Gordon College Dr. Ted Hildebrandt

BCM101 Old Testament Office: MacD 111

Spring, 2020 ted.hildebrandt@gordon.edu

Office hours: T R usually 8:00-12:00; Phone: ext 4412

MWF usually in 8:00-10:00

**1. Course Description:** Old Testament History, Literature and Theology  
examines Old Testament history and teaching against the cultural, geographical,   
historical and literary backgrounds of the Ancient Near East. Archaeology,   
comparative history and literature as well as key theological themes underlying the   
New Testament and Western culture are explored as well as the application of   
these texts as a foundation of personal spirituality.

**2. Course Goals:** When you have successfully completed this course you will:

G1: Recall the basic content of the Old Testament (OT)

G2: Comprehend the origin and transmission of the OT text

G3: Comprehend OT cultural issues and their relevance to post-modern

culture

G4: Analyze, interpret and apply the meaning of OT texts from multiple

perspectives

G5: Critically evaluate and integrate your thinking with current OT

research and discoveries

G6: Distill, formulate and integrate your view of God and His kingdom

based on the insights derived from the OT

G7: Comprehend and discern OT culture and moral constructs being   
 able to separate between descriptive and prescriptive aspects of the   
 OT

G8: Share a commitment to caring for the creation, environment and   
 see connections with the liberal arts disciplines as part of your   
 religious heritage and commitment

**3. OBJECTIVES of OT History and Literature class:**

**Cognitive Objectives:** You will understand

CO1. the basic historical framework

CO2. the factual details and stories

CO3. the process of how the Old Testament came to us

CO4. the customs and cultural issues manifested in the OT

CO5. the meaning and implications of the Old Testament stories

CO6. God's character (mercy, justice, love, anger) and actions

(covenant, war, shalom, forgiveness, retribution,

redemption, et al.)

CO7. theological reasons for the care of creation and human life

CO8. the different stages of faith and spiritual formation

**Affective Objectives:** You will appreciate

AO1. the value of the Old Testament

AO2. the greatness of God and human responsibility in response

in terms of holiness, pursuit of personal justice and mercy

AO3. God's use of and interaction with human culture   
AO4. the value of the various disciplines of the liberal arts as supported by the OT

**Skill Objectives**: You will be able to

SO1. identify major themes, genres and styles

SO2. apply the meaning and significance of the Old Testament   
 stories to life within postmodern culture

SO3. critically evaluate interpretive options of some of the major

“difficult” passages in the Old Testament

SO4. ask big questions(the meaning of life, death, suffering, happiness, choice, etc.) of the text and then pursue answers

SO5. express OT concepts in new media formats

**4. Textbooks**

**One item to purchase:**

1) Bible in an accurate translation (NIV, NLT, NRSV, NASB, KJV, ESV,

NKJV, NAB, Net Bible are all good choices; I have prepared a   
 DASV Digital American Standard Version which is available in text   
 and audio on the web site; the mp3 audio is useful; there is also a   
 format there that has the text and audio together where the audio will   
 reinforce your text reading). The “Wave Bible” and “Your Bible”   
 (by Hobby Lobby) are interesting free phone apps that might be of   
 interest. If you find others that are decent let me know.

             For the Old Testament in Chinese, Korean or Portuguese, Spanish,   
                           etc. I recommend:  
    <http://www.wordproject.org/bibles/parallel/chinese/index.htm>  
 Your Bible also has multiple languages and audio reading options

2) **Digital resources**: The Online Syllabus may have some changes   
 as we work through this semester. The Online is always  
 the one to follow over this printed beginning-of-the-year

hardcopy.   
 1) All of the resources will be made available online

course **PowerPoints, full video/audio and text** from this   
 semester in Blackboard. The professor is seeking to limit the cost   
 for textbooks by constructing a web site that will make substantial   
 OT resources available to students online. The point is to harness

Internet technology for the benefit of our learning environment.

Some of the benefits are that these resources are available to anyone,   
 at any time from anywhere in the world. The online course materials   
 cost you $20 saving you each over $50 for textbooks (compare how   
 much you pay for textbooks in other courses).

2) There is an online series of **“Getting Started with [**Gen.   
 Exod. Lev. Etc.] that will work like a textbook for this class   
 [text/audio].  
  
 3) I have developed **multiple choice quiz questions for all of   
 the lectures** and they are available for review in the **Interactive**   
 **Video/Quiz Combo** Online resource (Flash Video formats; sorry   
 Mac ipad/iphone folks). Since the lectures are being reformatted   
 this semester new questions on **Quizlet.com** to replace the old   
 interactive video questions. These will be developed as we go   
 through the course lectures. The questions will be built in   
 Quizlet.com as we with links to them for the weeks of the exams as   
 we progress through the semester.

