

Northeastern State University

College of Liberal Arts
Department of Humanities
Tahlequah, OK

INSTRUCTOR:

Gary Cheatham, M.Div., M.S.L.S.

Office hours: Monday 9-12; Tuesday 3-4; Wednesday 9-11; Thursday 3-4; Friday 1:30-2:30.

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COURSE TITLE AND NUMBER:

Introduction to the Old Testament (REL 2113)

CLASS DAYS & TIME:

Tuesday/Thursday 9:30-10:45 a.m.

PREREQUISITES:

None

CATALOG DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Study of the background of the Old Testament including origin, growth, social, economic, and religious development of central concepts, leading personalities, and the process by which it has come to us as viewed in the light of modern scholarship.

COURSE PURPOSE:

- Explain the fundamental differences between the Hebrew Bible and the Old Testament of Christianity.
- Trace the origins and development of the Old Testament.
- Describe the central themes and concepts of the Old Testament.
- Identify and discuss the leading personalities of the Old Testament.
- Discuss the Old Testament in its literary, cultural, social, historical and theological context.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon the completion of the course students will be familiar with the overall content and context of the Old Testament. Students will also be familiar with current scholarly thinking on the origins, development, themes and concepts of the Old Testament.

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS: (Required Textbooks)

•Michael Coogan, ed. *The New Oxford Annotated Bible*. 4th ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 2010. (ISBN: 9780195289602) **PLEASE BRING THIS TEXT TO EACH CLASS SESSION**

•Michael Coogan. *The Old Testament: A Very Short Introduction*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2008. (ISBN: 9780195305050)

•Timothy H. Lim. *The Dead Sea Scrolls: A Very Short Introduction*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2005. (ISBN: 9780192806598)

INSTRUCTIONAL PROCEDURES:

Lecture, class discussion, video, and guest speaker.

STUDENT PERFORMANCE ACTIVITIES: (Attendance/Punctuality)

Students will be expected to sign an attendance sheet at each class session. Since the course grade is partly determined by attendance, students are encouraged to speak with the instructor if an absence is unavoidable. Absences will be under review on a case by case basis.

ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES:

Due dates for assignments will be announced.

The final exam will be given in class as listed in the Fall Exam Schedule.

STUDENT EVALUATION:

Grades will be based on the following:
Attendance and class participation...30 points
Assignments.....40 points
Final exam.....30 points
TOTAL.....100 points

Instructions for assignments will be given in class.

Students will be given the option of completing one extra credit assignment valued at up to 20 points. Anyone wishing to complete an extra credit assignment is encouraged to speak with the instructor.

The course grade will be determined as follows:

- A 90-100 points
- B 80-89 points
- C 70-79 points
- D 60-69 points
- F 0-59 points

POLICIES CONCERNING INCLEMENT WEATHER / DISASTER POLICY, ADA COMPLIANCE, AND ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT:

<http://offices.nsuok.edu/academicaffairs/SyllabiInformation.aspx>