

BE102SA - OLD TESTAMENT I SYLLABUS

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

An exposition of Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, and Judges with emphasis on the Biblical Theology of these books, their genre, and application. 3 Hours (*2 Hours for MABC students*).

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES AND RATIONALE

A. Cognitive Objectives

1. *Understand* the basic storyline of the Bible with particular attention to the books of Genesis through Judges.
2. *Comprehend* the unique contribution of each book covered in this course to a biblical theology.
3. *Think* his/her way through the message of the Bible from Genesis to Judges.

B. Behavioral Objectives

1. *Instruct* in the meaning of the Old Covenant and its nature as it affected the King, the lives of individual Israelites, and the nation.
2. *Teach* these books to others.
3. *Explain* the proper application of the message of the text.
4. *Act* based on one's place in God's plan and *represent* God more fully.

C. Affective Objectives

1. *Appreciate* the unique movement of God in the Old Testament.
2. *Feel more competent* in the interpretation of narrative literature.
3. *Value* the use of the Old Testament in the New Testament.
4. *Regard* the proper application of the message of the text.
5. *Desire* to teach these books to others.
6. *Increase appreciation* for the Savior's effect on one's life and his position.

D. Rationale

The message of these books will demonstrate the beginning of the overall movement of God toward His Christ and the restoration of His created order which will affect one's life and those who are taught by considering their alignment with God's plan.

III. COURSE TEXTBOOKS

A. Required

Baylis Notes (which are posted online at www.biblicalstory.org).

Constable, T. (2000). "Dr. Thomas L. Constable's Expository Notes on the Bible. *Sonic Light* [On-line]. Available: www.soniclight.com

Note: *The New American Standard Version* is required for use in class and on written assignments. It should be without a commentary (i.e., no Study Bibles, although cross references are fine).

B. Suggested

Berlin, Adele. *Poetics and Interpretation of Biblical Narrative*. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 1994.

Harrison, R. K. *Introduction to the Old Testament*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2004.

Sailhammer, John H. *The Meaning of the Pentateuch: Revelation, Composition, and Interpretation*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2009.

C. Supplementary Bibliography

(Refer to separate handout: APPENDIX: SUPPLEMENTARY BIBLIOGRAPHY)

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS (ITALICIZED ITEMS NOT REQUIRED FOR MABC STUDENTS**)**

A. **Reading Assignments** – To be completed one hour prior to the beginning of class. No credit is given for incomplete, late, or less than conscientious reading.

1. The individual book of the Bible under consideration.
2. *Introductions (only) to each of the books in Tom Constable's notes (CON) (available on-line at www.soniclight.com). ***You are also asked to SCAN Constable's notes on Genesis. Several points will be made from this exercise.*
3. *Baylis Notes to each book*

B. Major Projects for 3 hour credit (all Non-MABC students)

1. *The Literary Argument of Genesis Through Judges*: A project will be written that analyzes the books of Genesis through Judges, putting the stories together to establish the argument of the books based on their literary flow. **Instructions and guidelines will be provided.**
2. *The Effect of Leviticus and Deuteronomy on the Rest of the Bible*: A project will be written that requires tracing passages in the Law to the other books and seeing their effect on the interpretation. **Instructions and guidelines will be provided.**
3. *Synthetic Chart of the Book of Judges*: A synthetic chart will be developed that represents the Book of Judges.

C. Final Exam

BE Dept. Comprehensive Exam (Required of all students, no exemptions)

The Bible Department requires a comprehensive, standard final exam to assess foundational knowledge of all required courses. It is to be given online during exam week. A study guide will be given out from which the questions are chosen. Preparation with study guides may be done individually or as a group. Do not discuss the questions on the final exam with anyone who has already taken the exam. You will be asked to affirm that you have not done so when you take the final exam. Instructions will be emailed to the student for them to take the test online.

“For those students graduating in a given semester or participating in the commencement ceremony, arrangements must be made with the professor to complete the final examination early. In addition to the final exam, all course work must be completed by graduates and commencement participants by the date specified for the semester of graduation” (from the 2007-2009 Student Handbook, 1.19.1).

