

CST 1011 Survey of Old the Testament

Online Syllabus

Shorter University Instructor Information

See link in Canvas.

Course Information

- Course: Survey of the Old Testament □ Section:
- Course Number: CST 1011ONLH
- Credit Hours: 3
- Prerequisites: none

Course Description

This course is a survey of the content of the Old Testament in its historical and cultural settings, with a particular emphasis upon its relevance for today. Themes such as canonicity, historicity, inspiration, and textual issues will be introduced to the student.

Student Outcomes

By the end of this course students will be able to:

- Recall the purposes and themes of the books of the Old Testament
 - Recognize with the major characters of the Old Testament
 - Identify important locations in Israel and the ancient world
 - Recall the chronological framework of the Old Testament
 - Understand God as he is revealed in the Old Testament
 - Employ methodological approaches to the specialized genres of biblical books found in the Old Testament
 - Understand some of the important aspects of interpretation of the Old Testament
 - Describe the theological, cultural, and historical aspects of the plotline of the Old Testament
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Required Texts

Syllabus

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The primary text is the Old Testament itself. Students are encouraged to use a modern translation/version of the Old Testament such as RSV, NRSV, NIV, HCSB, NASB, ESV, NET, etc. The *English Standard Version* (ESV) is available through the Shorter University bookstore in an economy printing. The ESV also is available with notes and study helps through Crossway.com or any book retailer. Additionally, there is a free on-line version at <http://about.esvbible.org/> as well as versions for Nook and Kindle).

Fee, Gordon D. and Douglas Stuart. *How to Read the Bible Book by Book*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002. ISBN 9780310518082

Fee, Gordon D. and Douglas Stuart. *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*, 4th ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2014. ISBN 9780310517825

Supplemental Materials

Dowley, Tim. *The Student Bible Atlas*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2015. ISBN 9781506400105

Walton, John H. and Andrew E. Hill. *Old Testament Today: A Journey from Ancient Context to Contemporary Relevance*, 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2013. ISBN 9780310498209

Technology

- You must have regular access to a computer and an Internet connection to participate in this course. All coursework is conducted online, and no in-person meetings will be held.
- Shorter University uses Canvas as its online Learning Management System (LMS). An LMS provides students and faculty with an Internet-based learning environment that is both secure and easy to use. All course materials will be provided through Canvas, and all assignments will be submitted through the software, as well. When a student is enrolled in a course, they will automatically be enrolled in the course module in Canvas.
- Students can [log in to Canvas](#) using their normal SCHOLAR ID and password.
- Students should always email their instructors from their Shorter University Hawkmail account. Emails can be initiated from an email program or from Canvas itself.
- Assignments may be distributed in proprietary file formats, such as PDF or Microsoft Word. Students will be expected to have the necessary software to open and interact with these files.

Grading Information

Assessments	Percentage of Total Grade
Discussion Board Postings	35%
Quizzes	30%

Projects	35%
Total for the course	100%
Grade Scale	Points
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	59 and below

Course Assessments and Policies

Discussion Forum Participation

In a traditional classroom, each student would be expected to attend class regularly and interact with the professor and with the other students. The online classroom is no different. The discussion forum allows us to reflect on each week's material individually, but more importantly, it also allows us to discuss the material with one another and learn as a community. Each week's discussion forum will have a topic which will either require you to respond to a reading or critically engage with an issue.

To allow for the best discussions, follow this schedule:

Suggested

- On the third day of the week, initial responses to the topic will be due.
- By the last day of the week, you will have read several peers' posts and responded to at least two.

All posts and responses will be due by 11:55 PM on the due date.

Introductory Forum Post

Write an introductory paragraph and post in the Introductory Forum. Provide the following information:

- Your name
- Where you live
- Your major (if you have one)
- Something interesting about yourself
- Anything you would like to share with classmates
- Your expectations for the class

Post your introduction before 11:55pm Tuesday, the first week of class.

Reading Assignments

The importance of reading cannot be stated strongly enough. There are some strategies available that the student can use to turn this dreaded time-consuming chore into a manageable learning experience. The key is learning to read effectively and efficiently. The following link <https://www.intelligent.com/read-text-slowly-before-and-after-class/> presents a tested strategy for reading success.

