OT 500 Survey of the Old Testament
Provisional Course Outline J-Term 2016
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Course Dates: January 15-16, 19-23, 2016
Course Times: 9:00am—12:00pm, 1:00—2:30pm

Midterm exam: Wednesday, 20, 9:00—10:00am (class afterwards)
Final Exam: Saturday, January 30, 9:00am—12:00pm
Snow days Make up days in afternoon

1. Course Objectives
In this course students will become familiar with the content of the entire Old Testament, with specific attention being given to the flow of the biblical story and its major themes (Gordon-Conwell Mission Statement: Priority # 1). Students will discover how each book fits into the larger redemptive-historical narrative of the Old Testament. It is expected that at the completion of the course, students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the Old Testament, by being able to recall and identify key people, events and dates in the Old Testament, and by being able to identify the main message and historical context of individual books. Resources beneficial for the study and application of the Old Testament for preaching and Bible study will be noted throughout the course.

2. Course Requirements
☼ Exams: The course grade will be determined on the basis of a mid-term exam (worth 20%) and a final exam (worth 80%). The mid-term exam is scheduled for Wednesday, January 20, 9:00-10:00am (lectures continue after exam). The exams will consist of a series of multiple choice and short-answer questions, which will demonstrate knowledge of key dates, events and people of the Old Testament. These questions will also test a student’s knowledge of the individual books, with focus being given to the main message and historical context of each book. Multiple choice questions related to the theology of the Old Testament will be included in the final exam. The final exam is scheduled for Saturday, January 30, 9:00am—12:00pm.

 открывает книгу Библии: You are required to read the entire Old Testament (audio is acceptable as well). You will be asked on the final exam to indicate what percentage of the Old Testament you have read. Since this is required reading, failure to complete the Old Testament reading will result in points being deducted, which may result in a 1/3 grade penalty (A grade would become A-) up to a full grade penalty (A would become B).

☞ CASKET EMPTY: Old Testament Study Guide: As a supplement to the biblical material, you are required to read the OT CASKET Study Guide. You will be asked on the final exam to indicate
what percentage of the study guide you have completed. Failure to complete the Study Guide will result in points being deducted, up to a 2/3 grade penalty (A would become B+).

**IVP Concise Atlas of Bible History:** This book is required for the course. You are required to read pp. 1-115 (OT portion) for this course. You will be asked on the final exam what percentage of this book you have read; points will be deducted for incomplete reading.

**Teach the Old Testament in a local church context:** You are required to teach one study on the Old Testament in a local church context. You may teach on any section of the Old Testament, or you may choose to give an overview of the Old Testament using the CASKET Timeline. I would recommend that you speak to your pastor from your local church over the holidays to ask if this kind of opportunity might be made available to you. Given the short amount of time for the J-Term class, you can also teach the OT with a small group of fellow students. More information will be given in class. Failure to complete this will result in 3 points being deducted from your final score for the course.

3. **In-class Internet Etiquette**

Please turn your cell phone to silent mode at the beginning of each class. Internet usage (on computer, ipad/phone) is strictly prohibited during class but permissible during breaks.

4. **Required Texts**

1) Kaminski, C. *CASKET EMPTY: God’s Plan of Redemption through History. CASKET Study Guide* (available in the bookstore, at Amazon or at casketempty.com).
2) Kaminski, C., *CASKET EMPTY: God’s Plan of Redemption through History. Old Testament Timeline* (available in the bookstore or at casketempty.com)

5. **Highly recommended**
The NIV Archaeology Study Bible (Zondervan, 2005).

6. **Grading scale:**

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>96.7—100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93.3—96.6</td>
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<td>A-</td>
<td>89.9—93.2</td>
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<td>B+</td>
<td>86.5—89.8</td>
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<td>83.1—86.4</td>
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<td>79.7—83</td>
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<td>C+</td>
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Lecture Outline at a Glance

Friday, January 15
- Overview of the Old Testament through CASKET
- Course expectations and requirement
- CREATION: Gen 1—11
- ABRAHAM (Gen. 12—50); Job.

Saturday, January 16
- SINAI (Exodus Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges Ruth)

Tuesday, January 19
- KINGS: The United Monarchy (1—2 Sam; 1 Kings; 1 Chronicles).
- Wisdom Literature
- The division of the kingdom

Wednesday, January 20
- Midterm exam
- KINGS: The northern kingdom; Elijah and Elisha, Hosea, Amos and Jonah

Thursday, January 21
- KINGS: The southern kingdom: Rehoboam—Josiah
- The 8th century southern prophets: Isaiah and Micah.
- The 7th century prophet Jeremiah.

Friday, January 22
- KINGS: The southern kingdom: Josiah—Zedekiah
- The end of the southern kingdom
- The southern prophets, Zephaniah, Joel, Habakkuk, Nahum, Ezekiel
- The EXILE: Lamentations, Obadiah.

Saturday, January 23
- The prophet Daniel.
- TEMPLE: the return from exile.
- The prophets Haggai, Haggai and Malachi.
- The historical books Ezra, Nehemiah and Esther.
MID-TERM EXAM STUDY GUIDE

You will need to know the following dates, events and Bible references for the midterm (Even though we will not have covered all these periods, you need to know everything on this study guide for the midterm).

