

Old Testament Survey

REL 151

Textbooks: Bible (no particular version required)
Reading The Old Testament, Barry L. Bandstra

This course is a survey of the Old Testament with emphasis on the historical and geographical context of the writings. To achieve our goals and objectives we will begin with a look at the history, origin, language and literature of the Old Testament writings. The class will be taught with a combination of lecture, class participation, examination of maps and charts, handouts, a final paper, and written examinations.

Grading Percentages:

Mid Term	30%
Final Exam	30%
Final Paper	30%
Two Quizzes	10%

Instructor: Rick Owen

Office: 833-7636

E-mail: rowen@huffmanonline.org

Website: www.jesusandtheblues.com

Exams:

We will have a mid term and final exam. These two exams will each represent 30% of your grade. They will include both objective and essay questions. We will review for the exams the last class meeting before each exam. The mid term will cover material we have reached to that point. The final will not be comprehensive. You must be on time for the exams. No one will be admitted to the class room after the exam has begun. (See Make Up opportunity)

Cell Phones and Tardiness:

Please be considerate of your fellow students. Cell phones must be either turned off or on silent mode. Tardiness to class disrupts the learning rhythm of your fellow students, and wastes their time...so try to be on time.

Make up Exams:

You may make up the Mid Term Exam, no later than two weeks after the date of the exam. It is up to you to make arrangements with the instructor for the Make Up Exam. There will be no make ups for the quizzes.

Final Paper:

Please select a passage from the Old Testament. Write a paper of no more than five (5) pages to include answers to the following questions:

1. What is the setting of the passage?
2. What is the date and historical context of the writings?
3. What are the major theological themes in this passage?
4. To whom is the passage written? (Historically)
5. Who are the major characters of the passage?
6. Rewrite the passage in your own words.

Please give the passage you have selected to the instructor no later than the mid-term exam. There will be research days for your paper. The class will not meet in the class room on those days. You are free to use the library or other sources for that days class time on your own. The final paper is 30% of your grade. You will be asked to present your paper informally at the end of the term. (5-10 minutes maximum.)

Optional Extra Credit

You may attend a synagogue , and write a 1 page summary of your experience and receive five extra points added to your final exam. The Summary will be due the last day of class.

General Course Competencies:

1. The student will acquire knowledge of the organization of the Old Testament.
2. The student will acquire knowledge of the geographical and historical settings for the Old Testament period prior to 1200 BC.
3. The student will acquire knowledge of the content of the Old Testament.
4. The student will acquire a working knowledge of the resources and textual criticism of the Old Testament