



**WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY  
VIRTUAL CAMPUS  
SCHOOL OF RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY**

**Wayland 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 Title and Number:** RLGN1301 VC05 Old Testament History

**Term:** Winter 2019 (Nov. 11, 2019-Feb. 15, 2020)

**Name of Instructor:** Dr. Matt Sanders

**Office Phone Number and WBU Email Address:** 808-366-0121 (mobile call and text), matthew.sanders@wayland.wbu.edu

**Office Hours, Building, and Location:** No office hours. By appointment only. Unless it is an emergency, contact me via email then text and finally telephone if necessary. I live in Hawaii. Be mindful of the time difference should you need to call.

**Class Meeting Time and Location:** Virtual campus

**Catalog Description:** Old Testament History is an introductory survey of the historical literature with special attention to the institutions, religion, and national life of the Hebrew people.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Required Textbook(s) and/or Resource Material:**

*Old Testament Survey.* House, Paul R., and Eric Mitchell. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2007. ISBN 978-0-8054-4036-2.

*New International Version (NIV) Personal Size Study Bible.* Zondervan Bible Staff. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2011. ISBN: 978-0-310-43732-1

Optional text: *Old Testament Survey: A Student's Guide.* Mitchell, Eric, and Archie England. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2007. This text will help with overall comprehension and the exams and reading quizzes.

**Course Outcome 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 (theological content).
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the canonical process producing a more complete understanding of the Old Testament.

**Attendance Requirements:** Because this is an online course, attendance means to participate in the course activities in a timely manner. Failure to participate in a timely manner could mean that you will be dropped from the course.

**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:**

Reading reports (10 percent) Keeping up with the reading is very important. Before the end of the week that the reading is assigned, go to the “Content” section on Blackboard and access the appropriate reading report. In the report, indicate the percentage of the reading that you have completed.

Reading quizzes (25 percent) Each week you will complete a quiz for the week’s reading. The quiz will be timed, approximately 1 minute per question. You should complete the reading before taking the quiz. You are allowed to use your book and notes, but there is not enough time to look up every answer.

Old Testament reading journal (10 percent) You will make an entry into an online reading journal for each book of the Old Testament. The entry is not a summary of what you read. Instead, the entry should be reflective including your opinion, insights, questions, or other thoughts related to the reading. An “A” entry will be well-written with good content, well organized, and at least 500 words.

Discussion board (15 percent) Discussion questions will be posted periodically based on the reading assignments. You will need to respond to each of these questions. Your responses will be evaluated based on relevancy, accuracy, and clarity.

Exams (40 percent) You will have two exams for this course. Each will cover about half of the course and each will be worth 20% of your grade. These are proctored exams. Instructions will be posted on Blackboard during the course. Study guides will also be posted.

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 Executive Vice President/Provost to the 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.

## Grading

The following scale of points will determine your final grade:

A = 90 - 100	Exhibits excellent scholarship, takes initiative in exploring studies, motivates others in cooperative efforts, improves consistently.
B = 80 - 89	Exhibits accurate scholarship, benefits class with achievements, works effectively in groups, improves noticeably.
C = 70 - 79	Completes most assignments, contributes to discussions, exhibits some interest in studies, improves somewhat.
D = 60 - 69	Does not meet most assignments, exhibits indifference to studies, slows the progress of the class, improves unremarkably if at all.
F = 0 - 59	Misses class excessively, detracts from class progress, shows no improvement, fails to do assignments, plagiarizes.

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 Executive Vice President/Provost to the 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.

## Course Outline

Reading is an important part of the learning process. It will provide you greater context for understanding Scripture, raise questions for further study, help you participate in online discussions, help you when reviewing for quizzes, and create a resource for future ministry. Reading assignments might include lecture notes on the topics listed in the text. You should also read the introductions to each New Testament book as assigned. The introductions are found in the NIV Study Bible. You may read and work ahead. The assignments are typically posted Sunday at midnight and due a week later by 11:59 p.m.

