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**Virtual Campus**

**School of Religion and Philosophy**

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 5306 VC01: The Intertestamental Period

## TERM:

Spring, 2019

## INSTRUCTOR:

Jeff Anderson

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

Office phone: 907-227-0622

WBU Email: anderson@wbu.edu

## OFFICE HOURS, BUILDING & LOCATION:

This is an online class. I am available any time per student request.

## COURSE MEETING TIME & LOCATION:

Online

## CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Research in the history of the Jewish people during the period known as Second Temple Judaism, including a survey of apocryphal, pseudepigraphical and Dead Sea literature and their implications for New Testament study.

## PREREQUISITE:

RLGN 1301, 1302.

## REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND RESOURCE MATERIAL:

Required Texts:

*New Oxford Annotated Bible, with Apocrypha, NRSV 4th Edition*. New York: Oxford, 2010. (Actually any Bible with the Apocrypha will do. Make sure it has all the Apocryphal books assigned.) Note: I did not order this from the WBU bookstore because many students have access to a study Bible with apocrypha already.

Collins, John and Daniel Harlow, eds. *Early Judaism*. Grand Rapids. Eerdmans, 2102. ISBN 978-0-8028-6972. This is the text I ordered through the WBU Bookstore. Please note that this book includes excerpts from a larger book that is a more valuable resource for this period. I simply chose the cheaper option but the book better choice if you can afford it is: *The Eerdmans Dictionary of Early Judaism.* Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2010. ISBN 978-0-8028-2549. If you are interested in the background of the New Testament, this book is a fantastic resource.

Important information about Redshelf:"Wayland Baptist University has partnered with RedShelf to bring Inclusive Access, which is a digital copy of the required textbook available on Blackboard, day one of class. The prices are very competitive with the market and in most cases below the standard cost. If your course is using the RedShelf system, once you access the textbook in the classroom it will ask you if you would like to opt-out. If you choose NOT to use the RedShelf-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 to your student account. To check the price of the textbook, please locate your required course material at The WBU Bookstore. Finally, if you are on financial aid and your lender needs a receipt in order to cover the cost of the textbook, receipts are available from the bookstore.”

There is a great deal of reading in this course. It’s the only way for you to get comfortable with the sources. Make sure you have the time to do the reading.

## OPTIONAL MATERIALS

Recommended Text:

Anderson, Jeff. *The Internal Diversification of Second Temple Judaism*. Lanham, MD: University Press of America, 2002. ISBN 0-7618-2327-1. This used to be the textbook until our current term. It is simply getting too expensive. But all my lectures come from this text.

## COURSE OUTCOMES AND COMPETENCIES:

1. *Identify* the major historical developments in Judah during the Second Temple Period.

2. *Define* the competing sectarian groups that claimed themselves as "biblical Israel" during the Second Temple Period.

3. *Discuss* examples of literary creativity that characterized the literature of the Second Temple Period.

4. *Identify* the major theological developments that influenced Early Christianity and Rabbinic Judaism.

5. *Outline* the diversification and resulting tensions of the Jewish religious community and the implications for issues such as temple, Torah, and cult.

## 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:

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Exams. There will be two exams for the course. They will not be cumulative. Exams will exclusively be over the Anderson text and the lectures.

2. Research Paper. A 12-15-page research paper is required. Paper must follow the style guide approved by your appropriate school. Topics not on this list will need to be approved by the instructor. Due May 11.

I will be happy to review carefully edited drafts. They must be submitted at least one week prior to the deadline.

Ideas for Research Papers:

Herod the Great

Hillel

The Synagogue

Masada

Cyrus the Mede

The Community at Qumran

Philo of Alexandria

Introduction to a selected book of the Apocrypha

Introduction to a selected book of the Pseudepigrapha

The Maccabean Revolt

Josephus

Christianity as a Jewish Sect

The Jewish Revolt of A.D. 66-73

The Second Jewish Revolt

The Samaritans

The Septuagint

The Influence of Hellenism on Second Temple Judaism

Intermarriage and Second Temple Judaism

The Elephantine Papyri

The Pirque Avot (Ethics of the Fathers)

Zoroastrians

Herodium

Bar Kokhba

Zerubabbel

Yavneh

Oniads and Tobiads

Zenon

1. Discussion Question Response Essays:There are several discussion questions assigned with the readings. I am looking for personal impressions based on specific evidence from the literature assigned. These specific references will tell me how carefully you read the material. Do not just respond with general impressions only. Use outside sources too and document your answers. Remember these questions represent a week’s worth of reflection.
2. Participation in Discussion Board**.** Over the course there will be several opportunities to participate in class discussion via BlackBoard’s Discussion Board.

GRADING

EXAMS 100 points EACH

FINAL PAPER 100 points

READING ASSIGNMENTS 15 points each

DISCUSSION BOARD 5 points each

All grading will be completed according to the institution’s ten-point scale. 90-100%=A, 80-89%= B, etc.

**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

**COURSE OUTLINE:**

Week 1: Week of February 25

Babylonian Exile and Its Effects

Persian Period and Judean Community

Week 2: Week of March 4

Invasion of Hellenism: Breakdown of Consensus

Judea under Ptolemies/Seleucids

Maccabean Period/Jewish Independence

Spring Break: March 11-18

Week 3: Week of March 18

The Hasmoneans

The Roman Period

Second Destruction and Its Implications

Week 4: Week of March 25

The Internal Diversification of Judaism

Returning Exiles and People of the Land

Week 5: Week of April 1

The Dead Sea Scrolls

Essenes and Qumran

Week 6: Week of April 8

Mid Term Examination

Samaritans

Pharisees/Sadducees/Zealots/Enochic Groups

Judean Communities in Egypt

Week 7: Week of April 15

Hillel and Jesus

Emergence of Rabbinic Judaism

Week 8: Week of April 22

From Religious Literature to Sacred Scripture:

Canon

Apocrypha

Septuagint

Scriptural Interpretation: Targums, Peshers, Midrash, New Testament

Week 9: Week of April 29

Pseudipigrapha

Week 10: Week of May 06

Theological Developments

Apocalyptic

Torah

Messianism

Theodicy

Wisdom

Week 11: Week of May 13 (You did it! Congratulations! Now go buy

some new reading glasses.)

Final Examination. Take final examination. Exam is offered through Blackboard.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION