

Gordon College
 BCM101 Old Testament
 Spring, 2020

Office hours: T R usually 8:00-12:00;
 MWF usually in 8:00-10:00

Dr. Ted Hildebrandt
 Office: MacD 111
 ted.hildebrandt@gordon.edu
 Phone: ext 4412

1. Course Description: Old Testament History, Literature and Theology examines Old Testament history and teaching against the cultural, geographical, historical and literary backgrounds of the Ancient Near East. Archaeology, comparative history and literature as well as key theological themes underlying the New Testament and Western culture are explored as well as the application of these texts as a foundation of personal spirituality.

2. Course Goals: When you have successfully completed this course you will:

- G1: Recall the basic content of the Old Testament (OT)
- G2: Comprehend the origin and transmission of the OT text
- G3: Comprehend OT cultural issues and their relevance to post-modern culture
- G4: Analyze, interpret and apply the meaning of OT texts from multiple perspectives
- G5: Critically evaluate and integrate your thinking with current OT research and discoveries
- G6: Distill, formulate and integrate your view of God and His kingdom based on the insights derived from the OT
- G7: Comprehend and discern OT culture and moral constructs being able to separate between descriptive and prescriptive aspects of the OT
- G8: Share a commitment to caring for the creation, environment and see connections with the liberal arts disciplines as part of your religious heritage and commitment

3. OBJECTIVES of OT History and Literature class:

- Cognitive Objectives:** You will understand
- CO1. the basic historical framework
 - CO2. the factual details and stories
 - CO3. the process of how the Old Testament came to us
 - CO4. the customs and cultural issues manifested in the OT
 - CO5. the meaning and implications of the Old Testament stories
 - CO6. God's character (mercy, justice, love, anger) and actions (covenant, war, shalom, forgiveness, retribution, redemption, et al.)

- CO7. theological reasons for the care of creation and human life
- CO8. the different stages of faith and spiritual formation

Affective Objectives: You will appreciate

- AO1. the value of the Old Testament
- AO2. the greatness of God and human responsibility in response in terms of holiness, pursuit of personal justice and mercy
- AO3. God's use of and interaction with human culture
- AO4. the value of the various disciplines of the liberal arts as supported by the OT

Skill Objectives: You will be able to

- SO1. identify major themes, genres and styles
- SO2. apply the meaning and significance of the Old Testament stories to life within postmodern culture
- SO3. critically evaluate interpretive options of some of the major “difficult” passages in the Old Testament
- SO4. ask big questions (the meaning of life, death, suffering, happiness, choice, etc.) of the text and then pursue answers
- SO5. express OT concepts in new media formats

4. Textbooks

One item to purchase:

- 1) Bible in an accurate translation (NIV, NLT, NRSV, NASB, KJV, ESV, NKJV, NAB, Net Bible are all good choices; I have prepared a DASV Digital American Standard Version which is available in text and audio on the web site; the mp3 audio is useful; there is also a format there that has the text and audio together where the audio will reinforce your text reading). The “Wave Bible” and “Your Bible” (by Hobby Lobby) are interesting free phone apps that might be of interest. If you find others that are decent let me know.

For the Old Testament in Chinese, Korean or Portuguese, Spanish, etc. I recommend:

<http://www.wordproject.org/bibles/parallel/chinese/index.htm>

Your Bible also has multiple languages and audio reading options

- 2) **Digital resources:** The Online Syllabus may have some changes as we work through this semester. The Online is always the one to follow over this printed beginning-of-the-year hardcopy.

- 1) All of the resources will be made available online

course **PowerPoints, full video/audio and text** from this semester in Blackboard. The professor is seeking to limit the cost for textbooks by constructing a web site that will make substantial OT resources available to students online. The point is to harness Internet technology for the benefit of our learning environment. Some of the benefits are that these resources are available to anyone, at any time from anywhere in the world. The online course materials cost you \$20 saving you each over \$50 for textbooks (compare how much you pay for textbooks in other courses).

2) There is an online series of “**Getting Started with [Gen. Exod. Lev. Etc.]** that will work like a textbook for this class [text/audio].

