

## **BIBL 2202 – Story of the Old Testament**

Fall Term 2013 (Sept 30 – Dec 13)

MW 4:00-5:15pm

**Instructor:** Jason Swick, MA  
**Office Hours:** Thursday 9:00-12:00  
By appointment

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### **Course Description:**

This course explores God's story from creation through redemption by Christ. It will consider essential scriptures in connecting God's love, plan, and promises as revealed in the Old Testament and principles in interpreting these scriptures.

### **Course Objectives:**

1. Students will be able to describe the basic content of God's story for creation as revealed in the Old Testament.
2. Students will be able to identify the major themes of the Old Testament (problem of sin, covenant, obedience and blessing, exile, restoration and the hope for a Messiah) and how they relate to the Christian life.
3. Students will have the opportunity to develop their role in God's continuing story as they read much of the Old Testament and learn of God's love.

### **Required Texts: (Students should have both texts for every class meeting)**

1. ESV Study Bible, Crossway, 2008. **ISBN-13:** 978-1-4335-0241-5
2. Zondervan Handbook to the Bible, Zondervan, 3rd. ed., 1999. **ISBN:** 0-310-26271-2

### **Course Requirements**

#### **1. Attendance & Participation Policy (10%):**

Students are expected to attend and actively participate in discussions, debates, and/or other activities. Excellent participation requires near-perfect attendance and a demonstrated knowledge of assigned daily readings. Each unexcused absence will result in a 5% reduction in the final class grade as well as a zero on the quiz for that day. Excused absences include genuine sickness, University related absences (sports, performances, etc.), and genuine emergencies. For an absence to be excused a written note explaining the reason of the absence must be turned in within one week of the absence.

#### **2. Quizzes (20%):**

Quizzes, covering assigned readings, will be given at the beginning of each class meeting. These will assess your retention of the reading material and ensure thoughtful comments during the class time. The quizzes will be multiple-choice, short answer, and T/F.

#### **3. Memorizing Assigned Old Testament Passages (10%):**

The Old Testament is filled with God remembering His covenant with His people and the people needing to remember and dwell on the love of God, His covenant, and their purpose as children of God. It is also good for us to be in the habit of remembering important Old Testament passages by memorizing them and where they are located. Students will memorize three OT passages assigned during the term (see memorization guidelines for more details on the assignment).

#### **4. Old Testament Reaction Essay (20%):**

Students will write an essay that explores a specific story of the Old Testament and how it relates to one of the major themes of the OT and God's overall story. The essay must be a minimum of 5 full pages, double-spaced, and typed in a 12 point standard font and should use standard margins. The essay must not exceed 8 full pages. Possible topics and additional guidelines will be handed out in class.

#### **5. Exams (40%)**

The two exams will cover the readings, lectures, and class discussion. They will be multiple choice, matching, short answer, and essay. The MidTerm is worth 20% of the course grade. The final exam will be comprehensive and is also worth 20% of the course grade. Students must bring a blue essay book to the exams.

#### **Grading Scale:**

A = 100-90      B = 89-80      C = 79-70      D = 69-60      F = 59 and below

### **Course Policies**

#### **1. Academic Honesty Policy:**

Academic honesty is expected of all students. Any form of cheating, copying, or dishonesty is unacceptable. These include: helping another student on an exam or quiz, using unauthorized aids during exams and quizzes, falsely claiming authorship on an assignment, and plagiarizing material. Ultimately, this only hurts you as it destroys your opportunity to learn about God and grow as a disciple in this course.

Plagiarism is the use of another's words and/or ideas without giving the author the credit. If you have questions about this, go to the following webpage for a brief description with examples: [www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml](http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml). Academic dishonesty will result in a "0" for the assignment and following the process outlined in the current OC academic catalog.

#### **2. Late Work Policy:**

Assignments will be considered late if not turned in to me at the beginning of class on the day it is due. Assignments that are late will be deducted 5% of the grade for each day that it is late (excluding Saturdays). Work that is more than 7 days late will not be accepted for any points.

Exams: The opportunity to make up exams will not be granted automatically and are only available at my discretion. Make-up exams may be entirely essay. If the make-up exam is not completed within the specified time the student will receive a "0" for the exam. There are two legitimate reasons for missing an exam: extreme illness and urgent personal emergency. Both must be verified by an outside source (i.e. written doctor note). Please note that travel arrangements for holidays, attending weddings or family gatherings, or attending performances are *not* acceptable reasons for missing an exam.

#### **3. Classroom and Electronic Etiquette Policy:**

Students are expected to be on time to class and actively engaged to create a healthy learning environment. I view this as being respectful of both myself and your fellow students.

- a. Tardiness is disruptive and reduces your time for completing, or even taking the quiz.
- b. Cell phones are to be turned off. Texting and calls destroy a healthy learning environment.
- c. Laptops can be used for note-taking but NOT for surfing the web, email, completing assignments, or other distracting activities.

Engaging in disrespectful and distracting things during class will negatively impact your participation grade. You may also be asked to leave class.

**Mission Statement:** Courses taught in The Campbell Institute for Theological Education are accredited by Oklahoma Christian University. The mission statement of Oklahoma Christian University is “to be a premier Christian institution of higher learning and higher calling”.

**Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA/504) Statement:**

If you have a diagnosed disability and need special accommodations, please notify Amy Janzen (425-405-5907) before or immediately after your first scheduled class meeting. After your disability has been verified, I will work with you, with Amy Janzen, and with the Oklahoma Christian University Office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs to provide reasonable accommodations to ensure that you have a fair opportunity to perform in the course.

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