

The John Leland Center for Theological Studies, Hampton Roads Center

B 1301: Old Testament Introduction 1

Fall Semester 2010, Mondays 6.00 pm – 7.40 pm

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Course Description

This course is a general introduction to the Hebrew Bible, covering its literature, methods of interpretation, and selected questions of critical study.

Textbooks

The Bible. Any modern standard scholarly translation is acceptable. One of the following NRSV study Bibles is recommended highly:

The HarperCollins Study Bible
The New Interpreter's Study Bible
The New Oxford Annotated Bible

Anderson, Bernhard W., Steven Bishop, and Judith H. Newman. *Understanding the Old Testament*. 5th ed. Prentice Hall, 2006. ISBN 0-13-092380-X.

Course Objectives

At the completion of the course, the successful student will be able to demonstrate:

- an understanding of the social and religious environment of the OT world.
- a familiarity with the literary and theological contents of the OT documents.
- an understanding of selected issues in the critical study of the OT.

Course Requirements

1. Read the primary texts (selected portions of the OT), secondary text assignments, and participate in class discussions.
2. Successfully complete a midterm examination.
3. Write an 8-10 page paper on an approved topic relevant to the study of the Old Testament.
4. Successfully complete a final examination.