

**PENTECOSTAL EXPLORATIONS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT**  
**OT501ON (Updated 1/11/20)**  
(3 Hours Credit)

Spring 2021

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**WEBSITES:**

Seminary: <http://www.ptseminary.edu/> <https://ptseminary.populiweb.com>

Professor's website: <http://www.leeroymartin.com>

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is the seminary's introductory course for Old Testament study. It focuses on exploring the Old Testament from a Pentecostal perspective in dialogue with other critical approaches. The individual books and the main divisions of Hebrew Scriptures are viewed with primary attention to their literary shape, theological thrust, and canonical role. Key matters of scholarly debate, historical background, authorship, sociological context, etc. are also addressed.

**TEXTBOOKS (required for all students):**

Brueggemann, Walter. *The Creative Word: Canon as a Model for Biblical Education*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1982. ISBN 9780800616267 (Students will read this entire book.)

Moberly, R.W.L. *The God of the Old Testament: Encountering the Divine in Christian Scripture* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2020). ISBN 9781540962997

Moore, Rickie D. *The Spirit of the Old Testament* (JPTSup 35; Blandford Forum, UK: Deo Publishing, 2011). Free PDF download from our library.

Peterson, Brian and Rickie Moore, *Voice, Word, and Spirit: A Pentecostal Old Testament Survey* (Nashville: Abingdon, 2017) ISBN 9781501815164. If you used this book at Lee Univ., you must substitute the following: William S. LaSor, David A. Hubbard, and Frederick W. Bush, *Old Testament Survey: The Message, Form and Background of the Old Testament*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996. ISBN: 978-0802837882 (paperback version is available).

Textbooks are available at WhiteWing bookstore 1-800-221-5027 or (423) 559-5425

If you encounter difficulties downloading the free PDFs, please call the library (423-455-0874), and they will be happy to assist you.

**Recommended guides for writing the term paper:**

Gorman, Michael J., *Elements of Biblical Exegesis: A Basic Guide for Students and Ministers* (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, rev. and expanded edn, 2009). ISBN 9781598563115

*Students should order textbooks early enough to receive them before the class begins.*

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Our Student Learning Outcomes are founded upon the Seminary's KNOW-BE-DO paradigm of integrative learning. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

**1. Demonstrate KNOWLEDGE of biblical content.**

Criteria for achievement:

- a. In this course students will experience and give priority to encounter with God through His Word. (This statement reflects our commitment to a relational model of knowing.)
- b. As a result of this course students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the Word of God by showing familiarity with the structure, content, theological emphases, canonical context, and Pentecostal context of the Old Testament.

**2. Display the SKILLS necessary to exegete, interpret, and communicate the biblical text.**

Criteria for achievement:

- a. As a result of this course students will be able to rightly divide (interpret/discern) the Word of God, in particular the OT, by means of a Pentecostal approach to Scripture that utilizes critical appropriation of spiritual and academic resources.
  - b. This course will facilitate the students' ability to discern the Spirit of the Word that attends the Word of the Spirit through reverential recognition and response to the presence and voice of the Holy Spirit in and through the OT, assessed in the context of Pentecostal community.
  - c. As a result of this course students will be able to produce ministry of the Word, specifically of the OT, through writing, speaking, and enacting the Word in relation to various gifts of ministry.
- 3. Demonstrate their integrative FORMATION in the faith.**
- Criteria for achievement:
- a. As a result of this course students will be able to bring a knowledge of the OT to bear upon Pentecostal faith and practice.
  - b. This course will further the students' growth as persons of the Word by ingesting the Word to the point that it is embodied in their life and witness.
  - c. This course will enable students to practice and foster community of faith relationships around the Word of God, specifically around the OT.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. **READING ASSIGNMENTS.** Students will read the textbooks and other assigned readings throughout the semester. At the end of the course, students will be required to report the percentage of reading that they have completed. 5% of course grade.
2. **DISCUSSION FORUM.** Participation in the class Discussion Forum is also required. The Discussion Forum is worth 20% of the final grade.
3. **EXEGETICAL RESEARCH PAPER:** (10-15 page, typewritten, double-spaced), conforming to the instructions, format, and guidelines below, is due at the end of the tenth week of class. The Term Paper is worth 50% of course grade. Late papers will be penalized one letter grade per week. Sample papers are available on the course website.
4. **MID-TERM & FINAL EXAMINATIONS** (see dates below) covering the content of assigned readings. The average of the two exams is worth 25% of course grade. Exams will consist of essay questions.

