

## **CHRI 1313-02 & -11 OLD TESTAMENT**

*Fall 2015*

Department of Theology

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

*A course designed to introduce the student to the Old Testament and to provide an understanding of the history, institutions, and theological insights of the Hebrew people.*

Old Testament (CHRI 1313) is a freshman level course required for graduation from Houston Baptist University. This course is a prerequisite for all Christianity courses except 1323.

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Name: Phillip Marshall

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Office Location: Atwood 1, #234

Office Hours: WF 10:00am-11:00am; otherwise, we can meet by appointment

Web Page Addresses:

HBUS <http://www.hbu.edu/Choosing-HBU/Academics/Colleges-Schools/School-of-Christian-Thought/Departments/Department-of-Classics-and-Biblical-Languages/Faculty/Phillip-Marshall.aspx>

Personal <http://BiblicalLanguages.net/>

### **LEARNING RESOURCES**

Course Text(s):

*Holy Bible, English Standard Version (ESV). Classic Pew & Worship Edition.* Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2002. ISBN 1-58134-379-5 [ESV]

Walton, John H., and Andrew E. Hill. *Old Testament Today: A Journey from Ancient Context to Contemporary Relevance.* 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2014. ISBN: 978-0310498209 [OTT]

Walton, John H. *A Survey of the Old Testament Laminated Sheet.* Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007. ISBN: 0310273188

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

#### Overview/ Purpose of the course

The course will view the Old Testament from historical, theological, textual, and social perspectives. Because of the volume of the material in the Old Testament, the materials to be covered in more detail will be selective. Pivotal events and passages will be given more attention. The instructor intends to guide the student toward achieving an overall grasp of the Old Testament as well as a greater understanding of the pivotal events and teachings of the Old Testament material. The course aims to instill an appreciation for Old Testament history and theology and encourage students to continue reading and study of the Old Testament beyond the course requirements. It is hoped that the theology encountered in the study will help students as they plan to live in a manner to benefit themselves and others.

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Articulate the basic “story” of the OT and the history of Israel
2. Identify key figures and events in the OT and place them correctly on a timeline
3. Summarize and discuss the worldview of the ancient near East and the position of Israel’s traditions vis-à-vis that worldview
4. Describe the various literary/theological genres present in the OT (law, narrative, prophecy, psalm, apocalypse, etc.) and discuss the different interpretive approaches required by each genre

## **RELATION TO THE MISSION OF THE UNIVERSITY**

*Mission statement: The mission of Houston Baptist University is to provide a learning experience that instills in students a passion for academic, spiritual, and professional excellence as a result of our central confession, “Jesus Christ is Lord.”*

This course seeks to provide an educational atmosphere which fosters academic excellence, freedom of thought, moral and spiritual development of students, and the enrichment of life through the Christian faith and message.

## **RELATION TO THE SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN THOUGHT GOALS**

*The mission of the School of Christian Thought is to serve and equip the Church; to provide students with foundational knowledge in philosophy, theology, and apologetics through reading and engagement with the ideas and languages of classic and biblical texts; to challenge students to display sound reasoning, to communicate clearly, and to demonstrate effective research skills; and to foster both intellectual and spiritual growth as students and faculty alike seek to glorify God in all things.*

This course is designed to support the mission of the School of Christian Thought by teaching students how to read ancient texts literarily, historically, socially, and theologically.

## **RELATION TO DEPARTMENTAL GOALS AND PURPOSES**

*The mission of the Department of Theology is to provide students with a foundation in the classical theological disciplines, facilitate intellectual and spiritual growth, and equip individuals in skills essential to Christian ministry.*

In line with the mission of the Department of Theology, this course serves as a basic introductory course, a literary and interpretative survey of the Old Testament, necessary for all of the other studies in the department major. The course gives the students opportunity to grow in the Christian faith and to develop in service to community and church.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Please see the official Attendance Policy in the HBU Classroom Policy on Blackboard. Students missing more than 25% of the class will be given a failing grade.

See also below under “Course Requirements” for the Professor’s attendance requirements for this particular course.

## ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

Students needing learning accommodations should inform the professor immediately and consult the Academic Accommodations section of the HBU Classroom Policy posted on Blackboard.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS & GRADE SCALE

### Course Requirements

1. The student is expected to attend all class meetings, participate in class discussions, take notes on lecture, and meet the requirements of the course as indicated by the professor or instructor, this syllabus, and the assignments given. You are permitted to be absent 4 times without penalty. After that, each absence will result in reducing the final grade by one-fourth of a letter grade.
2. Evaluation will be made from daily quizzes primarily covering basic factual knowledge of the Biblical texts assigned (from ESV), and some questions from the textbook (OTT). Please note: *students are required to bring their own Scan-Tron sheets and pencils to class for the weekly quizzes; any quizzes not taken in the proper format will receive no credit.* The two lowest quizzes will be dropped in determining the final grade. The quiz score average will constitute 60% of the final grade.
3. A midterm examination and a final examination will each constitute 20% of the final grade. See “Topical Outline” for examination dates.

### Grading Standards

The grade scale for the Department of Theology is: A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (60-69), F (59 and below).

## LATE WORK & TEST POLICY

Late work will only be allowed with the permission of the instructor.

Make-up exams will be given in the event of illness, death in the immediate family, official participation in events representing the university or with prior permission from the professor. **Make-up tests for quizzes will not be given, since the two lowest quizzes will be dropped anyway.**

## TOPICAL OUTLINE

Note: The actual chapters to be read from each of the assigned biblical books of the ESV Bible below may be found in the documents entitled “Reading Assignments for . . .” found at my BiblicalLanguages website page here:

<http://biblicallanguages.net/biblical-studies-courses-i-teach/old-testament-survey/>

Class Mtg		Lecture Topics	Reading Schedule	Assessment
M	8/24	Syllabus; Introduction to the OT Course	OTT Ch. 1	
W	8/26	Introduction to OT: Inspiration, Canon, & Transmission of the OT	OTT Ch. 1	
F	8/28	Introduction to OT: Inspiration, Canon, & Transmission of the OT	OTT Ch. 1	Quiz #1
M	8/31	Introduction to OT: Inspiration, Canon, & Transmission of the OT	OTT Ch. 2.1 Genesis 1-11 (ESV)	
W	9/2	Introduction to OT: Geography and History of the OT	OTT Ch. 2.2 Genesis 12-50 (ESV)	
F	9/4	Introduction to OT: Geography and History of the OT	OTT Ch. 2.3 (Gen)	Quiz #2
M	9/7	NO CLASS: Labor Day		
W	9/9	Introduction to Pentateuch: Survey of Pentateuch; Authorship of Pentateuch	OTT Ch. 2.3 (Exod) Exodus (ESV)	Sept 9: Last date to drop without a "W"
F	9/11	Introduction to Pentateuch: Survey of Pentateuch; Authorship of Pentateuch	OTT Ch. 2.3 (Exod) Exodus (ESV)	Quiz #3
M	9/14	Introduction to Pentateuch: Documentary Hypothesis	OTT Ch. 2.3 (Lev) Leviticus (ESV)	
W	9/16	Introduction to Pentateuch: Documentary Hypothesis	OTT Ch. 2.3 (Lev) Leviticus (ESV)	
F	9/18	Pentateuch	OTT Ch. 2.3 (Lev) Leviticus (ESV)	Quiz #4
M	9/21	Pentateuch	OTT Ch. 2.3 (Num) Numbers (ESV)	
W	9/23	Pentateuch	OTT Ch. 2.3 (Num) Numbers (ESV)	
F	9/25	Pentateuch	OTT Ch. 2.3 (Num) Numbers (ESV)	Quiz #5
M	9/28	Pentateuch	OTT Ch. 2.3 (Deut) Deuteronomy (ESV) OTT Ch. 2.4	
W	9/30	Pentateuch	OTT Ch. 2.3 (Deut) Deuteronomy (ESV) OTT Ch. 2.4	
F	10/2	Pentateuch	OTT Ch. 2.3 (Deut) Deuteronomy (ESV) OTT Ch. 2.4	Quiz #6
M	10/5	Pentateuch	OTT Ch. 3.1 Joshua (ESV)	
W	10/7	Pentateuch	OTT Ch. 3.2 Joshua (ESV)	
F	10/9	Pentateuch	OTT Ch. 3.3 (Josh) Joshua (ESV)	Quiz #7