4) **OT Lit** **Multiple Choice Bible Quizzer online**: Practice sets of   
 questions over the material you will be reading in the Bible. This   
 will be very helpful in preparing for the quizzes. These questions   
 are available on the OT Bible Quizzer (on our sight) and also  
 on Quizlet.com.

5) *Get Lost in Jerusalem Virtual Reality* by Ted Hildebrandt   
 originally published by Zondervan (is available online at the web

site; Zondervan sold this for $29.95).   
  
 6) [www.Quizlet.com](http://www.Quizlet.com) houses both weekly quiz questions and also   
 lecture questions for exams. Many find this format very effective   
 for learning.

**Web Site URL**: For this course you need to consult the web   
 [just Google "Ted Hildebrandt" look for Gordon College or use this   
 URL [bookmark it]:

<http://faculty.gordon.edu/hu/bi/ted_hildebrandt/index.cfm>   
 and now more recently and updated: <http://biblicalelearning.org/>

The web site will also facilitate your exploration of topics

beyond this course and beyond the walls of Gordon after you

graduate. The online materials are also available to your friends   
 and family if others want to see what you are learning.

The readings including the DASV [Digital American Standard   
 Version] of OT itself are available in multiple formats (\*.doc,   
 \*.html, \*.pdf) as well as audio for virtually all the readings (\*.mp3).   
 There are audio and text/audio combinations so you can download it   
 and listen to the text on your iPods, iPads or mobile devices.

Blackboard will only be used for posting **grades the bulk of the  
 course with weekly assignments will be on the course web site  
 on the Internet:** <http://faculty.gordon.edu/hu/bi/ted_hildebrandt/index.cfm>

**All students taking the course are required to purchase these online course materials for $20 cash**. Please pay for them during the first week or so. If payment is received after Friday Jan. 31 the price goes up to $40. No quizzes or exams will be accepted or make-ups allowed after Friday Jan 31 is passed if payment has not been received. In short, get your $20 in before Jan. 31 as I don’t want to have to chase you down especially when I’m trying to save each of you well over $50 per student [compare how much it is for textbooks in your other classes].

I do not make anything personally from this as the funds are used to develop the more supplemental materials for the OT/NT courses.

**4. Grade Points:**

A. **Attendance policy**: Students are expected to attend class sessions.

B. **Quizzes**: The quizzes focus on the actual content of the Bible   
 reading, memory verses and supplemental reading (exams will be   
 over the lectures—Use the **OT Lit Bible Quizzer** or Quizlet.com   
 as much of the quiz will be pulled from the questions found in that   
 quizzer). All quizzes should be taken on time.   
  
 **Missed quizzes** will be assessed as to whether they are excused or   
 unexcused. Unexcused absences will result in an automatic   
 deduction of 20% for that quiz. Both excused and unexcused   
 absences **must be made up within one week from when the quiz   
 was originally given.** If a student gets to class late after the quiz has   
 begun, the quiz must be made up within the next week as either   
 excused or unexcused. You are not allowed to use electronic   
 devices of any sort for the quizzes. Open head closed phone, pod,   
 pad, tablet, or laptop etc.

C. **EXAMS**: **All exams must be taken on time**. Exams will be over the lecture material. Exams are not like quizzes. The exams will be built off the questions in the interactive video/quiz combos. I am also have loaded these questions on “Quizlet.com” which will offer   
an alternative way of learning them.   
  
For exams **no electronic devices** will be permitted in the room  
so leave your **cell phones**, smart watches, ipads, iphones whatever at home for the time of the exam.

**Cheating Policy:** Cheating in any form will result in an automatic failure of that quiz or  
 exam or possibly the entire course. This is a Bible class, cheating is taken   
 very seriously as a violation of the whole course and the integrity this   
 course is trying to teach.

**Gordon’s** **Academic Dishonesty Statement (Plagiarism Policy):**   
 “Academic dishonesty is regarded as a major violation of both the   
 academic and spiritual principles of this community and may result   
 in a failing grade or suspension. Academic dishonesty includes   
 plagiarism, (see Plagiarism in Student Handbook), cheating   
 (whether in or out of the classroom), and abuse or misuse of library   
 materials when such abuse or misuse can be related to course   
 requirements.”