Discussion Forum (35% of Course Grade)

In weeks 1, 3, 5, and 7 you will be asked to reflect on various topics related to that week's lesson. Since there may be multiple topics for discussion in any given lesson, *respond to one and only one* Discussion Board question and post your contribution to the topic on the Discussion Board. Your contribution to the topic should show personal reflection on the topic and interaction with course materials. Furthermore, your initial post should be clear, complete, and accurate. This assignment also requires that you read the answers posted by your classmates and each week respond to at least two of those postings.

Steps to constructing the initial forum post are:

1. Read carefully the assigned readings for the week before attempting a forum post.
2. In weeks where two or more discussion questions or topics are presented *choose one and only one* for your initial post.
3. Read carefully the discussion question or topic. Be sure to address all parts of the question or topic.
4. Do not wait to the last minute to post your answer! Posting early allows you to write thoughtful answers and to be the first one to make important points. Posting early also ensures that you will not miss the deadline.
5. Make sure you check your answers for spelling and grammar.
6. Initial responses must be 400-500 words in length.

In your replies to other students, you can:

1. Expand on or clarify a point made in the answer.
2. Offer an additional argument to support a position taken in an answer.
3. Suggest ways in which an idea could be more clearly expressed.
4. Identify passages where you think the writer misunderstood a concept or applied it incorrectly.
5. Disagree with a point or position made in an answer.
6. Replies to fellow students must be 100-125 words in length.

If you are disagreeing with the views of another student, please be constructive and respectful. You may criticize a position but not the author. State precisely the point you disagree with. Make sure you have not misinterpreted the writer's position. Offer reasons why you think their view is incorrect and support your position by citing the text or other sources.

Grading: Be sure to respond to at least two of your classmates' posts. Answers will be graded on overall understanding of the topic accuracy, insightfulness, grammar, spelling. Grading for forum posts is as follows:

- Initial post; 70 points
- Interactive Response #1: 15 points
- Interactive Response #2: 15 points

Week 1 Forum Topic: How would you explain the Bible to someone who is reading it for the first time?

Week 3 Forum Topic: In Deuteronomy 6, God is preparing Israel to cope with a major socio-economic change. They will soon transition from a nomadic, tent-dwelling society to a settled, more complex village/city society. Discuss the role that the family was to play in keeping the nation faithful to God.

Week 5 Forum Topic: How do Bible stories of the past such as those about Samuel, Saul, David, Solomon, Samson, etc. help to understand God and ourselves?

Week 7 Forum Topic: What actions do the Israelite prophets call us to in relation to the poor in our cities today? Be sure to specifically identify the actions and provide some examples of the actions.

Quizzes

Weekly Exams (30% of Course Grade)

In an effort to distribute equally the workload throughout the class, an exam will be given each week. Due dates will be posted on Canvas. The following conditions apply unless otherwise stated:

- Exams consist of 20-25 questions in the following formats: multiple choice questions, matching, True/False, or short answer
- Open book
- 1 hour time limit
- 1 attempt per exam

Some questions will require critical thinking on your part, so be sure to read the material carefully before attempting the exam.

Written Assessments

Interpretive Worksheets (35% of Course Grade)

Interpretive Worksheets are assigned in Weeks 2, 4, 6, and 8. Instructions for the Interpretive Worksheets are posted in Canvas.

Week 2 Interpretive Worksheet Topic: Genesis 1-2

Week 4 Interpretive Worksheet Topic: The Deuteronomistic Cycle in Judges

Week 6 Interpretive Worksheet Topic: Intertextuality

Week 8 Interpretive Worksheet Topic: Teachers Academy

Related Resources

<http://www.bible-history.com/geography/ancient-israel/israel-old-testament.html>
<http://www.archaeological.org/pdfs/education/Arch101.2.pdf>
<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/bible/program.html> (Video)
http://www.usc.edu/dept/LAS/wsrp/educational_site/ancient_texts/Cuneiform.shtml
http://www.usc.edu/dept/LAS/wsrp/educational_site/dead_sea Scrolls/discovery.shtml
<http://orion.msc.huji.ac.il/> <http://www.digbible.org/tour/>
<http://www.crystalinks.com/jerusalem.html>
<http://www.gordonconwell.edu/resources/Old-Testament-Research.cfm>
<http://otgateway.com/>

Participation Policy

Participation is required to complete this course successfully. Please note that participation is measured by completing the discussion forums each week by the specified due dates, in conjunction with all assignments and tests.