3) I have developed **multiple choice quiz questions for all of the lectures** and they are available for review in the **Interactive Video/Quiz Combo** Online resource (Flash Video formats; sorry Mac ipad/iphone folks). Since the lectures are being reformatted this semester new questions on **Quizlet.com** to replace the old interactive video questions. These will be developed as we go through the course lectures. The questions will be built in Quizlet.com as we with links to them for the weeks of the exams as we progress through the semester.

4) **OT Lit Multiple Choice Bible Quizzer online:** Practice sets of questions over the material you will be reading in the Bible. This will be very helpful in preparing for the quizzes. These questions are available on the OT Bible Quizzer (on our sight) and also on Quizlet.com.

5) *Get Lost in Jerusalem Virtual Reality* by Ted Hildebrandt originally published by Zondervan (is available online at the web site; Zondervan sold this for \$29.95).

6) www.Quizlet.com houses both weekly quiz questions and also lecture questions for exams. Many find this format very effective for learning.

Web Site URL: For this course you need to consult the web [just Google "Ted Hildebrandt" look for Gordon College or use this URL [bookmark it]:

http://faculty.gordon.edu/hu/bi/ted_hildebrandt/index.cfm
and now more recently and updated: <http://biblicalelearning.org/>

The web site will also facilitate your exploration of topics beyond this course and beyond the walls of Gordon after you graduate. The online materials are also available to your friends and family if others want to see what you are learning. The readings including the DASV [Digital American Standard Version] of OT itself are available in multiple formats (*.doc, *.html, *.pdf) as well as audio for virtually all the readings (*.mp3). There are audio and text/audio combinations so you can download it and listen to the text on your iPods, iPads or mobile devices.

Blackboard will only be used for posting **grades the bulk of the course with weekly assignments will be on the course web site on the Internet:**

http://faculty.gordon.edu/hu/bi/ted_hildebrandt/index.cfm

All students taking the course are required to purchase these online course materials for \$20 cash. Please pay for them during the first week or so. If payment is received after Friday Jan. 31 the price goes up to \$40. No quizzes or exams will be accepted or make-ups allowed after Friday Jan 31 is passed if payment has not been received. In short, get your \$20 in before Jan. 31 as I don't want to have to chase you down especially when I'm trying to save each of you well over \$50 per student [compare how much it is for textbooks in your other classes].

I do not make anything personally from this as the funds are used to develop the more supplemental materials for the OT/NT courses.

4. Grade Points:

- A. **Attendance policy:** Students are expected to attend class sessions.
- B. **Quizzes:** The quizzes focus on the actual content of the Bible reading, memory verses and supplemental reading (exams will be over the lectures—Use the **OT Lit Bible Quizzer** or Quizlet.com as much of the quiz will be pulled from the questions found in that quizzer). All quizzes should be taken on time.

Missed quizzes will be assessed as to whether they are excused or unexcused. Unexcused absences will result in an automatic deduction of 20% for that quiz. Both excused and unexcused absences **must be made up within one week from when the quiz was originally given.** If a student gets to class late after the quiz has begun, the quiz must be made up within the next week as either

excused or unexcused. You are not allowed to use electronic devices of any sort for the quizzes. Open head closed phone, pod, pad, tablet, or laptop etc.

- C. **EXAMS: All exams must be taken on time.** Exams will be over the lecture material. Exams are not like quizzes. The exams will be built off the questions in the interactive video/quiz combos. I am also have loaded these questions on “Quizlet.com” which will offer an alternative way of learning them.

For exams **no electronic devices** will be permitted in the room so leave your **cell phones**, smart watches, ipads, iphones whatever at home for the time of the exam.

Cheating Policy: Cheating in any form will result in an automatic failure of that quiz or exam or possibly the entire course. This is a Bible class, cheating is taken very seriously as a violation of the whole course and the integrity this course is trying to teach.

Gordon’s Academic Dishonesty Statement (Plagiarism Policy): “Academic dishonesty is regarded as a major violation of both the academic and spiritual principles of this community and may result in a failing grade or suspension. Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism, (see Plagiarism in Student Handbook), cheating (whether in or out of the classroom), and abuse or misuse of library materials when such abuse or misuse can be related to course requirements.”

5. Integrity and Classroom Etiquette

It has been shown that students who take hand written notes in class actually learn better. Computers/phones have a tendency to distract both the user and those sitting around them. This kills me as I am really into the digital mediums but it just hasn’t worked out with students in live classes over the last couple years. My apologies. If you must have use of these devices for academic purposes the front two rows will be reserved for those special exceptions.

