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OT 400 Old Testament Survey

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OT 400 – Old Testament Survey

Spring 1999

Time & Room of Class: 12:25-2:15 – Tuesdays – AD 305

Professor Michael D. Matlock

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Asbury Theological Seminary

1 Course Description

This course is designed to rapidly survey the Old Testament (hereafter OT) in order to acquaint the student with the geography, historical framework, persons, and the content of the books of the OT.

2 Objectives

- 2.1 To firmly understand the major characters, events, places, themes, and the purpose and message of each book of the OT
- 2.2 To communicate the major motifs of the OT by explaining how the parts relate to the whole picture
- 2.3 To gain an elementary understanding of the major theological themes in the OT
- 2.4 To provide the foundation for further study of the OT to equip students to more effectively preach and teach God's Word
- 2.5 To develop a love for the OT

3 Required Texts

Achtemeier, Paul J., and Elizabeth Achtemeier. The Old Testament Roots of Our Faith. rev. ed. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1994.

English Bible. (Any translation will do [e.g. RSV, NRSV, NASB, NIV] except a paraphrase [e.g. The New Living Translation].)

Hill, Andrew E., and John H. Walton. A Survey of the Old Testament. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1991.

Walton, John H. Chronological and Background Charts of the Old Testament. rev. ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1994.

4 Procedure and Evaluation of Students

- 4.1 Class sessions will follow a lecture format with discussion at the end and sometimes interspersed.
- 4.2 Every student is required to read the entire OT during the semester (see above for acceptable translations) and is therefore to turn in a weekly reading log to gauge reading progress (see below for an attached sheet).
- 4.3 The instructor will administer two exams, a midterm and a final. Both will be comprehensive up to the point of the exam.
- 4.4 The format of your response paper to the Achtemeiers' book should follow the following

guidelines. Your response should include the following four sections, single-spaced on two pages. The first section should fill the first page and the other three sections should be fairly evenly distributed on the second page. 1) A tight, clear abstract summary This is not a review, but the real essence boiled down to solid gold as good as the author could have done. Prove that you understand the book by giving a gut-level synopsis, not a commentary or list of topics 2) Concrete stories Write down in first person a life episode that this book may have triggered. Describe the action, quoting exact words you remember hearing or saying. 3) Reflection expressed as questions (?s) Do your critical and curiosity responses here as questions. What new questions popped up? Keep a rough note sheet at hand as you read. Make these questions real questions, not artfully contrived questions to make you look smart or clever. You might begin with "what bothers me about this chapter" or something along those lines. 4) Actions required What do I need to do because of my knowledge of this book? Be sure it requires your muscles now! Do not use this space to say "pray," "think," "read," or "reflect." Let this look like obedience first, questions later.

Breakdown of the Total Evaluation:

Class Participation/Attendance	5%
Read Achtemeiers' Book & Format Paper	5%
Reading Log	15%
Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	45%

5 Attendance

Attendance is required. More than 3 absences of any type will result in no credit for the class.

6 Weekly Assignments

Full participation is essential in order to obtain the learning goals of this course, so please be prepared ready to discuss by the beginning of class. Being prepared means you have read the required reading in the OT and the textbook. The instructor will monitor your progress by looking at your reading log each week. Failure to complete weekly reading assignments will result in 1 grade reduction of the final grade (e.g. A to A-, B+ to B).

7 Proposed Schedule

Week	Date	Lecture	OT Readings	Textbook
1	2/9	Prologue/ Genesis		H & W, 3-56
2	2/16	Genesis/ Exodus	Genesis, Exodus	H & W, 71-118
3	2/23	Leviticus/ Numbers	Leviticus, Numbers	H & W, 119-41
4	3/2	Deuteronomy Joshua/ Judges/ Ruth	Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth	H & W, 142-51 H & W, 155-86
5	3/9	1 & 2 Samuel 1 Chronicles	1 & 2 Samuel, 1 Chronicles	H & W, 187-200 H & W, 216-25
6	3/16	Reign of Solomon The Divided Kingdom The Northern Kingdom (Israel) The Fall of Israel	1 Kg. 1.1-11.43 2Ch. 1.1-9.31 1 Kg. 12.1-24 1 Kg. 12.25-14.20 1 Kg. 15.25-22.40 2 Kg. 1.1-8.15 2 Kg. 9.1-10.36 2 Kg. 13.1-25; 14.15-16, 23-29 2 Kg. 15.8-31; 17.1-41 Hosea, Amos, Jonah	H & W, 201-14 H & W, 309-18; 357-64; 370-76; 383-89
7	3/23	The Southern Kingdom (Judah)	1 Kg. 12.1-24 1Kg. 14.21-15.24 1 Kg. 22.41-50 2 Ch. 10.1-20.37 2 Kg. 8.16-29; 9.27-29 2 Kg. 11.1-12.21 2 Kg. 14.1-15.7 2 Ch. 21.1-26.23	
8	3/30	The Southern Kingdom	Isaiah 2 Kg. 15.32-16.20 2 Kg. 18.1-23.37 2 Ch. 27.1-35.27 Micah, Zephaniah, Nahum	H & W, 319-26 H & W, 390-99; 406-09
	4/5-9	READING	WEEK	
9	4/13	The Fall of Jerusalem	Jeremiah 2 Kg. 24.1-25.30 2 Ch. 36.1-23	H & W, 327-33

			Joel, Habakkuk	H & W, 365-69; 400-05
10	4/20	Psalms	Psalms 1-150	H & W, 247-62; 274-85
11	4/27	Proverbs/ Ecclesiastes/ Song of Songs	Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs	H & W, 286-306
12	5/4	Job/ Lamentations/ Ezekiel/ Obadiah	Job, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Obadiah	H & W, 263-73; 334-48; 377-82
13	5/11	Ezra/ Nehemiah/ Haggai/ Zechariah/ Esther/ Daniel/ Malachi	Ezra, Nehemiah, Haggai, Zechariah, Esther, Daniel Malachi	H & W, 228-37; 410-24; 238-43; 349-56; 425-31
14	5/18	FINAL	EXAM	

You may follow this alternative OT reading schedule:

<u>Week</u>	<u>Reading Assignment</u>
2	Gen. 1 – Exo. 26
3	Exo. 27 – Num. 16
4	Num. 17 – Jos. 6
5	Jos. 7 – 1 Sam. 17
6	1 Sam. 18 – 1 Kg. 17
7	1 Kg. 18 – 1 Ch. 29
8	2 Ch. 1 – Esther
9	Job 1 – Ps. 44 Ps. 45 – Ps. 142
10	Ps. 143 – Isa. 13
11	Isa. 14 – Jer. 6
12	Jer. 7 – Lam.
13	Eze. 1 – Dan.
14	Dan. 11 – Malachi

Reading Log

Indicate yes or no as to whether you have, or have not, completed the assigned weekly reading by circling the appropriate choice. The instructor will check your progress each week, so bring this log each class session.

<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>OT Reading</u>	<u>Hill & Walton</u>	<u>Signature</u>
2	2/16	Yes No	Yes No	_____
3	2/23	Yes No	Yes No	_____
4	3/2	Yes No	Yes No	_____
5	3/9	Yes No	Yes No	_____
6	3/16	Yes No	Yes No	_____
7	3/23	Yes No	Yes No	_____
8	3/30	Yes No	Yes No	_____
9	4/13	Yes No	Yes No	_____
10	4/20	Yes No	Yes No	_____
11	4/27	Yes No	Yes No	_____
12	5/4	Yes No	Yes No	_____
13	5/11	Yes No	Yes No	_____
14	5/18	Yes No	(Alter. track)	_____