



## Bible 110 - Course Syllabus

**Course Title:** *Old Testament I: Historical Literature (3 Credits)*

**Course Description:** This course surveys the narrative literature of the Old Testament, stretching from Genesis to Esther. Students will not only engage with the historical plot of the Old Testament, but dive into the theological themes that weave throughout these books. The class will also emphasize motifs of Christ that find their seeds in the Old Testament, coming to fruition in the New. Students will learn how applicable the Old Testament is to their current ministry setting and find avenues of application for their life. Student learning will be evaluated based on weekly quizzes, a midterm and final exam, and a final Expository paper.

**Prerequisites:** None

### Instructors:

- Professor: Pastor Paul Manwiller
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- Teaching Staff: Timothy Manwiller
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### Course Materials:

- Bible (unless otherwise specified, you may use the translation of your choice)
  - Lecture notes and quiz blanks will use the ESV translation.
- The Essence of the Old Testament: A Survey, Ed Hinson and Gary Yates, ISBN: 978-1433677076

**Class Time:** Class will meet once weekly on Sundays from 7pm-10pm. Class will take place in person at Community Bible Church, located at 3700 Benson St, Trenton, MI 48183. Class time will be broken down into the following general schedule:

- Weekly Quiz (7:00 - 7:10)
- Review of Homework (7:10 - 7:20)
- Lecture (7:20 - 8:20)
- Break (8:20 - 8:25)
- Lecture (8:25 - 9:25)
- Break (9:25 - 9:30)
- Discussion (9:30 - 10:00)

## Assignments:

- **Quizzes** - There will be 12 quizzes over the course of the semester. These quizzes will generally take place at the beginning of class time each week and will cover the previous week's study materials. The quiz format will include multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blank, and short-answer-style questions. The purpose of these quizzes is to provide the students with regular graded feedback on their understanding of the course material and to prepare them for the exams. The quizzes also ensure a student's regular and on-time attendance for the weekly class time. The lowest 2 quiz scores for each student will be dropped.
- **Homework** - There will be weekly homework assignments based on the week's assigned Bible reading. There be roughly 30 chapters assigned per week. The homework assignment will consist of the following written analysis of each chapter from the assigned Bible reading:

- A chapter title
- A key verse selected

And for each book (Genesis through Esther), the following homework assignment will be required:

- A 1-2 paragraph book summary
- A 1-2 paragraph personal reflection and application

Homework may be handwritten or typed, although keeping a notebook of all Bible reading homework is strongly encouraged. Submission of the homework will be done through Canvas. Typed documents may be uploaded directly. Handwritten homework can be scanned and submitted as individual pictures or a complete .pdf document. Homework is graded for completeness with points deducted only for incomplete submissions or a clear lack of effort.

- **Expositional Study Paper** - This assignment is designed to enable each student to study a passage of his/her selection and write a paper with the same content and structure that could be used to lead a Bible study. Students will be given instruction on how to approach this assignment throughout the course of the semester and will be taught how to develop Expository study skills necessary for studying an individual passage and preparing to lead a Bible study. This assignment will have a paper outline due 10/28/25 and the final paper due 11/25/25.
- **Midterm Exam** - The midterm exam will take place on 10/21/25 during the first part of class time. The exam will cover all lecture and study material content up to that point. The purpose of the exam is to encourage each student to review the material studied so far and to ensure that each student retains the information learned throughout the course of the semester. The exam will be structured in the same format as the quizzes.
- **Final Exam** - The final exam will take place on 12/9/25. The exam will be cumulative but with a much heavier emphasis on material covered after the midterm. The purpose of the exam is to encourage each student to review the entire course material and to ensure that each student retains the information learned throughout the course of the semester. The exam will be structured in the same format as the midterm and the quizzes.

**Canvas:** Canvas is an online course management system for college courses. It will be used in this course for online submission of assignments and for posting grades, announcements, and access to relevant course documents. Further details on how to set up a Canvas account and access this course can be found in the appendix to this document.

**Assessment:** Assignments will have the following grade weights:

Assignment	Grade Weight	Notes
Quizzes	15%	Almost weekly, according to the course schedule. Lowest two quizzes dropped
Homework	20%	Weekly according to the course schedule
Expositional Study Paper	20%	Outline worth 5%, due: 10/28/25 Final Paper worth 15%, due: 11/25/25
Midterm Exam	20%	On 10/21/25
Final Exam	25%	On 12/9/25

We will use the following thresholds to convert raw scores in the course into letter grades:

- A+:  $\geq 98\%$
- A:  $\geq 92\%$
- A-:  $\geq 90\%$
- B+:  $\geq 88\%$
- B:  $\geq 82\%$
- B-:  $\geq 80\%$
- C+:  $\geq 78\%$
- C:  $\geq 72\%$
- C-:  $\geq 70\%$
- D+:  $\geq 68\%$
- D:  $\geq 62\%$
- D-:  $\geq 60\%$
- F:  $< 60\%$

Depending on the distribution of raw scores at the end of the semester, these thresholds may change; however the final thresholds will be no stricter than the current thresholds. For example, if you receive a raw score of 85% in the course, you will be guaranteed a letter grade of at least B; however, it may happen that you receive a higher letter grade depending on the overall distribution of raw scores.