This is a class in biblical studies. Integrity is at the heart of what is being

learned. Thus any cheating or plagiarism will result in an automatic failure of the whole course. If you are unclear what falls into the category of plagiarism check in the Student Handbook pp 8f. Gaming, surfing, texting, email reading/sending, tweeting, IM, YouTube, Facebook, etc. in the classroom are rude, distracting to others and unacceptable. Be wise. Here are a few comments on classroom etiquette. Class times are learning times for discussion, taking notes and interacting. The following activities are inappropriate inside the classroom context: talking to others outside of the class discussion flow, whispering, sleeping, hand-holding, touching and massaging another, un-civil comments or behaviors not conducive to the learning environment. Basically anything that is disruptive to the classroom instructional environment is not kosher. Students engaged in these activities will be asked to leave the classroom and must talk to the professor in person before being readmitted.

Gordon workload statement: For each semester hour of credit, students should expect to spend a minimum of 2-3 hours per week outside of class in engaged academic time. This time includes reading, writing, studying, completing assignments, lab work, or group projects, among other activities.

6. Extra Credit may be received (up to 5 points) by:

Extra credit projects may be earned: (up to 5%) email or talk with me to set this up. [Due by May 3]. The filling of new requests for such extra credit will cease on April 27th. Contact the professor via email or in person to set up your extra credit option.

- 1) This semester we will be working on outlining lecture series that are found on biblicalelearning.org or finishing the **transcribing the The Bible Project** presentations series. What this amounts to is transcribing those lectures (2 presentations = 5% [usually takes 5-7 hours]. There are also full lectures on Psalms and Ezekiel that will go at about 1 hour lecture to transcribe (5%). Talk to me as I'll need to set it up online for you. These will need to be word perfect and sign at the end affirming their accuracy.

Once the transcription process is completed we can work on putting section **titles and timings** (10-18 per lecture) for the various lectures online (talk to the prof. about which ones need doing).

If you are into **graphic design** and would like to do something along

the lines of crafting a psalm visually, etc. (reformatting our website to make it look more visually and useable) please talk to me early in the semester.

If you're a **Computer Sci.** person and want to play with fly thru's of Israel using Google Earth Pro tells talk. I'm also interested in developing games that teach OT content if you have any ideas and want to pursue development. If you want to explore **Unity 3D [C# programming]** and VR or Kolor PanoTour Pro (GoPro) or Engage VR by Immersive VR Education. Let me know as there are several things we can explore in that realm.

Another path would be to develop **your own fill-in-the-blank questions** for Gen. Ex., Numbers, Deut. or Joshua, Judges/Ruth. Talk to me if you'd like to pursue this option.

If you speak a foreign language fluently (**Chinese, Portuguese, Spanish, Korean, Japanese**) you could work on translation projects translating the class PowerPoints or some of the transcriptions.

If you get in trouble grade-wise in this course use extra to bail yourself out. If you're willing to work you can get the grade.

Extra credit is due by mid-night Tues May 1—plan ahead – late work on this will not be accepted. Hard deadline. No EC requests will be accepted after April 26.

7. **Students with Disabilities:** Students with disabilities who need academic accommodations must speak to professor and also inform him **in writing** regarding the nature of the disability and the request for specific accommodations within the first two weeks of class. Ann Seavey from the Academic Support Center must be made aware of and approve in writing the accommodations requested. Students are also responsible for making sure documentation of the disability is on file in the Academic Support Center. See Ann Seavey, Jenks 412 Ext 4746. Failure to register in time with the Professor and have the ASC approve the desired accommodations will compromise our ability to provide the desired accommodations.
8. **Honors option:** If a student receives over a 94 on the first exam and has maintained a 90 or better quiz average, s/he may request the honors option. The student will work on a project with the prof. related to the OT Web site, fitted to their interests, skills and possible options. This project will replace the final exam hereby easing your finals week preparations. Your

final exam score will be an average of your first and second exam. Talk to me if you'd like to do this option after you've taken the first exam. We also may be developing a series of fill-in the blank question sets for Gen. – Deut. As another option. This option must be requested no later than one week following the second exam.

