</p> <p>-Quiz #1</p>
2	<p>-Lecture Topics: Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy</p> <p>-Bible Readings:</p> <p>Exodus- Intro; Chs 1-12; Articles on pages 143; 158-9;</p> <p>Leviticus- Intro; Chs 1, 8, 11, 23, ; Articles on pages 197; 220, 222-3</p> <p>Numbers- Intro; Ch.s 6, 34; Article on page 242-3, 289</p> <p>Deuteronomy- Intro; Ch.s 5, 6; Article on page 301, 308, 329</p> <p>-Read Encountering the O.T; 6-9</p> <p>-Discussion Board #2 response by Friday at Noon</p> <p>-Respond to another Discussion Board by midnight Saturday</p> <p>-Quiz #2</p> <p>-Submit Week 1 & 2 Lecture notes-</p>
3	<p>-Topics: Historical Books Pt. 1- Joshua, Judges, Ruth</p> <p>-Bible Readings:</p> <p>Joshua- Intro; Ch.s 1-3, 24; Articles: 358, 393,</p> <p>Judges- Intro; Ch.s 1-21</p> <p>Ruth- Intro; Ch.s 1-4</p> <p>-Read Encountering the O.T.: 10-12</p> <p>-Discussion Board #3 response by Friday at Noon</p> <p>-Respond to another Discussion Board by midnight Saturday</p> <p>-Quiz #3</p>

Week	Weekly Requirements
4	<p>-Topics: Historical Books Pt. 2- Samuels, Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther</p> <p>-Bible Readings-</p> <p>1 Samuel- Intro; Ch.s 1-6, 8-9,15-17, 25, 28-31</p> <p>2 Samuel- Intro; Ch.s 1-6, 11-12, 15, 18, 23-24; Article 519,;</p> <p>1 Kings- Intro: Ch.s 1-3, 10-11, 17-19 Article 572-3; 586;</p> <p>2 Kgs-Ch.s 1-2, 22-5; Chart 620-1; Article 635, 663, 666, 670-1, 674</p> <p>1 Chronicles- Introduction</p> <p>Ezra- Intro, chs- 1-3 Chart 765, Article 767, 775</p> <p>Nehemiah- chs- 1-2</p> <p>Esther- Intro; chs. 1-10</p> <p>-Read Encountering the O.T. 13-18</p> <p>-Discussion Board # 4 response by Friday at noon</p> <p>-Respond to another Discussion Board by midnight Saturday</p> <p>-Quiz #4</p> <p>-Submit weeks 3 & 4 Lecture Notes</p>
5	<p>-Topics: Poetical/Wisdom Writings: Job- Song of Solomon</p> <p>-Bible Reading- Intro to Wisdom and Hymnic Lit- pg. 816</p> <p>Job- Intro, chs. 1-3 including articles; ch. 31, 38-42; Article 861</p> <p>Psalms- Intro; chs 1, 119, 150</p> <p>Proverbs- All Intro Materials; chs 1-9 and all articles in those chs. chart on 1051;</p> <p>Ecclesiastes- Intro, chs. 1-3,12</p> <p>Song of Songs- Intro, articles 1090-1</p> <p>-Encountering the O.T. 19-23</p> <p>-Discussion Board # 5 response by Friday at noon</p> <p>-Respond to another Discussion Board by midnight Saturday</p> <p>-Quiz # 5</p>

Week	Weekly Requirements
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Topics: Major Prophets- Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel -Bible Reading- Intro to Prophets Isaiah -Intro, chs. 1-6 including articles Jeremiah- Intro, chs 1-6 including articles Lamentations- Introduction Ezekiel- Introduction, chs. 1-3; 37; Daniel- Introduction, chs 1-6 including articles -Encountering the O.T. 24-31 -Discussion Board # 6 response by Friday at Noon -Respond to another Discussion Board by midnight Saturday -Quiz # 6 -Submit Weeks 5 & 6 lecture notes
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Topics: Minor Prophets & Conclusions -Bible Readings- Introductions to rest of the individual books Jonah chs. 1-4 Micah chapter 6 Malachi chs. 1-4 -Encountering the O.T. 32-34 -Discussion Board # 7 response by Friday at noon -Respond to another Discussion Board by midnight Saturday -Quiz # 7
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture Notes for Weeks 7 & 8 submitted. Discussion Board #8 Response by Friday at Noon Respond to another Discussion Board by Midnight Saturday