Late Work

As a general rule, late work is not accepted. Because the course is only eight weeks long, it is important that you turn your assignments in on time. Should you have an emergency situation, please contact your professor directly.

Course Schedule

(Check Canvas for details of assignments.)

- **Week 8 ends on a Friday, so ensure that all assignments are completed by Friday during the last week.**

Week	Reading	Weekly Assessments and Due Dates
1 Introduction to the Old Testament	<i>How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth</i> , 21-56 <i>How to Read the Bible Book By Book</i> , 14-20	Introduction Forum due Tuesday Reflection Forum: Initial post and follow-up Posts Exam 1
2 Beginnings	Bible: Genesis 1-50	Interpretive Worksheet: Genesis 1-2

	<i>How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth</i> , 93-111 <i>How to Read the Bible Book By Book</i> , 21-33	Exam 2
3 Israel becomes a People	Bible: Exodus 1-24, 32-34; Numbers 10-14, 20-25; Deuteronomy 32-33; Leviticus 1-7, 17-20 <i>How to Read the Bible for all its Worth</i> , 168-186 <i>How to Read the Bible Book By Book</i> , 34-62	Reflection Forum: Initial post and follow-up Posts Exam 3
4 Israel in the Land of Promise	Bible: Joshua 1-10, 23-24; Judges 1-3, 13-16, 18-21 <i>How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth</i> , 93-111 <i>How to Read the Bible Book By Book</i> , 63-81	Interpretive Worksheet: The Deuteronomistic Cycle in Judges Exam 4
5 Establishment of a Kingdom	Bible: 1 Samuel 1-17; 2 Samuel 11-12, 15-19; 1 Kings 2-3, 8, 11 <i>How to Read the Bible for all its Worth</i> , review 93-111 <i>How to Read the Bible Book By Book</i> , 82-107	Reflection Forum: Initial post and follow-up Posts Exam 5
6 Kings and Prophets	Bible: 2 Kings 14-25; Amos; Hosea <i>How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth</i> , 187-211 <i>How to Read the Bible Book By Book</i> , 174-194, 211-216, 222-227, 235-239, 244-247	Interpretive Worksheet: An Exercise in Intertextuality (Psalm 23; Ezekiel 34:1-24; Luke 15:1-7) Exam 6
7 Exile and Restoration	Bible: Ezra 1-6; Nehemiah; Malachi <i>How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth</i> , review 187-211 <i>How to Read the Bible Book By Book</i> , 108-118, 166-170, 195-210, 228-230, 252-265	Reflection Forum: Initial post and follow-up Posts Exam 7
8 Israel's Legacy	Bible: Psalms 1, 2, 8, 18, 22, 90, 150; Proverbs 1-5; Ecclesiastes 1-3, 12; Job 1-7, 19, 38-42 <i>How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth</i> , 212-257 <i>How to Read the Bible Book By Book</i> , 121-170	Interpretive Worksheet: Teachers Academy Exam 8

Policies and Procedures

Netiquette

Netiquette is a set of rules for how to communicate effectively and politely online.

Effective written communications are an important part of online learning. In a face to face class, body language along with verbal responses and questions help students and the instructor communicate with each other. In an online environment, however, misunderstandings can easily

occur when basic rules of Netiquette (online etiquette) are not followed, such as using texting abbreviations or USING ALL CAPITAL LETTERS IN WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS.

Therefore, please use the following guidelines when communicating in this course:

- Using ALL capital letters in online communication indicates you are yelling. Limited use of capitalized words is acceptable when emphasis is needed. Underscoring and italics can also be used for emphasis.
- Use a descriptive subject line in emails and forum postings.
- Include your name in all emails; we can't always tell who you are based on your email address.
- No derogatory comments, ranting or vulgar language is acceptable in any form of communication in the course. Respect for others and their views is expected.
- Please keep in mind that something considered offensive may be unintentional. If you are concerned about something that appears to be unacceptable, please inform the instructor via email.