**5. Integrity and Classroom Etiquette**

It has been shown that students who take hand written notes in class   
 actually learn better. Computers/phones have a tendency to distract both   
 the user and those sitting around them. This kills me as I am really into the

digital mediums but it just hasn’t worked out with students in live classes   
 over the last couple years. My apologies. If you must have use of these   
 devices for academic purposes the front two rows will be reserved for those   
 special exceptions.   
           This is a class in biblical studies. Integrity is at the heart of what is being

learned. Thus any cheating or plagiarism will result in an automatic failure of the whole course. If you are unclear what falls into the category of plagiarism check in the Student Handbook pp 8f. Gaming, surfing, texting, email reading/sending, tweeting, IM, YouTube, Facebook, etc. in the classroom are rude, distracting to others and unacceptable. Be wise. Here are a few comments on classroom etiquette. Class times are learning times for discussion, taking notes and interacting. The following activities are inappropriate inside the classroom context: talking to others outside of the class discussion flow, whispering, sleeping, hand-holding, touching and massaging another, un-civil comments or behaviors not conducive to the learning environment. Basically anything that is disruptive to the classroom instructional environment is not kosher. Students engaged in these activities will be asked to leave the classroom and must talk to the professor in person before being readmitted.

**Gordon workload statement:**For each semester hour of credit, students should expect to spend a minimum of 2-3 hours per week outside of class in engaged academic time. This time includes reading, writing, studying, completing assignments, lab work, or group projects, among other activities.

**6. Extra Credit may be received (up to 5 points) by:**

**Extra credit projects** may be earned: (up to 5%) email or talk with me to  
 set this up. [Due by May 3]. The filling of new requests for such extra   
 credit will cease on April 27th. Contact the professor via email or in   
 person to set up your extra credit option.

1) This semester we will be working on outlining lecture series that   
 are found on biblicalelearning.org or finishing the **transcribing** the   
 **The Bible Project** presentations series. What this amounts to is   
 transcribing those lectures (2 presentations = 5% [usually takes 5-7   
 hours]. There are also full lectures on Psalms and Ezekiel that will  
 go at about 1 hour lecture to transcribe (5%).   
 Talk to me as I’ll need to set it up online for you. These will need to be

word perfect and sign at the end affirming their accuracy.

Once the transcription process is completed we can work on   
 putting section **titles** **and timings** (10-18 per lecture) for the various   
 lectures online (talk to the prof. about which ones need doing).  
  
 If you are into **graphic design** and would like to do something along

the lines of crafting a psalm visually, etc. (reformatting our website to   
 make it look more visually and useable) please talk to me early in the   
 semester.   
  
 If you’re a **Computer Sci.** person and want to play with fly thru’s of   
 Israel using Google Earth Pro tells talk. I’m also interested in   
 developing games that teach OT content if you have any ideas and   
 want to pursue development. If you want to explore **Unity 3D [C#   
 programming]**  and VR or Kolor PanoTour Pro (GoPro) or Engage   
 VR by Immersive VR Education. Let me know as there are   
 several things we can explore in that realm.

Another path would be to develop **your own fill-in-the-blank   
 questions**  for Gen. Ex., Numbers, Deut. or Joshua, Judges/Ruth.   
 Talk to me if you’d like to pursue this option.   
  
 If you speak a foreign language fluently (**Chinese, Portuguese,   
 Spanish, Korean, Japanese**) you could work on translation projects  
 translating the class PowerPoints or some of the transcriptions.   
  
 **If you get in trouble grade-wise in this course use extra to   
 bail yourself out.** If you’re willing to work you can get the grade.

**Extra credit is due by mid-night Tues May 1—plan ahead –   
 late work on this will not be accepted. Hard deadline. No   
 EC requests will be accepted after April 26.**

**7. Students with Disabilities**: Students with disabilities who need academic

accommodations must speak to professor and also inform him **in writing**

regarding the nature of the disability and the request for specific

accommodations within the first two weeks of class. Ann Seavey from the

Academic Support Center must be made aware of and approve in writing the

accommodations requested. Students are also responsible for making sure

documentation of the disability is on file in the Academic Support Center.

See Ann Seavey, Jenks 412 Ext 4746. Failure to register in time with the

Professor and have the ASC approve the desired accommodations will

compromise our ability to provide the desired accommodations.

**8**. **Honors option:**  If a student receives over a 94 on the first exam and has

maintained a 90 or better quiz average, s/he may request the honors option.

The student will work on a project with the prof. related to the OT Web site,

fitted to their interests, skills and possible options. This project will   
 replace the final exam hereby easing your finals week preparations. Your   
 final exam score will be an average of your first and second exam. Talk to   
 me if you’d like to do this option after you’ve taken the first exam. We also   
 may be developing a series of fill-in the blank question sets for Gen. – Deut.   
 As another option. This option must be requested no later than one week   
 following the second exam.

