Course name: OT631x - Old Testament Theology  
Instructor: Dr. Thom South  
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Fall 2012  

Course Description: Old Testament Theology is a study of the basic theological concepts presented in the Old Testament and the various methods and approaches to the study of Old Testament Theology. The question of the “center” or main thrust of the Old Testament and/or its relationship to the New Testament and New Testament Theology is discussed. The major doctrines of the Old Testament will be covered in a chronological/textual order.

Required Textbooks:


Course Objectives: As a result of this class the student should:
1. Gain an appreciation for the Old Testament as a revelation from God.
2. Understand the distinction of biblical (OT) theology as an academic discipline and trace the history of the biblical theology movement.
3. Become familiar with authors from a variety of backgrounds who wrote concerning OT Theology.
4. Understand the theology presented in the OT as it is distinct from and related to that presented in the NT.
5. Be able to discuss the evidence of progressive revelation in the OT.
6. Identify the distinctive doctrines presented in the various parts/times of the OT.
6. Express the theological content of the OT through preaching and/or teaching.

Course Requirements:
1. Attendance: The student is expected to be present at the starting time for each class. Because of the amount of material covered each week it is necessary for the student to be present each week and prepared for each class by completing the weekly reading assignments. Any student who misses over two class periods will have their final grade lowered accordingly.
2. Weekly quizzes: Brief objective exams will be given at the beginning of class each week over the reading assignments from the textbook(s) and/or key passages of biblical materials. The weekly reading assignment from the textbook is provided in the tentative course schedule and may be supplemented by materials assigned that correspond to the topics for each week. No make-up will be given on these weekly quizzes. A student may miss two of the quizzes without penalty. The quizzes will be worth 100 points of the final grade.
3. Three unit exams: See class schedule for dates and content. Each exam is worth 100 points.
4. Parallel Reading: In addition to the textbooks, students will be required to do parallel reading from books listed in the bibliography (or approved by the Professor). At least 1000 pages of outside reading will be required from at least 5 sources. This reading will be reported at three intervals with approximately 400 pages reported at each interval. See the class schedule for the due dates for the reading reports. The reports should be in written form and one-half to one double-spaced typed page for each 100 pages read. Up to 300 pages of extra outside reading (above the 1000 required) may be included in the reading reports for a bonus of up to 3 percentage points on the final grade. Parallel reading reports are worth 100 total of final grade.

Bibliography: A bibliography for parallel reading sources is provided below. The bibliographies in text books and in Ralph L Smith, *Old Testament Theology: Its History, Method, and Message* (Broadman & Holman, 1993) may also be consulted for reading resources. The book list is not exhaustive and appropriate reading may come from other sources. Students are encouraged to consult scholarly journals for articles related to Old Testament Theology to become aware of current issues in Old Testament studies. A list of suggested journals which often contain articles related to OT Theology is provided at the end of the bibliography list.

Grades: 500 - 455 = A  454 - 405 = B  404 - 355 = C  354 - 305 =D  Below 305 = F

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE and weekly reading assignments

Week 1  Introduction to Course; Introduction to OT Theology (Merrill pp. 1-4; Hasel pp. 1-9, 194-208)
Week 2  History of OT Theology (Hasel pp. 10-27; Merrill pp. 4-22)
Week 3  Nature & Method of OT Theology (Merrill pp. 22-33; Hasel pp. 28-114)
Week 4  Center of OT Theology  (Hasel pp. 139-208)
Week 5  EXAM 1// Knowing God (Merrill pp. 37-74) *FIRST Reading Report due.*
Week 6  Revelation, Works and Purposes of God  (Merrill pp. 75-162)
Week 7  Creation of Man; Image of God (Merrill pp. 163-178)
Week 8  Sin and Salvation (Merrill pp. 199-250)
Week 9  Creation of a Nation (Merrill pp. 251-276)
Week 10 Exam 2// Worship and Glory of God  *SECOND Reading Report due*
Week 11 Kingdom of God  (Merrill pp. 277-382)
Week 12 Deuteronomic covenant and history (Merrill pp. 383-426)
Week 12 The Kingdom of David (Merrill pp. 427-488)

Week 13  Prophets and Prophecy (Merrill pp.481-565)
Week 14  Poetry & Wisdom Literature (Merrill pp.569-651)  *FINAL Reading Report due*

Week 15  Exam 3 - Final Exam
**Miscellaneous Information**
Due date - All written assignments are due on the date assigned. Any work turned in late will be lowered a minimum of one letter grade. No work will be accepted more than one week late.
Cell phones and pagers should be turned off during class.

**Old Testament Theology**

**SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY**


Eakin, Frank E., Jr. *The Religion and Culture of Israel: An Introduction to Old Testament...*


1965.


THEOLOGICAL JOURNALS containing articles related to Old Testament Theology

Bulletin for Biblical Research  Journal of Biblical Literature
Biblica  Journal of Bible and Religion
Bibliotheca Sacra  Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society
Catholic Biblical Quarterly  Journal of Jewish Studies
Evangelical Quarterly  Journal of New Eastern Studies
Expository Times  Journal of Old Testament Studies
Journal of American Oriental Society
Journal for the Study of the Old Testament
Journal of Semitic Studies
Journal of Theological Studies
Revue Biblique
Restoration Quarterly
Studia Theologica
Theologische Literaturzeitung
Tyndale Bulletin
Vetus Testamentum
Westminster Theological Journal
Zeitschrift fur die altestamentliche Wissenschaft
Zeitschrift fur Theologie and Kirche