Course Number & Title: OT631c - Old Testament Theology
Instructor: Dr. Thom South
Course dates: May 25-July 17, 2015

Student Access to Instructor: The instructor invites and encourages students to contact him regarding their academic assignments or other life issues during the course. If some academic modification, instructional procedure adjustment, or course material alteration is needed for your success, please inform the instructor of the process required. The instructor’s hours are flexible to meet your scheduling requirements or individual needs.

Primary contact with the instructor will be through Moodle messages. Here’s how: Click the participants section of the course; choose the instructor’s name; scroll to the end of the biographical information; choose the tab of messages; type your message; click send message. The instructor will respond to your messages via Moodle.

If more immediate contact is necessary you may contact the instructor via phone, email or skype (phone: 501-607-1234; email: thom.south@bmats.edu; Skype: dr.t.south). Phone and skype contact should be between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. Central Time.

2 Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA)
Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary supports the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students requiring accommodations for classes are responsible for contacting the Dean’s Office located in the main administration building on the central campus. This service is available to all students regardless of their location. Reasonable accommodations will be given in accordance with the federal and state laws though the Dean’s Office. Contact the Dean’s Office in the main administration building in person or:
by mail: Post Office Box 670 (1530 East Pine Street) Jacksonville, TX 75766-5407
by phone: 800/259-5673
by email: bmatsem@bmats.edu
Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary is dedicated to helping all students we serve to achieve their Christian, educational, and life goals.

Catalog Course Description: Basic theological concepts in the Old Testament and various methods of approach to the Old Testament are explored. 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.

Extended Course Description: The distinct discipline of Biblical (Old Testament) Theology is traced in its historical development. The major doctrines of the Old Testament are explored in a chronological/canonical order.
Required Textbooks:


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>Course Objectives and Content</th>
<th>Textbook Chapters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| PART ONE     | Introduction to Old Testament Theology | Hasel
               |                                | Merrill chapter 1               |
| PART TWO     | God and Man                    | Merrill chapters 2-8            |
| PART THREE   | Nation of 3Israel and the Kingdom of God | Merrill chapters 9-14          |

After completion of this section the student will:
- Have an appreciation for the Old Testament as a revelation from God.
- Understand the distinction of biblical (OT) theology as an academic discipline and trace the history of the biblical theology movement.
- Become familiar with authors from a variety of backgrounds who wrote concerning OT Theology.
- Understand the theology presented in the OT as it is distinct from and related to that presented in the NT.
- Be able to discuss the evidence of progressive revelation in the OT.
- Identify the methods of doing Old Testament.
- Understand the difficulty of identifying a center of Old Testament.

After completion of this section the student will be able to:
- Describe how God is revealed in the Old Testament.
- Relate the works of God to His purposes and sovereignty.
- Explain the sequence of the creation, fall into sin, and redemption of mankind as presented in the Old Testament.
- Discuss the sovereignty of God in relation to the development of the nation of Israel.
- Appreciate the progressive revelation of God in His providential care for the nation of Israel.
- Show the contribution of the historical books to the overall purpose of the Old Testament
- See how the Kingdom of Israel presents the truth of God and his saving purpose for mankind

**PART FOUR**

**Prophecy, Poetry and Worship of Old Testament**

Merrill chapters 15-20

After completion of this section the student will be able to:
- Identify the distinctive doctrines presented in the prophetic and poetical books of the Old Testament
- Be able to express the theological content of the OT through preaching and/or teaching.

---

**Course Requirements:**

1. **Reading**
   - *Required Texts* - The required texts should be read according to the course schedule which lists the specific chapters and/or pages in the textbooks to be read each week. The weekly quizzes will be based on the reading assignments for each week.
   - *Bible* – While no specific reading assignments are required from the Bible, students should review biblical passages related to the material being discussed with each lesson.
   - *Reading Reports* on assigned reading should be submitted each week. Each report should include the reading assignments as presented in the class schedule: textbook pages read and extra reading related to the topic(s) for that session. In addition to the pages read, the report should contain 1-2 paragraphs describing one insight or truth from the reading which stands out or gives a new insight to the student. These reports will be submitted through Moodle.

2. **Exams**
   - Four exams will be given, one for each division of the course. The class schedule indicates for the approximate times for the exams.

3. **Parallel Reading**:
   - In addition to the textbooks, students will be required to do parallel reading from resources listed in the bibliography (or approved by the Professor). At least 600 pages of outside reading is required from at least 4 different sources. This reading will be reported at four intervals with approximately 150 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 200 pages of extra outside reading
(above the 600 required) may be included in the reading reports for a bonus of up to 30 points on the final grade. Parallel reading reports are worth 200 total points of the final grade.

**Bibliography:** A bibliography for parallel reading sources is provided at the end of this syllabus. The bibliographies in the text books and in Ralph L Smith, *Old Testament Theology: Its History, Method, and Message* (Broadman & Holman, 1993) will be helpful in selecting 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.