- **Abraham**: 2100-1450 BC
  - Abrahamic promises (Gen. 12:1-3), Abrahamic covenant (Gen. 15)
  - Covenant of circumcision: Gen. 17
- **Sinai**: 1450-1050 BC
  - Exodus from Egypt c. 1450 BC
  - Ten Commandments: Exod. 20; Deut. 5
  - Mosaic Covenant: Exod. 24
- **Kings**: 1050-586 BC
  - United monarchy: 1050-930 BC
  - Davidic covenant: 2 Sam. 7, 1 Chronicles 17
  - Division of the kingdom: 930 BC
  - Northern kingdom: 930-722 BC
  - End of the North by Assyrians, 722 BC
  - Southern kingdom 930-586 BC
  - 1st deportation by Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar: 605 BC
  - Nebuchadnezzar defeats Egypt: 605 BC
  - Daniel goes to Babylon: 605 BC
  - 2nd deportation by Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar: 597 BC
  - Ezekiel goes to Babylon: 597 BC
  - Nebuchadnezzar destroys Jerusalem and temple: 586 BC
  - End of southern kingdom and exile to Babylon: 586 BC
- **Exile**: 586-539 BC
- **Temple**: 539-430 BC
  - Cyrus defeats Babylon: 539 BC
  - Decree of Cyrus allowing Jews to return to Jerusalem: 538 BC
  - 1st return: 538 BC under Zerubbabel and Joshua
  - Haggai and Zechariah: 520 BC
  - Temple completed 516 BC
  - 2nd return from exile under Ezra: 458 BC
  - Nehemiah returns to Jerusalem to rebuild walls: 445 BC

- **OT Book Summary**: You will need to be able to identify the basic content and historical context of the following Old Testament books: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1—2 Samuel, 1—2 Kings, Psalms, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, Proverbs and Job.
- **Prophets**: You will need to know whether a prophet is northern, southern or post-exilic (all 16 prophets); and be able to provide the century for the following prophets only: Hosea (8th), Amos (8th), Isaiah (8th), Micah (8th), Jeremiah (7th), Ezekiel (6th), and Daniel (6th).

Reviewing for the Midterm exam: Quizlet.com
Flash cards have been posted on Quizlet.com. You will need to sign up for this website, and then search for the flashcards by typing in “CasketEmpty Old Testament.”
Old Testament Survey Final Exam Study Guide

The final exam will comprise of a series of multiple choice questions, along with short answer questions (not requiring more than one to five words) covering the entire Old Testament. In preparation for this exam, you will want to ensure that you are prepared to answer questions on the following:

1. You will not be required to know the structure of Old Testament books.
2. You will not be required to know the dates for the kings of Israel (except any dates that are on the mid-term study guide).
3. You will not be required to name the entire list of kings.
4. You will not be required to know something about every king (but you will be required to know something about a few main kings; see below).
5. You should be able to answer questions related to the content, main themes, historical context, key people and events for every Old Testament book (you are responsible for books that were covered on the mid-term). Questions will be multiple choice; you will be required to identify either the correct answer or the one false answer, depending on how the question is phrased (see books below).
6. You will also be required to identify key quotations from a particular book (only well known quotes will be cited which relate to the main themes of the book).
7. You are required to know all the information listed on the mid-term study guide, including all the dates, biblical texts, key events associated with the dates, and the prophetical books.
8. You will be required to answer questions related to key biblical-theological themes/topics, including the following:
   1. The order of the 10 commandments.
   2. Basic information about major covenants in the Bible: Noahic, Abrahamic, Mosaic, Davidic, New Covenant.
   3. More detailed information about the promises God makes to Abraham and David, and the promises under the new covenant.
   6. The theological reasons for the exile.
   7. Be able to identify whether a king is Assyrian, Babylonian or Persian:
      Assyrian kings: Tiglath Pileser III, Shalmaneser V, Sargon II.
      Babylonian kings: Nebuchadnezzar, Belshazzar, and Nabonidus.
      Persian kings: Cyrus, Darius I, Xerxes I, and Artaxerxes.
   9. You will be required to know the significance of the following ANE inscriptions:
      The Gilgamesh Epic, the Black Obelisk, the Tel Dan Inscription, the Taylor Prism, the Cyrus Cylinder, the Nabonidus Chronicler.
Book Summaries:
You are required to know the following OT books in-depth, which should including knowing a) the historical context and period, b) key events and people, c) major themes, d) how the message of the book contributes to the redemptive-historical narrative:
- Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, 1—2 Samuel, Ezra, Nehemiah, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Amos, Hosea, Micah, Malachi
You are required to know the basic content of the following OT books, which should include: the historical-redemptive context, the basic content of the book, and any key events or people if they are given:
- Ruth, 1-2 Kings, 1-2 Chronicles (including knowing the differences between Kings and Chronicles), Esther, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, Lamentations, Joel, Obadiah, Jonah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai and Zechariah.

Two Bonus Points: Know the order of OT books
You have the opportunity to earn two bonus points if you know the Old Testament books in canonical order. The question will be given as a multiple choice question, and you will be required to circle the correct answer. You are not required to answer this question, and no points will be deducted if you decide not to answer it.

Selected Bibliography
Arnold, Bill T. and Bryan E. Beyer, Readings from the Ancient Near East (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2002).
Childs, B.S. Old Testament Theology in Canonical Context.
Clines, D. J. A., The Theme of the Pentateuch (JSOTSup, 10; Sheffield: JSOT Press, 1979).


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______, *Ancient Orient and Old Testament* (Downers Grove, IL and Leicester: InterVarsity Press, 1966)


______, *Tracing the Eschatological Movement of the Kingdom of God from Creation to Consummation* (Two Age Press, 2002)


Thomas, M.A., These are the Generations: Identity, Covenant and the ‘Toledot’ Formula (LHBOTS 551; T&T Clark, 2011).
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Whybray, R. Norman, Introduction to the Pentateuch (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1995).
Wilson, R.R. Genealogy and History in the Biblical World (YNER 7; New Haven, Yale University, 1977).