



## BIBLE 212 - Course Syllabus

**Course Title:** *New Testament Use of the Old Testament (1 credit)*

**Course Description:** This seven-week course explores how the New Testament writers interpreted and applied the Old Testament in their preaching and writing. Students will study the patterns of quotation, allusion, and fulfillment throughout the New Testament, gaining insight into the continuity of God's work in the world across the millennia. Through lectures, readings, and discussions, we will trace key themes showing the Bible as a unified and cross-referenced whole. Course components include weekly lectures and quizzes, assigned readings, in-class discussion, a project analyzing a New Testament book's use of the Old Testament, and a comprehensive final exam.

**Prerequisites:** None

### Instructors

- Professor: Pastor Matt Postiff, Ph.D., Th.M.
  - Email (preferred method of communication): [pastor@fbcaa.org](mailto:pastor@fbcaa.org)
  - Phone (for urgent matters): 734-417-0023

### Required Course Materials

- Beale, G. K. [\*Handbook on the New Testament Use of the Old Testament: Exegesis and Interpretation\*](#). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2012, 192 pages.

### Supplemental Texts for Further Reading

- Beale, G. K., and D. A. Carson. *Commentary on the New Testament Use of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids, MI; Nottingham, UK: Baker Academic; Apollos, 2007.
- Beale, G. K., D. A. Carson, Benjamin L. Gladd, and Andrew David Naselli, eds. *Dictionary of the New Testament Use of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic: A Division of Baker Publishing Group, 2023.

**Course Web Page:** <https://anchorbiblecollege.org/bible-212-winter-26/>

### Class Time

Class will meet once weekly **on Thursdays from 5pm-7pm on the following dates: March 5, 12, 19, 26, April 2, 9, 16**. Class will take place in Room 105 at Hope Community Church,

located at 2100 Ellsworth Rd. Ypsilanti, MI, 48197. Class time will be broken down into the following general schedule:

- Weekly Quiz (5:05 – 5:20)
- Review of reading and homework (5:20 – 5:45)
- Lecture (5:45 – 6:00)
- Break (6:00 – 6:10)
- Lecture (6:10 – 7:00)

In addition to the two hour class time, you can expect a couple hours of homework per week, including reading, studying for the next quiz, some simple homework, and some time working on the final project.

### Course Work

1. Weekly lectures
2. Class discussion
3. Assigned reading in the textbook.
4. Assigned homework about 30 mins weekly of various readings/writings.
5. Weekly quizzes - study about 30 mins.
6. Final exam.
7. Project completed in weekly segments.

### Course Objectives

In this course the student will:

1. Have a greater awareness of how inter-linked the Bible is.
2. Practice finding and identifying uses of the Old Testament in the New Testament books.
3. Learn terminology such as quotation, citation, allusion, fulfillment formula, etc.
4. Understand the many ways that the New Testament uses the Old Testament.
5. Be able to address the question “which version of the Old Testament does the New Testament use”?
6. Gain exposure to how the New Testament authors thought from their background in the Hebrew language and Bible.

### Assignments

- **Attendance and Participation** – Students are expected to participate in class discussion which will be based on assigned readings and written homework assignments.
- **Reading** – We will be reading one book in this half-semester course. The book has 5 parts, and we will read one part (two to three chapters) before each week’s class.
- **Quizzes** - There will be weekly 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 material including reading and lecture. 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 punctual attendance for the weekly class time. In case of absence, students are to arrange with the instructor to receive a copy of the quiz electronically, fill it out, and return it either electronically or at the start of the next class period. Quizzes are CLOSED BOOK. Sometimes they will be open Bible.

- **Homework** - There will be a number of written homework assignments based on the week's lessons. Submission of the homework will generally be done in class, on paper or via Canvas. Typed documents may be uploaded directly. Documents can be scanned and submitted as a complete .pdf document. Homework is graded for effort, accuracy and completeness.
- **Project** – The final project will be a brief presentation on one NT use of an OT passage. Each student will be assigned a different passage, and small portions of the project will be completed each week until the presentation on the final day of class.
- **Tests** – There is one final exam on the last day of class. The test is CLOSED BOOK.