OTS – *Old Testament Survey* NIV – NIV Study Bible

## WEEK 1

### READING

**OTS: Beginning the Study (pp. 1-13), Introduction (pp. 14-16), Genesis (pp. 17-42)**  
**NIV: Genesis**  
Intro to the Old Testament, Biblical backgrounds, Genesis

WEEK 2

**READING**

**OTS: Exodus-Leviticus (pp. 45-70)**

**NIV: Exodus, Leviticus**

Exodus, Giving of the Law

Due: Journal entry 1 on Genesis

**THANKSGIVING BREAK – Nov. 25-Dec. 1**

WEEK 3

**READING**

**OTS: Numbers-Deuteronomy (pp. 71-88)**

**NIV: Numbers, Deuteronomy**

Wilderness wanderings, Giving of the Law

Due: Journal entry 2 on Exodus and Leviticus

WEEK 4

**READING**

**OTS: Intro (pp. 89-90), Joshua (pp. 91-100), Judges (102-118), 1&2 Samuel (pp. 119-140),**

**NIV: Joshua, Judges, 1 and 2 Samuel**

Conquest of Canaan, period of the Judges, development of the monarchy

Due: Journal entry 3 on Numbers and Deuteronomy

WEEK 5

**READING**

**OTS: 1 and 2 Kings (pp. 141-171), Isaiah (pp. 179-195), Jeremiah (pp. 196-219)**

**NIV: 1 Kings, 2 Kings, Isaiah, Jeremiah**

Rise to power, divided kingdom, fall of God's people

Due: Journal entry 4 on Joshua, Judges, 1 and 2 Samuel

**CHRISTMAS BREAK – Dec. 23, 2019-Jan. 3, 2020**

WEEK 6

**READING**

**OTS: Ezekiel (pp. 220-230), Book of the 12 (pp. 231-265)**

**NIV: Ezekiel, 12 minor prophets**

Word of the Lord throughout Israel's history

Due: Journal entry 5 on Isaiah, Jeremiah, 1 and 2 Kings

First exam on first 5 weeks of course to be taken by the end of the week

WEEK 7

**READING**

**OTS: Intro (p. 267), Psalms (pp. 268-279), Job (pp. 280-291)**

**NIV: Psalms, Job**

Word of the Lord throughout Israel's history  
Due: Journal entry 6 on Ezekiel and the minor prophets

### WEEK 8

#### **READING**

**OTS: Proverbs (pp. 292-303), Ruth (pp. 304-310), Song of Songs (pp. 311-314), Lamentations (pp. 315-319)**

**NIV: Proverbs, Ruth, Song of Songs, Lamentations**

Wisdom literature, Stories from Israel's history

Due: Journal entry 7 on Psalms and Job

### WEEK 9

#### **READING**

**OTS: Esther (pp. 325-330), Daniel (pp. 332-340), Ezra-Nehemiah (pp. 341-348)**

**NIV: Esther, Daniel, Ezra, Nehemiah**

The exile and return to Jerusalem

Due: Journal entry 8 on Proverbs, Ruth, Song of Songs, Lamentations

### WEEK 10

#### **READING**

**OTS: 1 and 2 Chronicles (pp. 351-354)**

**NIV: 1 and 2 Chronicles**

The exile and return to Jerusalem

Due: Journal entry 9 on Esther, Daniel, Ezra, Nehemiah

### WEEK 11

#### **READING: None**

A review of Israel's past

Final exam

Due: Journal entry 10 on 1 and 2 Chronicles

## **EXPECTATIONS AND POLICIES**

### Academic Honesty

Any student who submits work as part of the requirements for a course thereby asserts that the student personally has done that work and that it has not been submitted for credit in any other course without permission. Unless credit is explicitly given to sources, the student is asserting that the words and/or the thoughts are the student's own original work. Falling short of these standards is academic dishonesty. In submitting an exam, the student is also affirming that he or she has complied with the conditions of the exam.

Academic dishonesty will result in at minimum a report made to the university and the student receiving no credit for the assignment or exam.

### Respect

Because the university classroom is designed for the free exchange of ideas, students are encouraged to be honest in expressing their views. Other students are likewise encouraged to share contrary views, but everyone should do so in a spirit of compassion and consideration.

### Rights

Under FERPA, you have rights to see your education records upon request. Please see the WBU catalog for specific instructions.

This syllabus is a plan for the course and subject to change. As instructor, I reserve the right to alter the course material to more effectively achieve the course objectives and to alter the course requirements to more accurately assess student progress and performance.