**Class Schedule:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Study Material</b>	<b>Number of Study Chapters</b>	<b>Assignments Due</b>
9/2/25	- Topic: Approaching the Old Testament	- Genesis 1-27 - The Essence of the Old Testament: A Survey; Chapters 1-4	27	Nothing Due First Day of Class
9/9/25	- Topic: Genesis - Part 1	- Genesis 28-50 - Exodus 1-10 - The Essence of the Old Testament: A Survey; Chapters 5-6	34	<i>Quiz</i> - Covering 1/7/24 Study Material <i>HW</i> - Genesis 1-27
9/16/25	- Topic: Genesis - Part 2	- Exodus 11-40 - The Essence of the Old Testament: A Survey; Chapter 7	30	<i>Quiz</i> - Covering 1/14/24 Study Material <i>HW</i> - Genesis 28-50 & Exodus 1-10 & Genesis Summary
9/23/25	- Topic: Exodus	- Leviticus 1-27 - The Essence of the Old Testament: A Survey; Chapter 8	27	<i>Quiz</i> - Covering 1/21/24 Study Material <i>HW</i> - Exodus 11-40 & Exodus Summary
9/30/24	- Topic: Leviticus	- Numbers 1-36 - The Essence of the Old Testament: A Survey; Chapter 9	36	<i>Quiz</i> - Covering 1/28/24 Study Material <i>HW</i> - Leviticus 1-27 & Leviticus Summary
10/7/25	- Topic: Numbers	- Deuteronomy 1-34 - The Essence of the Old Testament: A Survey; Chapter 10	34	<i>Quiz</i> - Covering 2/4/24 Study Material <i>HW</i> - Numbers 1-36 & Numbers Summary
10/14/25	- Topic: Deuteronomy	- Joshua 1-24 - The Essence of the Old Testament: A Survey; Chapters 11-12	24	<i>Quiz</i> - Covering 2/11/24 Study Material <i>HW</i> - Deuteronomy 1-34 & Deuteronomy Summary
10/21/25	<b>Midterm Exam</b> - Topic: Joshua	- Judges 1-21, Ruth 1-4 - The Essence of the Old Testament: A Survey; Chapters 13-14	25	<i>HW</i> - Joshua 1-24 & Joshua Summary <i>Midterm Exam</i>
10/28/25	- Topic: Judges & Ruth	- 1 Samuel 1-31 - The Essence of the Old Testament: A Survey; Chapter 15	31	<i>Quiz</i> - Covering 2/25/24 Study Material <i>HW</i> - Judges 1-21 & Judges Summary & Ruth 1-4 & Ruth Summary <i>Expositional Study Paper Outline</i>
11/4/25	- Topic: 1 Samuel	- 2 Samuel 1-24, 1 Kings 1-11	35	<i>Quiz</i> - Covering 3/10/24 Study Material

		- The Essence of the Old Testament: A Survey; Chapter 15		<i>HW</i> - 1 Samuel 1-31 & 1 Samuel Summary
11/11/25	- Topic: 2 Samuel	- 1 Kings 12-24, 2 Kings 1-25 - The Essence of the Old Testament: A Survey; Chapter 16	36	<i>Quiz</i> - Covering 3/17/24 Study Material <i>HW</i> - 2 Samuel 1-24 & 2 Samuel Summary & 1 Kings 1-11
11/18/25	- Topic: 1 & 2 Kings	- 1 Chronicles 1-29 - The Essence of the Old Testament: A Survey; Chapter 17	29	<i>Quiz</i> - Covering 3/24/24 Study Material <i>HW</i> - 1 Kings 12-24 & 1 Kings Summary & 2 Kings 1-25 & 2 Kings Summary
11/25/25	- Topic: 1 & 2 Chronicles & Ezra	- 2 Chronicles 1-36 - The Essence of the Old Testament: A Survey; Chapter 17	36	<i>Quiz</i> - Covering 4/7/24 Study Material <i>HW</i> - 1 Chronicles 1-29 & 1 Chronicles Summary <i>Expositional Study Final Paper</i>
12/2/25	- Topic: Nehemiah & Esther	- Ezra 1-10, Nehemiah 1-13, Esther 1-10 - The Essence of the Old Testament: A Survey; Chapter 18-20	33	<i>Quiz</i> - Covering 4/14/24 Study Material <i>HW</i> - 2 Chronicles 1-36 & 2 Chronicles Summary
12/9/25	<b>Final Exam &amp; Final Discussion</b>	- Genesis 1 - Esther 10 - The Essence of the Old Testament: A Survey; Chapter 1-20	436	<i>HW</i> - Ezra 1-10 & Ezra Summary & Nehemiah 1-13 & Nehemiah Summary & Esther 1-10 & Esther Summary <i>Final Exam</i>

### Late Policy:

Assignments are expected to be submitted prior to the due date. If there are extraordinary circumstances outside of the student's control, they may request an extension from the teaching staff.