**9. Tentative Evaluation Percentages: generally I begin my curve with the   
 following and then curve from there.**

**100-90 [A/A-]**

**89-80 [B+-B-]**

**79-70 [C+-C-]**

**69-65 [D]**

**65-0 [F]**

Quizzes 30% [Generally quizzes every Thurs.]

3 Exams 70%

**The weekly schedule for the course is found online. We will follow that schedule exactly as the course goes from week to week.**

**Vid.** [**https://faculty.gordon.edu/hu/bi/ted\_hildebrandt/**](https://faculty.gordon.edu/hu/bi/ted_hildebrandt/) **Course Requirements Summary:**

**Weekly Quizzes:** will be over the stories from the biblical text, the

reading of the various online articles and memory work. Use   
 the OT Lit quizzer to prepare on the Bible content.

**Exams:**  will be over the class discussions/notes and memory verses.  
 Use the interactive video/quiz combo to pick up the questions   
 which will appear on the exams.

**Class attendance + Participation**

**Tentative Assignment Schedule is available online: Class instructions may   
 modify these as we proceed through the material.**

**Final Exam Schedule:**

**For BCM101A: 3:00 class final will be on May 12 Tues. 2:30-4:30.   
 BCM101B: 1:15 class on May 13 Weds. 12:00-2:00.   
You must take it with your designated class.**

All Finals must be taken at the time scheduled by the registrar—no exceptions.  **Make your flight plans accordingly.**

The weekly assignments and course materials can be found updated on our class web site:

[**https://faculty.gordon.edu/hu/bi/ted\_hildebrandt/**](https://faculty.gordon.edu/hu/bi/ted_hildebrandt/)

**Genesis Bible-robics**

Creation days,

Adam and Eve-n

Garden of Eden,

but just for a season

Serpent and Sin

Cain kills him

Noah and the Flood

Drunk and no bud

Babel’s tower

Languages flower

Abram leaves Ur

Sarah lies for sir

God’s promise,

land, seed and blessing

Abram’s faith,

he’s now confessing

Sodom and Gomorrah

are no more-ah

Hagar’s the surrogate

Ishmael barely gets

Isaac’s offered up

God’s ram’s fired up

Jacob’s birthright  
 Jacob’s ladder  
Jacob’s chosen  
 that’s all that matters  
Jacob wrestles God at Peniel

Gets 12 tribes -- Israel

Joseph’s coated

Sold to Egypt,

then promoted

Joseph’s in prison

Interprets dreams,

To royalty he’s risen

Brothers to Egypt begging

Evil to good

– God’s blessing

**Exodus Bible-robics**

Moses floats  
 to Pharaoh’s side

Kills and flees   
 to Sinai-ide

Yahweh’s bush

burns with fire

Moses claims   
 he can’t inspire

Stick to snake

Nile to blood

Firstborn die

no Passover blood

Red Sea splits

shows God's glory

Chariots sink,

Sing that story!

Water from rock

Manna on the lands

10 commandments

BIG LC SPAMS

Israel to Sinai

Golden calf’s busted

Glory cloud to desert  
 Tabernacle’s constructed

BIG LC SPAMS—Ten Commandments  
 No Blasphemy, Idols, other gods; [BIG]

No Lying, Coveting [LC]

No Stealing; Honor Parents, Adultery, Murder, Sabbath [SPAMS]

**Framework of the Old Testament (10+1)**

**P-PEW C-JU D-ERA   
P**rimeval History: Adam and Eve, Noah and the flood, Babel  
**P**atriarchs: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph  
**E**xodus: Pharaoh and the Plagues, Moses and the Sea  
**W**ilderness: Covenant at Sinai, Tabernacle, manna  
  
**C**onquest: Joshua Jericho, divides the tribes  
**J**udges: Deborah/Barah, Gideon, Jephthah and Samson  
**U**nited monarchy: Kings Saul, David, Solomon, 40, 40, 40  
  
**D**ivided Monarchy: Kings of the north all bad (Ahab); kings of the south   
 few good (Uzziah, Hezekiah, Josiah), North to  
 Assyria; Prophets versus kings  
**E**xile: Judah goes to Babylon for 70 years, temple destroyed

586 BC, Daniel, Ezekiel  
**R**eturn: Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Jerusalem walls and temple   
 rebuilt  
**A**pocrypha: Maccabees and Antiochus Epiphanes

**5 Dates to know for the OT:** Abraham: 2000 B.C.  
 David: 1000 B.C.  
 Israel to Assyria: 722 B.C.  
 Judah to Babylon: 586 B.C. –temple destroyed  
 Malachi ends it: 400 B.C.