9. Tentative Evaluation Percentages: generally I begin my curve with the following and then curve from there.

100-90 [A/A-]

89-80 [B+-B-]

79-70 [C+-C-]

69-65 [D]

65-0 [F]

Quizzes	30% [Generally quizzes every Thurs.]
3 Exams	70%

The weekly schedule for the course is found online. We will follow that schedule exactly as the course goes from week to week.

Vid. https://faculty.gordon.edu/hu/bi/ted_hildebrandt/

Course Requirements Summary:

Weekly Quizzes: will be over the stories from the biblical text, the reading of the various online articles and memory work. Use the OT Lit quizzier to prepare on the Bible content.

Exams: will be over the class discussions/notes and memory verses. Use the interactive video/quiz combo to pick up the questions which will appear on the exams.

Class attendance + Participation

Tentative Assignment Schedule is available online: Class instructions may modify these as we proceed through the material.

Final Exam Schedule:

For BCM101A: 3:00 class final will be on May 12 Tues. 2:30-4:30.

BCM101B: 1:15 class on May 13 Weds. 12:00-2:00.

You must take it with your designated class.

All Finals must be taken at the time scheduled by the registrar—no exceptions. **Make your flight plans accordingly.**

The weekly assignments and course materials can be found updated on our class web site:

https://faculty.gordon.edu/hu/bi/ted_hildebrandt/

Genesis Bible-robics

Creation days,
 Adam and Eve-n
 Garden of Eden,
 but just for a season
 Serpent and Sin
 Cain kills him
 Noah and the Flood
 Drunk and no bud
 Babel's tower
 Languages flower

Abram leaves Ur
 Sarah lies for sir
 God's promise,
 land, seed and blessing
 Abram's faith,
 he's now confessing
 Sodom and Gomorrah
 are no more-ah
 Hagar's the surrogate
 Ishmael barely gets
 Isaac's offered up
 God's ram's fired up

Jacob's birthright
 Jacob's ladder
 Jacob's chosen
 that's all that matters
 Jacob wrestles God at Peniel
 Gets 12 tribes -- Israel

Joseph's coated
 Sold to Egypt,
 then promoted
 Joseph's in prison
 Interprets dreams,
 To royalty he's risen
 Brothers to Egypt begging
 Evil to good
 – God's blessing

Exodus Bible-robics

Moses floats
 to Pharaoh's side
 Kills and flees
 to Sinai-ide

Yahweh's bush
 burns with fire
 Moses claims
 he can't inspire

Stick to snake
 Nile to blood
 Firstborn die
 no Passover blood

Red Sea splits
 shows God's glory
 Chariots sink,
 Sing that story!

Water from rock
 Manna on the lands
 10 commandments
 BIG LC SPAMS

Israel to Sinai
 Golden calf's busted
 Glory cloud to desert
 Tabernacle's constructed

BIG LC SPAMS—Ten Commandments
 No Blasphemy, Idols, other gods; [BIG]
 No Lying, Coveting [LC]
 No Stealing; Honor Parents, Adultery, Murder, Sabbath [SPAMS]

Framework of the Old Testament (10+1)

P-PEW C-JU D-ERA

P rimeval History:	Adam and Eve, Noah and the flood, Babel
P atriarchs:	Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph
E xodus:	Pharaoh and the Plagues, Moses and the Sea
W ilderness:	Covenant at Sinai, Tabernacle, manna
C onquest:	Joshua Jericho, divides the tribes
J udges:	Deborah/Barah, Gideon, Jephthah and Samson
U nited monarchy:	Kings Saul, David, Solomon, 40, 40, 40
D ivided Monarchy:	Kings of the north all bad (Ahab); kings of the south few good (Uzziah, Hezekiah, Josiah), North to Assyria; Prophets versus kings
E xile:	Judah goes to Babylon for 70 years, temple destroyed 586 BC, Daniel, Ezekiel
R eturn:	Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Jerusalem walls and temple rebuilt
A pocrypha:	Maccabees and Antiochus Epiphanes

5 Dates to know for the OT:

Abraham:	2000 B.C.
David:	1000 B.C.
Israel to Assyria:	722 B.C.
Judah to Babylon:	586 B.C. –temple destroyed
Malachi ends it:	400 B.C.