	10/12			MIDTERM EXAM
W	10/14	Historical Books	OTT Ch. 3.3 (Judg & Ruth) Judges & Ruth (ESV)	
F	10/16	NO CLASS: Fall Break	OTT Ch. 3.3 (Judg & Ruth) Judges & Ruth (ESV)	
M	10/19	Historical Books	OTT Ch. 3.3 (1-2 Sam) 1 Samuel (ESV)	Quiz #8 (Judg/Ruth)
W	10/21	Historical Books	OTT Ch. 3.3 (1-2 Sam) 1 Samuel (ESV)	
F	10/23	Historical Books	OTT Ch. 3.3 (1-2 Sam) 1 Samuel (ESV)	Quiz #9
M	10/26	Historical Books	OTT Ch. 3.3 (1-2 Sam) 2 Samuel (ESV)	THANKSGIVING BREAK (Nov 22-23)
W	10/28	Historical Books	OTT Ch. 3.3 (1-2 Sam) 2 Samuel (ESV)	
F	10/30	Historical Books	OTT Ch. 3.3 (1-2 Sam) 2 Samuel (ESV)	Oct 30: Last date to drop with a "W" Quiz #10
M	11/2	Poetic/Wisdom Books	OTT Ch. 3.3 (1-2 Ki) 1 & 2 Kings (ESV)	
W	11/4	Poetic/Wisdom Books	OTT Ch. 3.3 (1-2 Ki) 1 & 2 Kings (ESV)	
F	11/6	Poetic/Wisdom Books	OTT Ch. 3.3 (1-2 Ki) 1 & 2 Kings (ESV)	Quiz #11
M	11/9	Poetic/Wisdom Books	OTT Ch. 3.3 (1-2 Chr) 1 & 2 Chronicles (ESV) OTT Ch. 3.4	
W	11/11	Poetic/Wisdom Books	OTT Ch. 3.3 (1-2 Chr) 1 & 2 Chronicles (ESV) OTT Ch. 3.4	
F	11/13	Poetic/Wisdom Books	OTT Ch. 3.3 (1-2 Chr) 1 & 2 Chronicles (ESV) OTT Ch. 3.4	Quiz #12
M	11/16	Poetic/Wisdom Books	OTT Ch. 3.3 (Ez/Neh/Esth) Ezra, Nehemiah & Esther (ESV) OTT Ch. 3.4	
W	11/18	Poetic/Wisdom Books	OTT Ch. 3.3 (Ez/Neh/Esth) Ezra, Nehemiah & Esther (ESV) OTT Ch. 3.4	
F	11/20	Prophets	OTT Ch. 3.3 (Ez/Neh/Esth) Ezra, Nehemiah & Esther (ESV) OTT Ch. 3.4	Quiz #13
M	11/23	Prophets	OTT Ch. 5 (all) Psalms, Proverbs, & Job (ESV)	
W	11/25	Prophets	OTT Ch. 5 (all) Psalms, Proverbs, & Job (ESV)	

	11/27	NO CLASS: Thanksgiving	OTT Ch. 5 (all) Psalms, Proverbs, & Job (ESV)	
M	11/30	Prophets	OTT Ch. 4 (all) Isaiah 1-7, 40; Jeremiah 1-4, 31-33; Micah 1-7 (ESV)	Quiz #14 (based on readings from prior week)
W	12/2	Prophets	OTT Ch. 4 (all) Isaiah 1-7, 40; Jeremiah 1-4, 31-33; Micah 1-7 (ESV)	
F	12/4	Prophets	OTT Ch. 6	Last Day of Class Quiz #15
<b>TBA</b>	<b>TBA</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM (Dec 8-11)</b>	Finals schedule will be posted later in semester	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>

The content of this outline and the attached schedule are subject to change at the discretion of the professor.

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Student Signature – I have read and understand the syllabus for this class. I understand that the content of this syllabus and the topical outline are subject to change at the discretion of the professor. I have read and understand the HBU Classroom Policy posted on Black Board. **I promise to uphold the Code of Academic Integrity at Houston Baptist University and will not tolerate its violation by others.**