



ACTS

GROWING
MINISTRY
LEADERS

Course Syllabus

Course Title:	Old Testament Survey
Semester:	Spring 2023
Instructor:	Rev. David Waldo
Instructor contact:	dwaldo63@gmail.com

Course Description

The early parts of Genesis will be examined, followed by a history of the nation of Israel. The poetic, wisdom, and prophetic books will be discussed. Authorship, dating, type of literature, and theology will be discussed. The geography of Palestine and the surrounding region will be covered. How the modern Old Testament text came to be will be explained.

Course Objectives

By the conclusion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Students will have a basic understanding of the geography of Palestine and its role in the interpretation of the Old Testament.
2. Students will be able to identify the parts of the Hebrew Scriptures and the books contained in each.
3. Students will learn to use the tools which help enhance our understanding of Old Testament passages.
4. Students will be able to articulate the contribution of each OT book to the overall narrative of Scripture.
5. Students will have an in-depth knowledge of a Minor Prophet.
6. Students will have confronted some of the more controversial passages of the Hebrew Scriptures.

Online Classroom Format

All class sessions will be held online using Google Meet. All course materials, including the submission & grading of assignments, will take place on Google Classroom. Please watch the [tutorial](#) on navigating Google Classroom, if you are unfamiliar with the platform.

Required Texts

DeRouchie, Jason S., ed. *What the Old Testament Authors Really Cared about: A Survey of Jesus' Bible*. Kregel Publications. 2013

Recommended Texts

Recommended texts will be cited during class.

Course Requirements

1. Attend at least 6 of 7 classes (you will be responsible for all the material covered in each class).
2. Read the required text, **What the Old Testament Authors Really Cared About**, and review the Scriptures assigned in the Course Schedule.
3. Prepare a six-page paper exhibiting knowledge of, and ability to, struggle with one major Old Testament theme.
4. Prepare for and successfully complete a final exam.
5. Give one oral presentation (15 minutes in length, to be assigned the first day of class) outlining the background of a minor prophet, placing the prophet in historical context, and interpreting the prophet's message for the people to whom the prophet spoke.
6. Actively participate in class discussion.

Grading

A final grade will be calculated based on the following:

Class participation – 10%
Oral Presentation – 20%
Theological Paper – 30%
Final Exam – 40%

Grades to be assigned at the end of class shall be:

A+ = 97-100	A = 93-96
B+ = 89-92	B = 85-88
C+ = 81-84	C = 77-80
D+ = 73-76	D = 69-72
Not Passing = 68 and below	

Academic Policies

Plagiarism policy:

A.C.T.S. defines Plagiarism as “using someone’s ideas, words, or data, without proper acknowledgement, as one’s own original work.” To avoid plagiarism, you must 1) cite the original author every time you use his or her exact written or spoken word (by enclosing them with quotation marks if fewer than four lines or indenting as a block quote if four or more lines) or 2) paraphrase someone’s written or spoken words and recognize the author/source in the body of the text or as a footnote. Plagiarism is an act of dishonesty and violation of academic integrity.

If an Instructor determines that an act of plagiarism has occurred, after talking with the student, the Academic Dean will be notified. Possible consequences will be considered, including: a failing grade for the work, a failing grade for the entire course, asking the student to redo the assignment, etc.

Late Assignment policy:

Any assignment that is determined to be late, at the discretion of the instructor, will lose a letter grade.

Course schedule

2/4	Class #1	<i>Orientation and themes of the TANAKH</i> Read Text: Chapters 1 - 3(pages 26-79) Review: Genesis – Exodus Homework: Watch “Jewish Meditation Literature” on The Bible Project YouTube channel.
2/11	Class #2	<i>The Torah</i> Read Text: Chapters 4 – 6(pages 80-162) Review: Leviticus – Deuteronomy Minor Prophets: Jonah, Amos
2/18	Class #3	<i>The Former Prophets</i> Read Text: Chapters 7 – 10(pages 163 – 237) Review: Joshua – 2 Kings Minor Prophets: Hosea, Micah
2/25	Class #4	<i>The Latter Prophets</i> Read Text: Chapters 11-14(pages 238-318) Review: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Bk. Of 12 Minor Prophets: Nahum, Habakkuk

- 3/4 Class #5 *The Writings: Poetry, Wisdom, Worship*
Read Text: Chapters 15-21; 23(pages 311 - 407;420 - 427)
Review: Ruth, Esther – Song of Songs, Lamentations
Minor Prophets: Zephaniah, Joel
- 3/11 Class #6 *The Writings: Life in Community, Apocalypse*
Read Text: Chapters 22, 24-25(pages 428 – 462; 408 – 419)
Review: 1 Chronicles – Nehemiah, Daniel
Minor Prophet: Obadiah, Haggai
- 3/18 Class #7 *Review and Summary*
Theological Reflection Paper Due
Final Exam
Minor Prophet: Zechariah, Malachi