Class Attendance

Online courses are typically delivered asynchronously, meaning that there are no fixed times when students need to be online. While there is no standard attendance policy for online classes, students are expected to log-in to class several times each week to check for updates and to communicate with the professor and/or with other students. There will also typically be deadlines for the completion of assignments, and there may be requirements that the student participate each week in online chats or forum discussions. In some cases there may be a requirement for the student to log-in at a particular time during the week to participate in a group chat or discussion. As with any traditional course, a student cannot skip several weeks of online classes and expect to succeed!

No Show Policy

Students who fail to complete the mandatory introduction forum within the first 9 class days from the start of the session will be automatically dropped from the class. PLEASE NOTE: Students must login as well as complete mandatory introduction forum within this 9 day period. Simply logging into a course will still constitute as a NO SHOW for the course if the mandatory introduction forum within the actual online course platform is not completed within the first 9 class days from the start of the session.

Students who do login and complete the mandatory introduction forum within the first 9 days from the start of the session, but who then stop participating in their online class will NOT be automatically withdrawn from the class. To withdraw from the class the student must send an e-mail to their advisor and his or her instructor from his or her Shorter e-mail account requesting to withdraw. The withdrawal will be effective from the date of the e-mail request. An automatic F will be given if a student is not properly withdrawn.

Academic Integrity Policy

A Community of Honor

As a liberal arts university committed to the Christian faith, Shorter University seeks to develop ethical men and women of disciplined, creative minds and lives that focus on leadership, service and learning. The Honor System of Shorter University is designed to provide an academic community of trust in which students can enjoy the opportunity to grow both intellectually and personally. For these purposes, the following rules and guidelines will be applied.

Academic Dishonesty

"Academic Dishonesty" is the transfer, receipt, or use of academic information, or the attempted transfer, receipt, or use of academic information in a manner not authorized by the instructor or by university rules. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating and plagiarism as well as aiding or encouraging another to commit academic dishonesty.

"Cheating" is defined as wrongfully giving, taking, or presenting any information or material borrowed from another source - including the Internet by a student with the intent of aiding himself or another on academic work. This includes, but is not limited to a test, examination, presentation, experiment or any written assignment, which is considered in any way in the determination of the final grade.

"Plagiarism" is the taking or attempted taking of an idea, a writing, a graphic, musical composition, art or datum of another without giving proper credit and presenting or attempting to present it as one's own. It is also taking written materials of one's own that have been used for a previous course assignment and using it without reference to it in its original form.

Students are encouraged to ask their instructor(s) for clarification regarding their academic dishonesty standards. Instructors are encouraged to include academic dishonesty/integrity standards on their course syllabi.

Procedure

- A. It is the responsibility of an instructor to certify that academic assignments are independently mastered sufficiently to merit course credit. The responsibility of the student is to master academic assignments independently, refrain from acts of academic dishonesty, and refuse to aid or tolerate the academic dishonesty of others.
- B. If an instructor determines that the student is guilty of academic dishonesty, the instructor must discuss the matter with the student. In the event the instructor cannot reach the student in a timely manner, such as when the student has gone home at the end of a semester, the instructor may assign a grade of "I" (Incomplete) until the student can be contacted and the matter of academic dishonesty discussed. The instructor then completes the "Academic Violation Form" (see Appendix A) which should include evidence and other necessary documentation. The instructor will determine the appropriate remedy: either to assign a grade of zero on that assignment in question or a grade of "F" in the course. The student will designate whether he/she accepts the

remedy for the violation of the dishonesty policy or wishes to appeal the instructor's decision. If a student elects to appeal, the "appeal due date" line must be completed on the Academic Violation Form. (See the Appeals section below for more information regarding the appeals process)