V. COURSE POLICIES

A. Weight Given To Course Requirements For Grading

	Grade Percentage (NON MABC students)	Grade Percentage MABC students)
Genesis Through Judges Project	40	<i>Not Required</i>
Deuteronomy Project	35	40
Comprehensive Final Exam	10	30
Reading/Class Contribution.	15	30

B. Class Contribution

Students are expected to show brotherly (sacrificial) concern for the welfare of others in the class. Class participation thus includes promptness, discretion, non-distracting conversations, as well as appropriate questions meant for clarification and not for personal attention. Interaction is encouraged to establish clarity and depth to the class. Up to 10% of the student's grade may be affected by poor or beneficial behavior. In lieu of a behavioral deduction or addition, the student's grade will stand as listed in the grading guide. **NOTE: Computers, writing and reading material brought to class may only be used as directly related to the immediate class discussion. Other uses are not permitted.** The 2007-2009 Student Handbook states, "Students should refrain from using cell phones, laptop computers, or other devices in a manner that distracts others in the class. Playing games, browsing the Internet, using email, instant messaging, or text messaging, etc., are considered unacceptable when class is in session. Unless prohibited by the professor, students should turn off all electronic devices during tests and quizzes (1.15.1).

C. Late Assignments

Assignments do not receive credit if handed in or read after the beginning of class. Major projects which are late will not be accepted unless permission is received from the Professor prior to the deadline. Under no circumstances may projects be extended beyond 4:30 pm on the last day of exams without a formal extension from the Credits Committee. Penalties for late projects will normally be one point per day.

D. Absences

Absences from the dialogue of class cannot be compensated in other ways. Thus, even justifiable absences still lack in providing an equivalent education experience. However, recognizing that there are times when absences are unavoidable, a certain amount of absences are allowed at the discretion of the student. The student should recognize that should he/she go beyond the absences allotted, he/she would be penalized. **NOTE: The student is responsible to keep track precisely of his time of arrival/departure at all class periods and record it accurately.**

The Student Handbook establishes the minimum number of permitted absences as twice the number of times the course meets each week. Coming to class late three times equals one absence. Each absence in excess of the prescribed limit causes a reduction in grade (refer to 1.15.3).

Late: Arriving late or leaving early 15 minutes or less in any session. Three late arrivals or early departures are equivalent to one absence.

Absence: Missing more than 15 minutes in a session.

- Four session absences may be taken without penalty.
- Each absence in excess may result in a 3 point deduction from the final grade.

E. Plagiarism

“The website, Turnitin.com defines plagiarism as “the use of another’s original words or ideas as though they were your own. Any time you borrow [copy] from an original source and do not give proper credit, you have committed plagiarism...” (http://turnitin.com/research_site/e_faqs_text). Plagiarism is academically dishonest and contrary to biblical standards of integrity. Any course work involving dishonest academic practices will be graded as zero without any resubmission permitted. In each case the Office of the Dean of Students will be notified” (DTS Student Handbook 2007-2009, 1.16.3).

F. Letter/Numerical Grade Scale

A+ 99-100	B+ 91-93	C+ 83-85	D+ 75-77	F 0-69
A 96-98	B 88-90	C 80-82	D 72-74	
A- 94-95	B- 86-87	C- 78-79	D- 70-71	

VI. COURSE SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

- A. **Disability Policy:** DTS does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the operation of any of its programs and activities. To avoid discrimination the student is responsible for informing the Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities and the course instructor of any disabling condition that will require modifications.
- B. **Library Access:** Library access the Dallas Seminary Library.
- C. **Scripture Reading:** All Bible Exposition courses place a high value on Scripture reading, but each professor has the option of evaluating this reading in his own manner as noted in the syllabus.
- D. **Audio/Video Recordings:** Any registered student may make audio recordings of classes if the student agrees that **recording is used for personal use (viewing and/or listening by the student only)** and will not duplicate or disseminate recording without express written permission of the professor. Video recordings may be made, but must have the specific permission of the professor. Note that the restriction on dissemination means that the student shall not allow this to be viewed by other than him/her.
- E. **Extension Policy:** Any work emailed after 4:30 PM on the last day of exams cannot be accepted without an official extension by the Credits Committee.
- F. **Pedagogical methodology:** Readings and assignments are meant to cover all areas of understanding required in the course. Students are to read and do the assignments conscientiously and to be understood on their own. **Classroom time is not intended to be spent covering the same material that was to be understood through the readings, but is meant to discuss core issues that help the student to grasp the core meanings and to provide opportunity to interact on the readings so as to insure that the student understands fully.** The student should be prepared, based on an adequate understanding of the assignments, to interact fully and knowledgeably in class.
- G. **Compensating for absences:** While it is recognized that class attendance at times may be difficult, it is also recognized that the class lectures and live interaction are important for one to obtain the learning experience intended. Thus should a student be unable to attend class, it is suggested that they have another student video (or secondarily audio) record the lecture. **Note that the recording of the class lectures is not as substitute for class attendance** since interaction is part of the requirement of the course.