Additionally, it is often the case that due to any number of other circumstances, a student finds that they are unable to adequately complete a given assignment. In such cases, the student is welcome to submit the assignment after the due date, up to the end of the semester; however, a late penalty will be given for such a late assignment. The standard late penalty is a 20% flat reduction in grade for the given assignment. This late penalty is meant to penalize late submissions and encourage timeliness, while still allowing the student to still finish the given assignment to the best of their ability even if they are unable to complete the assignment for some time due to any extended circumstances.

This late policy is subject to instructor discretion. The 20% late penalty policy is intended

to allow for unique or difficult but not extraordinary circumstances. Any student who abuses this policy, per the instructor's discretion, is liable to have this policy revoked and the grade revert to either a zero or that based on any submission prior to the due date.

## **Appendix: How to set up your Canvas Account**

This course will use the free version of Canvas. This means that you will be able to set up a Canvas account with your regular email and will be able to access the course on Canvas with a simple course invitation sent to your email. Please perform the following steps to set up your Canvas account:

- Check your email for a course invitation to Canvas.
- Click the “Get Started” button, which should redirect you to a Canvas page.
- Accept the course invitation. Upon accepting, it should redirect you to a page that will allow you to either set up a new Canvas account or link a current Canvas account.
- If you do not already have a free Canvas account, proceed to create a new account. To create a new account, it will set your login to be your email, you simply need to set your password and accurate time zone.

Your new account should be all set. To log in to Canvas in the future, go to the following URL: <https://canvas.instructure.com/login/canvas>

Use your email and password to log in. Then click on your MINISTRY 101 course.

To use the mobile Canvas app, you’ll want to download the Canvas app. Upon downloading and opening the app for the first time, it will prompt you to “Find my School.” Select this option and put in “Free Canvas Accounts.” Select this option and proceed to log in with your email and password associated with your free Canvas account.

## **Appendix: How to submit assignments on Canvas**

From the course’s Canvas home page, navigate to the assignments tab. Select the specific assignment from the list of assignments. Follow the instructions for the different cases of typed and handwritten submissions.

*For typed documents:*

- Click “Start Assignment” (“Submit Assignment” in the mobile app)
- Click “Upload File” (“Files” in the mobile app)
- Click “Choose File” (simply select the file in the mobile app)
- Navigate to the proper file and select it
- You may add any number of files by selecting “Add Another File”

*For handwritten documents:*

You may use a scanner, scanner app, or simply take photos of your work and submit the files by following the same steps outlined for typed documents. The best option may be to use the Canvas mobile app to submit the assignment and use the scanner feature as an option after selecting “Submit Assignment.”

Please note, you may submit as many times as you would like prior to the assignment deadline. The most recent submission will count as your graded submission.

## **Appendix: Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to hold themselves to a Christian standard of ethics in all matters. This includes, but is not limited to, refraining from any forms of plagiarism, cheating, sharing or acquiring any materials that would give a student an unfair advantage, or any dishonest representation of one's work. Below are outlined the consequences for an infringement of academic integrity for a given assignment:

- First offense – A grade of zero is given for the assignment; the professor must notify the Registrar and Dean of Students. A statement goes into the student's file.
- Second offense – A grade of F is assigned for the course; the professor must notify the Registrar and Dean of Students. A statement goes into the student's file. The Dean of Students and/or Registrar will notify faculty of students who incur a second offense in this area.
- Third offense – The professor must notify the Registrar and Dean of Students. A statement goes into the student's file and the student may be suspended or dismissed from this institution.

## **Appendix: Policy on Use of Generative Language Models For Written Assignments**

The use of generative language models, such as ChatGPT, is not strictly prohibited and in some cases is very much encouraged as a research and brainstorming tool. However, all written assignments submitted as your own work should reflect your own personal writing. This prohibits copy and paste use of such tools, however, you may feel free to quote such tools provided that you make clear it is a quotation.

In general, you should treat generative language models as equivalent to speaking to another person. You may gain insight from them and be able to improve your value and productivity, but you should not misrepresent someone else's work as your own. These tools may also be treated somewhat like calculators in a math class. You may use them when appropriate and assignments may even assume their use in some ways, but all submitted work must be your own unless specified otherwise.