Resources for the parallel reading assignment can be obtained from the Kellar Library on the campus of BMATS. Access to the library can be made through the seminary web page ([www.bmats.edu](http://www.bmats.edu)). These resources can be mailed to those who live too great a distance from Jacksonville, Texas to visit the library personally. Please plan ahead and allow time for the sources to be mailed. These resources also may be found in other libraries. It is the responsibility of the student to locate and access the necessary resources to complete this assignment.

4. Discussion Forums

Throughout the course the student will have opportunity to interact with other students by answering questions posted in the forum and responding to posts by other students. A minimum of ten forum posts in response to forum questions is required of each student. Additionally, a minimum of 10 replies to other students is required, at least one for each forum topic. Answer the question with a well thought out answer. Your post should be approximately 100 words and indicate that you have read materials related to the topic and analyzed the issue to develop a response. Questions in the forums will not necessarily have right and wrong answers but are designed to stimulate thinking and analysis of issues in Old Testament Theology studies and provide opportunity for the student to develop skills in presentation of ideas. An original response to the forum questions should be posted with sufficient time for other students to have opportunity to read and respond in the time-frame of the topic session. At least one reply to another student must be made for each discussion forum question. You are encouraged to read all the posts by other students. You may reply to more than one student for each forum, but only one will be considered for grading. Forums will remain open after the due date, and continued discussion is encouraged when the discussion contributes to the understanding of the issue. Being argumentative or abusive will cause the forum to be closed.

All replies should be insightful and contribute to the discussion of the topic. Rude, indecent, or derogatory remarks will not be tolerated. If you disagree with another student’s post, you do not have to attack the student or be disrespectful. Disagree without being disagreeable. Note that you are encouraged to reply to more than one student and engage in discussions on the various topics. However, only one reply will be used for grading purposes and must be posted by the due date to receive credit.

All posts (original posts and responses) should be well thought out, organized and with proper grammar and spelling. Poorly written postings distract from the content of the writing. It is recommended that the posts and interactions be written off-line in a word processing program so that they can be edited and then pasted into the forum.

Grading of the Discussion Forum posts will be according to the forum grading rubric on the last page of this syllabus. Please read through the rubric to become familiar with expectations for both the answer and responses in the discussion forums.
Grading:
Grades will be determined by:
7Four Tests (400 points, 100 points each)
Parallel Reading reports (200 points, 50 points report)
Weekly Reading reports (140 points -20 points per weekly report)
Discussion Forums (150 points (15 points per forum: 10 points for your answer to the discussion question and 5 points for your required response to other students).
Course Contract (10 points)
Total points possible: 900

8A – 900 - 810  D – 629 - 540
B – 809 - 720  F – 539 and below
C – 719 - 630

Opportunities may be offered throughout the course for bonus points through extra reading or posts in the discussion forums.
First bonus opportunity to receive 5 bonus points: open the first forum and introduce yourself by sharing information about you and your family, what you are doing in ministry, and what you hope to do with your seminary degree.

Student Identification Verification
9VERY IMPORTANT:
• Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary makes use of BioSig-ID to ensure your student identity. BioSig-ID is biometric signature identification.
• You will be required to sign in with your BioSig password several times during the course to verify your identity.

All students (whether new or RETURNING) need to create a password. Here’s how:
• Go to bmats.zendesk.com/home to view the BMATS information page.
• Choose Click here to see a video on how the NEW BioSig-ID version works
• The site has a help desk for other links if you encounter problems or want to submit a ticket for further help.

When you create your student identification (password):
• View the example video several times.
• Keep it simple.
• Make it memorable.
• Write it down.

Class Schedule
Note that this is NOT a self-paced class. The student is required to submit weekly reading reports and other weekly assignments will be made. All work must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. Saturday to receive full credit for the week. Work submitted after Saturday will be considered late and will either have points deducted or not be accepted. Any work turned in late will be lowered a minimum of one letter grade. No work will be accepted more than one week late. All written reports and student assignments must be turned in by 11:59 p.m. July 17, 2015.
No written work will be accepted after that date except the final exam. Notice that written assignments for the final week will be due by Friday instead of Saturday.

It is important for the student to keep up and not get behind. Discussion forums may remain open beyond the Sunday deadline, but only posts submitted by that deadline will be considered for grading.

**LACK OF ENGAGEMENT:** Online courses are designed for the student to participate promptly and become fully engaged in the course work to ensure successful completion of the course. This includes completion of all assignments in a timely manner. The instructor will follow the current Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary Student Handbook (page 3) process of assigning the grade of “F” if the student fails to participate or engage in the course. Because this is a summer concentrated course of only 8 weeks it is imperative that you engage several times each week to complete the requirements for the course.

