

**BP Academy  
Vancouver, WA**

## **Old Testament Overview Fall 2021**

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### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This initial course in biblical literature lays a foundation for further study of the Bible by introducing the biblical covenants and God's kingdom program. Students will learn the unifying themes of the Law, the Prophets and the Writings that compose the Old Testament scriptures. They will gain an understanding of the historical and cultural background, the geographical and political settings, the issues addressed, and the major contributions and modern relevance of each book to the development and growth of God's people.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

1. Students will have a meaningful experience in studying God's word and grow spiritually. To achieve this we will...
  - a. Approach the Bible through prayer, meditation, and careful study.
  - b. Give attention to the practical application of biblical principles, practicing the "fear of the Lord."
2. Students will learn the organization of the Old Testament (the Law, the Prophets, and the Writings) and be able to describe the major themes and developments of each book within each genre. To achieve this the student will...
  - a. Know the themes, purposes, and outlines of each book.
  - b. Know the major contribution of each book to the whole Word of God.
  - c. Know the relevance of each book for the original audience and for present-day living and ministry.
3. Students will know the major themes and developments in God's redemptive program and understand the "big picture" of God's redemptive plan. To achieve the student will...
  - a. Be able to define the concepts of biblical covenant and God's kingdom and describe how the foundation for understanding of these themes is established in the Law and the Prophets.
  - b. Be able to explain the beginnings of God's redemptive program.

4. Students will know the basic framework and major developments within biblical history. To accomplish this the student will...
  - a. Be able to outline the archeological periods with history of the Patriarchal, Judges, Kingdom, and Exile eras noting key dates (all dates are BCE: 2166, 1876, 1446, 1406, 1050, 1010, 970, 930, 722, 605, 597, 587/6, 539/8, 517)
5. Students will be able to apply knowledge of the audience, background issues, themes and theology of an Old Testament book to a deeper study of that book.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### Reading

Required texts:

*Old Testament Survey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition*; Paul R. House and Eric Mitchell, B&H Publishing Group.

Reading assignments will be completed prior to each class session according to the course schedule below.

Supplementary reading materials may be assigned.

Recommended Resources:

1. A good quality Study Bible. We recommend: The Ryrie Study Bible, The ESV Study Bible, the MacArthur Study Bible or the NIV Study Bible.
2. The Satellite Bible Atlas – Historical Geography of the Bible, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition; William Schlegel, Bibleplaces.com.
3. Electronic Bible study tools: We recommend the free online study suite at <https://netbible.org/bible> which includes ESV, NASB, NIV, KJV and other Bibles, commentary notes, Bible dictionaries and other study resources. For a more comprehensive offline Bible study library program consider <https://logos.com>.

### Major Assignments

Prepare and submit a chart of the Old Testament Books that arranges the books in a timeline. The chart should include the category, theme, and purpose for each book together with any significant persons, events or dates.

1. Chart of OT Books (the Law and Former Prophets): Due Oct 24, 2021.
2. Chart of OT Books (the Latter Prophets and the Writings): Due Dec 12, 2021.
3. Reading assignment checklist: Due Dec 12, 2021.

## **COURSE EXPECTATIONS AND POLICIES**

### Attendance Policy

Class attendance and participation is required for certificate students. Missed classes must be made up by watching the session online and completing the required assignments.

### Evaluation and Grading Policy

Successful completion will be pass/fail and is dependent upon completion of the mandatory assignments by the required date unless otherwise arranged with the Lead Instructor.

## **COURSE SCHEDULE AND CONTENT TOPICS**

- Session 1      Introduction to OT: people, politics and places  
Patriarchal, Judges, Kingdom, and Exile eras  
Covenant as a unifying theme  
Read: OT Survey – Beginning the Study, pp. 1-16
- Session 2      The Pentateuch: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy  
The Law (Torah)  
Read: OT Survey – The Pentateuch Introduction and Chapters 1-3, pp.15-88  
Read: Bible – Genesis 9, 12, 15, 17; Exodus 19-24; Deuteronomy 27-30
- Session 3      The Former Prophets (part 1): Joshua, Judges  
The prophetic perspective and prophetic narrative  
Read: OT Survey – The Former Prophets Introduction and Chapters 4-5, pp. 89-118  
Read: Bible – Joshua 23-24; Judges 19-21
- Session 4      The Former Prophets (part 2): Samuel, and Kings  
Read: OT Survey – The Former Prophets Chapters 6-7, pp. 119-171  
Read: Bible – 1 Samuel 8-9, 15-16; 2 Samuel 7-8; 1 Kings 8-9; 2 Kings 17, 24-25
- Session 5      The Latter Prophets (part 1): Isaiah  
The prophetic perspective and prophetic speech/sermon  
Read: OT Survey – The Prophets Introductions and Chapter 8, pp. 173-195  
Read: Bible – Isaiah 1, 36-39, 40, 42, 55, 59  
**Due: Chart of OT Books** (the Law and Former Prophets)
- Session 6      The Latter Prophets (part 2): Jerimiah, and Ezekiel  
Read: OT Survey – The Prophets Chapters 9-10, pp. 196-230  
Read: Bible – Jeremiah 1, 30-33; Ezekiel 33-37
- Session 7      The Latter Prophets (part 3): The Twelve  
Read: OT Survey – The Prophets Chapter 11, pp. 231-265  
Read: Bible – Hosea 1-6; Micah 6-7; Malachi 1-4

- Session 8      The Writings (part 1): Psalms  
The wisdom perspective (worship)  
Read: OT Survey – The Writings Introduction and Chapter 12, pp. 267-279  
Read: Bible – Psalm 1, 19, 22, 40, 51, 69, 118, 121, 139, 146
- Session 9      The Writings (part 2): Job, Proverbs, Ruth, Song of Songs, and Ecclesiastes  
The wisdom perspective (pre-exilic)  
Read: OT Survey – The Writings Chapter 13-17, pp. 280-319  
Read: Bible – Job 1-2; Proverbs 1-4, 9; Ecclesiastes 1, 12
- Session 10     The Writings (part 3): Lamentations, Esther, Daniel, Ezra-Nehemiah, and Chronicles  
The wisdom perspective (post-exilic)  
Read: OT Survey – The Writings Chapter 18-22, pp. 320-354  
Read: Bible – Lamentations 3; Ester 3-4; Daniel 1-3; Chronicles 34-36
- Session 11     Putting it all together  
“Where is that found?” quiz  
**Due: Reading assignment checklist,**  
**Chart of OT Books** (the Latter Prophets and the Writings)