- C. Upon completion, the instructor forwards the Academic Violation Form to the Registrar's for the placement in the student's permanent record. The Registrar will forward copies of the Academic Violation Form to the student, the faculty member, department chair, academic dean, dean of students, provost, and president. Not appealing when the form is first completed or by the appeal due date will be taken as an admission of guilt, except under compelling circumstances to be determined at the sole discretion of the provost.
- D. If upon receipt of the Academic Violation Form the Registrar determines that the student is guilty of a second offense, then a grade of FD (Failure Due to Academic Dishonesty) will be assigned by the Registrar for the course regardless of the remedy specified on the Academic Violation Form. Assigning the FD is to be done by the Registrar when the second Academic Violation Form is placed in the student's record, and the Registrar will notify all parties in writing. The student is then permanently disbarred from membership in any honorary society and is permanently ineligible for any SU honor list. The student may petition the Academic Integrity Appeals Committee to have the dishonesty notation removed from the transcript after one year or upon graduating from the University if no additional dishonesty offenses occur and the student satisfactorily completes the Academic Integrity Program. The grade of F remains on the transcript. Upon receipt by the Registrar of a third offense, the Registrar will assign the grade of FD and then notify all parties. After all appeals are exhausted, if the third offense still stands, then the student will be permanently expelled from the University. The notice of expulsion will be forwarded to the student, department chair, appropriate academic dean, dean of students, provost, and president. A copy of the final report with the three offenses will become a part of the student's permanent record. The university reserves the right to expel the student after a first or second offense, depending on the circumstances and at the sole discretion of the provost.

E.

Appeals

- A. The student who wishes to appeal an academic violation charge should submit his/her appeal in writing to the chair of the appropriate department by the appeal due date indicated on the Academic Violation Form, which is normally within ten regularly scheduled class days after the completion date of the Academic Violation Form. This statement should contain the reasons for which the student is appealing the instructor's decision. The burden of proof lies with the student in such a case to show that an error or malfeasance has occurred. Within ten regularly scheduled class days of receiving the written appeal, the department chair will notify in writing both the instructor and the student of the chair's decision. If the department chair is also the instructor who files the Academic Violation Form, then the student must appeal to the appropriate academic dean.
- B. When, in the opinion of the department chair, the student fails to show reasonable cause for further investigation, the chair may deny the appeal without taking further action. When, in the opinion of the department chair, a student's appeal raises

reasonable doubt as to whether a mistake or malfeasance has occurred, the chair will meet with the faculty member and with the student and render a decision within ten regularly scheduled class days of the receipt of the appeal. If the decision favors granting the student's appeal, the department chair may request that the Registrar remove the Academic Violation Form from the student's record. The chair will notify both the student and the instructor of this action.

- C. If the student files the initial appeal or elects to appeal the chair's decision during Maymester, Summer I, Summer II or during final exam week of the Fall or Spring semesters and if the instructor or department chair is not available during that time, all of the foregoing time requirements begin to run with the first day of class in the next major term. In extreme or unusual circumstances regarding the timeliness of the appeals process, the provost will make the final determination.
- D. Any student who has exhausted the remedies open under the procedures outlined above may appeal the entire matter to the Academic Integrity Appeals Committee in writing within ten regularly scheduled class days of receiving the response from the department chair. Upon receipt of the appeal, the Academic Integrity Appeals Committee will review the matter and issue a decision within fifteen (15) regularly scheduled class days. The Academic Integrity Appeals Committee has the authority to deny the appeal, reduce the penalties in the event of extenuating circumstances, or direct the registrar to remove the record of the Academic Violation Form from the student's permanent record. The results of the Academic Integrity Appeals Committee are final.
- E. All results from the proceedings of the Academic Dishonesty Appeals Committee should be reported to the appropriate academic dean, dean of students, provost, and president as information.

NOTE: During the appeals process, the student may continue to attend the class in which the violation occurred.

Students Needing Accommodations

Shorter University provides accommodations for students who have a disability. The student must contact the Director of Educational Support in FSU 219 (706-233-7323) as soon as possible to discuss your needs. Shorter University is committed to providing access to programs and services to all qualified students with disabilities. Student Support Services is located in the Fitton Student Union, Room 219 (706-233-7323). Academic support is available to all students through the Center for Learning and Academic Success at Shorter (CLASS). The Center offers peer tutoring and coordinates study groups for students seeking assistance. Also, students can receive help with writing through individual tutoring in the Writing center. CLASS is located on the second floor of the Sheffield-Thompson building in the Bailor Suite.

Disability Services: If you believe you are entitled to reasonable accommodation based on a documented disability (per The Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973), please contact Student Support Services at 706-233-7417 or visit <http://www.shorter.edu/disability-services> for more information.