## Canvas

Canvas is an online course management system for college courses. It will be used in this course for online submission of homework 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. **Please make sure you accept the course invitation as soon as possible!**

## Assessment

Assignments will have the following grade weights:

Assignment	Grade Weight	Notes
Attendance and Participation	10%	Attendance and instructor evaluation of discussions
Reading	15%	Weekly reading in Beale (Yes/No/½)
Quizzes	25%	Weekly quizzes over the previous reading and lecture
Homework	20%	NT Use of OT Analysis, Final Project assignments
One Test	20%	Covers reading and lectures
Final Project Presentation	10%	Analyze an NT use of the OT

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

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

Week	Topics Today	Reading Due Today	Quiz/ Test Today	Homework Assignment Due Today
1 3/5	Introductions, introduction to course.	There will be weekly reading in this course.	None	Be ready to discuss what you hope to learn in this class.
2 3/12	Hebrew mindset of the NT authors and the Jewish interpretive context of their time.	Preface, Intro, and Ch. 1	Quiz 1	Find and classify the OT quotations / allusions in the first 5-7 chapters of your assigned NT section. Turn in your work to receive instructor comment and grade for the week. ** <b>Project:</b> Select a OT quotation used in the NT to analyze. ***
3 3/19	Jesus's use of the Old Testament.	Ch. 2-3	Quiz 2	Keep working on your assigned section, 6 more chapters. <b>Project:</b> Write a page on the meaning of the text in its OT context.
4 3/26	Luke's use of the Old Testament, and in particular the OT in the sermons in Acts.	Ch. 4	Quiz 3	Keep working on your assigned section, 6 more chapters. <b>Project:</b> Classify the reference: quotation or allusion, and explain.
5 4/2	Paul's use of the Old Testament.	Ch. 5, 7	Quiz 4	Keep working on your assigned section, 6 more chapters. <b>Project:</b> Write a paragraph about the exact source of the quotation (Hebrew text, Greek translation, author's adapted version?) with explanation.

Week	Topics Today	Reading Due Today	Quiz/ Test Today	Homework Assignment Due Today
6 4/9	Hebrews and Revelation's use of the Old Testament.	Ch. 6	Quiz 5	Keep working on your assigned section, 6 more chapters. <b>Project:</b> Write a page on the meaning of the text in the NT context. Explain whether the NT author uses the OT text contextually or another way?
7 4/16	Final exam and student presentations.	No reading due today.	Final Exam and <b>Final Project</b>	<b>Project:</b> Put everything together into a coherent presentation and give us an overview of what you learned in a brief presentation.

**\*\* We will be building a database as a class project.** Each student will be assigned a section of the New Testament and will be required to create a listing in an unformatted spreadsheet that looks like this, with four columns:

OT Source	NT Use	Type	Connection
Isa 7:14	Mat 1:23	Citation	Predicted event
...			
Deu 8:3	Mat 4:4	Citation	Teaching

The quotes are classified or categorized in two ways. First, the **Type** can be Citation or Allusion. The **Connection** can be Predicted event, Analogy, or Teaching. If you find a case where the Type or Connection seems to be something different, mark it as such as send a note to the instructor so we can determine if we should add to our list of possible categorizations. Please note that the use of AI is prohibited for this assignment. What I want you to do is read through your chapters with pen/paper or computer in hand and every OT quotation or allusion you find, record it in the above format. We will take 6 or so chapters each week and together cover the entire NT. We are looking for the more obvious/direct references, not obscure allusions. The instructor will combine your data into a single spreadsheet and share it with the class for your future reference.

**\*\*\* Each student will select an Old Testament text that is used in the NT, and analyze its meaning in the original context as well as the NT context.** We will build the final project piece by piece until the final presentation on the last day of class. Each step will be explained as we come to it in the upcoming weeks.

## Grading Rubrics

Your assignments will be graded with the following in mind.

- Content: Does your submission contain sufficient content and detail to demonstrate personal study and understanding of the material and did your assignment accurately and sufficiently meet the expectations for this assignment?
- Structure: Did you follow the expected structure of the given assignment?
- Spelling and Grammar: Does your submission have sufficient grammar and spelling to meet academic writing standards?

## Late Policy

Assignments are expected to be submitted on 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 instructors 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 setup 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 BIBLE 121 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 homework on Canvas**

From the course's Canvas home page, navigate to the assignments tab. Select the homework 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 is outlines 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.