- H. Ethical Policy:** Note that assignments are to be done with appropriate conscientiousness. Reporting of assignments and attendance is also to be with appropriate care and accuracy. In-class or out-of-class behavior not considered appropriate for seminary students will be reported to the Dean of Students.
- I. Professor and Grader Accessibility:** The professor will be available during class breaks, before and following the class period if possible to interact with students. Appointments outside of those times may be made individually with the BE Dept. Administrative Assistant.
- J. Submittals of Written Assignments:** All submittals will be made by email to the Professor unless requested otherwise.
- K. A statement regarding synthetic charts for BE102 syllabi:** One of the competencies that the Bible Exposition department wants you as the student to master is creating a synthetic chart. While there are a number of different types of charts, all charts within the Bible Exposition department *must meet certain minimal requirements*. Generally speaking, synthetic charts will (1) be visual rather than written representations of a book's content and structure, (2) be developed inductively and synthetically, (3) identify basic structure typically including major divisions or sections and subdivisions or subsections. Most charts should not identify divisions or structures smaller than paragraphs unless the book is short (e.g., three chapters or less), (4) contain descriptive titles for divisions, subdivisions, and paragraphs which represent both structure and content. More specifically, synthetic charts will include (1) the title of the book that is charted (e.g., A Synthetic Chart of Genesis), (2) identification and recording of major themes and/or key words, (3) identification and recording of structural relationships, (4) a statement of the message/theme/purpose of the book. It should be noted that a given professor within the Bible Exposition department may ask you to do more than the minimal requirements.
- L. Dress policy:** All students in the class are expected to abide conscientiously to the dress code listed in the student handbook. This dress code is applicable to extension classes as well as main campus. In addition, all men should remove their hats during the class period.
- M. Swine Flu:** The DTS Executive Committee has issued the following:

As part of the federal government response to the H1N1 (Swine Flu) virus, the Department of Health and Human Services issued a nationwide public health emergency preparedness declaration on April 26, 2009. The declaration was renewed on July 23, 2009 and is currently in force. For the semester ahead, there is concern that the level and intensity of flu cases could increase substantially.

- 1) For updates on the campus-wide status of flu conditions at DTS, please visit <http://www.dts.edu/flu>.
- 2) If flu conditions require cancellation of a class session or other changes for the course, an email will be sent to all class members.
- 3) In the event of a major campus emergency at DTS, course requirements, deadlines, and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances beyond the professor's control.

In order to provide you with helpful and up-to-date information about the H1N1 flu, a webpage, <http://www.dts.edu/flu> is now available. It is important for to monitor that page regularly in order to know what DTS is doing and what it is recommending with respect to the flu. There you will find also a reporting form that will enable the seminary to track what is occurring with the disease and thereby make informed decisions.

Receive Weather and Flu Alerts by Text Message: DTS also wants you to be aware of our emergency texting service. We strongly urge to go to <http://dts.ssalert.com> and sign up to receive emergency texts related to the H1N1 virus as well as communication related to weather or disaster school closing."