**INSTRUCTOR DISCRETION:** The instructor reserves the right of final decision in course requirements and grade.

**Weekly reading assignment Schedule**

**PART 1 - Introduction to OT Theology**

Week 1  Introduction to OT Theology (Merrill pp. 1-4; Hasel pp. 1-9, 194-208)  
History of OT Theology (Merrill pp. 4-22; Hasel pp. 10-27)

Week 2  Issues of OT Theology (Merrill pp. 22-33, 641-651; Hasel pp. 28-114)  
Center of OT Theology (Merrill pp. 646-648; Hasel pp. 139-208) Exam 1

**PART 2 - God and Man**

Week 3  Knowing God (Merrill pp. 37-100)  
Works and Purposes of God (Merrill pp.101-162)

Week 4  Creation of Man; the Image of God (Merrill pp. 163-197)  
Sin and Salvation (Merrill pp. 199-250) Exam 2

**PART 3 - The Nation of Israel and the Kingdom of David**

Week 5  Creation of a Nation (Merrill pp. 251-323)  
God and Israel (Worship) (Merrill pp. 325-411)

Week 6  Deuteronomistic History and the Kingdom of David (Merrill pp. 413-464)  
The Post-exilic Record (Merrill pp. 465-488) Exam 3

**PART 4 - Poetry, Prophecy in the Old Testament**

Week 7  Prophets and Prophecy (Merrill pp.491-565)  
Poetry & Wisdom Literature (Merrill pp.569-651)

Week 8  Final Exam

**ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE SPRING 2013**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSIGNMENT DUE</th>
<th>WHAT IT’S WORTH (points)</th>
<th>WHEN IT’S DUE</th>
<th>WHEN IT WILL APPEAR ON MOODLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Contract</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>May 28</td>
<td>May 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion bonus</td>
<td>5 (bonus)</td>
<td>May 28</td>
<td>May 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Reading Report 1</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>May 30</td>
<td>May 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Forum 1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Forum Reply 1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Reading Report 2</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Forum 2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>June 6</td>
<td>May 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Forum Reply 2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Forum 3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>June 6</td>
<td>May 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Forum 3 Reply</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Parallel Reading Report</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>June 8</td>
<td>May 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Reading Report 3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Forum 4</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>June 13</td>
<td>June 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Forum Reply 4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Forum 5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>June 13</td>
<td>June 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Forum Reply 5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Forum 6</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>June 20</td>
<td>June 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Forum Reply 6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Reading Report 4</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>June 20</td>
<td>June 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Parallel Reading Report</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>June 22</td>
<td>June 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Reading Report 5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Forum 7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>June 27</td>
<td>June 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Forum Reply 7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Points</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Submission Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Forum 8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>July 4</td>
<td>June 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Forum Reply 8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Reading Report 11</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Forum 9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>July 4</td>
<td>June 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Forum Reply 9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Reading Report 6</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Parallel Reading Report</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>July 4</td>
<td>June 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 3</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>July 6</td>
<td>June 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Reading Report 7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Forum 10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>July 11</td>
<td>Nov 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Forum Reply 10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth Parallel Reading Report</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>July 17</td>
<td>July 12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL POINTS** 900

### Old Testament Theology

**SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY**


Abingdon Press, 1918.


THEOLOGICAL JOURNALS containing articles related to Old Testament Theology

*Bulletin for Biblical Research*
*Biblica*
*Bibliotheca Sacra*
*Catholic Biblical Quarterly*
Evangelical Quarterly
Expository Times
Journal of American Oriental Society
Journal of Biblical Literature
Journal of Bible and Religion
Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society
Journal of Jewish Studies
Journal of New Eastern Studies
Journal of Old Testament Studies
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 für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft
Zeitschrift für Theologie and Kirche
### Rubric for answers to Discussion Forums

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>No response to the question, or no substantive reply to the question.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Responds with personal opinions without examples or citations or explanations of concepts involved in the question.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Response is substantive and indicates an understanding of issues involved in the question, <strong>summarizes relevant course concepts with insights into the issues, and uses references from the textbook to support the answer.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Responds with a substantive understanding of the issues, summarizes course concepts involved using textbook references, <strong>offers additional insights into the issues using relevant references</strong>, and/or <strong>shows the relevance of the issue by supplying personal or real-world application of the concepts</strong>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Responds with a substantive understanding of the issues, summarizes course concepts involved, offers insights into the issues related to the question, gives citations from the textbook to support the response, uses relevant references, applies relevant personal or real-world experiences, <strong>offers insights or raises questions for further discussion</strong>, and <strong>indicates research into the issue in academic resources in addition to the textbook.</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Rubric for responses to other students in the Discussion Forums

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>No reply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Reply with statement of agreement or disagreement with little substantive addition to what other student contributed. Simply says “I agree,” “I like your point,” or similar non-substantive statements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Reply includes substantive reasons for agreement/disagreement with student response. (Substantive means you say more than just you like the way it is stated or you had not thought of that before.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Reply includes substantive reasons for agreement/disagreement and <strong>adds references from textbook for support or in answer to the issues.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Reply with substantive insight as a result of using references from the textbook or <strong>academic references in addition to the textbook, and/or provides real-world or personal experiences which relate to the question and help provide understanding to the issues.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 points</td>
<td>Replies with substantive insights, or questions with references from textbook and/or academic references in addition to the textbook for support or in answer to the issues, and/or provides real-world or personal experiences which relate to the question and help provide understanding to the issues, and <strong>adds</strong> additional insight or raises related questions not addressed in the original post which leads to further discussion.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>