VII. COURSE LECTURES AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Date	Session I	Att.	Date	Session II	Att.
9/6	Introduction to Class	_____	9/6	Intro. to Pentateuch	_____
9/6	Intro. to Narrative	_____	9/6	The Bible as Narrative	_____
9/6	Genesis 1—2	=====	9/6	Genesis 3	=====
9/7	Genesis 4-5	_____	9/7	Genesis 6-11	_____
9/7	Genesis 12—19	_____	9/7	Genesis 20—26	_____
9/7	Genesis 27-36	=====	9/7	Genesis 37-50	=====
9/8	Exodus 1-15	_____	9/8	Exodus 16-40	_____
9/8	Leviticus 1-13	=====	9/8	Leviticus 14-27	=====
9/8	Numbers 1-16	=====	9/8	Numbers 17-36	=====
Week 10	Deuteronomy 1-4	_____	Week 10	Deuteronomy 5-15	_____
Week 11	Deuteronomy 16-26	_____	Week 11	Deuteronomy 27-34	_____
Week 12	Joshua 1-12	_____	Week 12	Joshua 13-24	_____
Week 13	Judges 1-5	_____	Week 13	Judges 6-16	_____
Week 14	Judges 17-21	_____	Week 14	The Rest of the Story	_____
	EXAM WEEK				

NOTE: Assignments continue following last class.

- Note:
- Place an “X” in the blank for the sessions present.
 - Place an “A” in the blank for the sessions absent.
 - Place a “T” in the blank for sessions present but tardy less than 15 minutes. (Over 15 minutes counts as an “A”.)
 - Place your name in the place provided and hand in at the beginning of the last class session.

Submit this Attendance Sheet in an Email by the due date. Note that your submission assumes you have kept it conscientiously and accurately.

READING AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Date	Assignment	Pts.	Date	Assignment	Pts.
			Wk 8	Read Leviticus 1-27	___(7)
Wk 1	*Read Syllabus*	___(1)		<i>Read Baylis Leviticus Notes</i>	___(2)
	<i>Read Baylis Introductory Notes</i>	___(2)		*Instructions for Gen-Judg Paper and Deut. Project provided separately	
	<i>Read (CON) Intro. Genesis</i>	___(1)			
	<i>Skim Constable Genesis Notes</i>	___(2)	Wk 9	Read Numbers 1-36	___(7)
				<i>Read Baylis Numbers Notes</i>	___(2)
Wk 2	Read Genesis	___(7)		<i>Read (CON) Intro. Numbers</i>	___(2)
				Deut. Project Due (10/26)	
Wk 3	Read Genesis 1-3	___(2)			
	<i>Read Baylis Genesis Notes 1-11</i>	___(2)	Wk 10	Read Deuteronomy 1-15	___(3)
	*Begin Gen-Judg Paper			<i>Read Baylis Deuteronomy Notes</i>	___(2)
	*Begin Deut. Project			<i>Read (CON) Intro. Deuteronomy</i>	___(2)
Wk 4	Read Genesis 1-11	___(2)	Wk 11	Read Deuteronomy 1-34	___(7)
Wk 5	Read Genesis 1-26	___(3)	Wk 12	Read Joshua 1-24	___(7)
	<i>Read Baylis Genesis Notes 12-50</i>	___(2)		<i>Read Baylis Joshua Notes</i>	___(2)
				<i>Read (CON) Intro. Joshua</i>	___(2)
Wk 6	Read Genesis 1-50	___(7)			
			Wk 13	Read Judges 1-16	___(3)
Wk 7	Read Exodus 1-40	___(7)		<i>Read Baylis Judges Notes</i>	___(2)
	<i>Read Baylis Exodus Notes</i>	___(2)		<i>Read (CON) Intro. Judges</i>	___(2)
	<i>Read (CON) Intro. Exodus</i>	___(2)			
			Wk 14	Read Judges 1-21	___(7)
				Gen-Judg Paper Due (12/14)	

				Reading Report Due 12/14	
				Final Exam Week – Final Exam	
					____ of 100 pts

ASSIGNMENT SHEET NOTES

The number in parenthesis (e.g., “(2)”) indicates the points value for that task. If the reading is finished both conscientiously and on time then all points are given and the point value is to be written in the blank provided. If the reading was late, not read carefully, or not read at all then a “0” is to be written in the blank provided. Upon completion of the semester, simply add up the points earned and enter that number in the appropriate blank. This reading report is due the last day of class and should be emailed as an attachment.