### COURSE OUTLINE AND SCHEDULE

Reading assignments and other resources are listed on the course website.

#### UNIT 1: INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE

Course syllabus and assignments

[Introduction to the AAAS/DoSER Science and Seminaries Project](#)

Students must take the Pre-Course Survey:

link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Science4SeminariesPreCourse>

#### UNIT 2: AUTHORITY AND RELIABILITY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

#### UNIT 3: APPROACHES TO THE STUDY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

Students will watch the following science video from BioLogos:

<https://biologos.org/resources/finding-faith-an-evolutionary-biologist-shares-his-story>

Students will watch the following lecture on the basic science of archaeology:

<https://youtu.be/nunXY9VCZe4>

#### UNIT 4: INTRO. TO THE TORAH AND GENESIS

Students will read the following scientific article about race:

Hubbard, Amelia R. "Testing Common Misconceptions about the Nature of Human Racial Variation," *The American Biology Teacher* 79 (7): 538-43.

Students will watch the following video from AAAS/DoSER regarding the science of racial variation: "Humans and Race: Exploring the Intersections of Science and Racism"  
<https://youtu.be/TRzusl6hVQs>

#### UNIT 5: EXODUS AND LEVITICUS

Students will watch the following video on current archaeological theories regarding the possible Egyptian links to the Israelites: <https://itunes.apple.com/US/movie/id1004196835>

Students will read the following science article that connects to our study of the Ten Commandments and biblical ethics: Yodera, Keith J. and Jean Decety, "The neuroscience of morality and social decision-making," *Psychol Crime Law*. 2018 ; 24(3): 279–295.  
 doi:10.1080/1068316X.2017.1414817

#### UNIT 6: NUMBERS AND DEUTERONOMY

Students will watch the following science video from AAAS/DoSER: "To Be Human: Genetics, Origins, and Identity" [https://youtu.be/SeOvSDt\\_ip4](https://youtu.be/SeOvSDt_ip4)

#### Mid-Term Exam covering Units 1-6

(Exam will be available online)

#### UNIT 7: INTRO. TO THE FORMER PROPHETS AND JOSHUA

#### UNIT 8: JUDGES, SAMUEL, AND KINGS

#### UNIT 9: INTRO. TO THE LATTER PROPHETS AND ISAIAH

Students will watch the following science video from AAAS/DoSER that relates to the Old Testament concern for responsible community and human rights: "Responsible AI: Using AI for Human Rights". <https://youtu.be/0fjWVbxu2U>

#### UNIT 10: JEREMIAH, EZEKIEL, AND THE TWELVE PROPHETS

#### UNIT 11: INTRO. TO THE WRITINGS, POETRY AND WISDOM

Students will read the following science article that relates to our study of the book of Psalms: Weinberger, Norman. "Music and the Brain," *Scientific American* (Sept 1, 2006).  
<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/music-and-the-brain-2006-09>.

Students will watch the following science video from AAAS/DoSER that relates to natural theology: "Awe and Wonder!" <https://youtu.be/DKate5pTx-Q>. The video asks, Why do science? Why explore the world? In this inspiring short film, scientists describe how their fascination with the beauty and complexity of nature informs their vocations, and how their observations of the natural world cause them to reflect on the bigger questions of life.

#### UNIT 12: POST-EXILIC NARRATIVE AND APOCALYPTIC

Students will read the following article that revisits the question of race. The article connects to our study of Ezra and Nehemiah, where the racial purity of Judaism is a concern. Torres, Jada Benn, and Gabriel A. Torres Colón, "Racial Experience as an Alternative Operationalization of Race," *Human Biology* 87 (4): 306-312. <https://doi.org/10.13110/humanbiology.87.4.0306>

All students must fill out the post-course science survey:  
 link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Sci4SemPostCourseSurvey>

**EXEGETICAL RESEARCH PAPER Due April 16** (upload term paper on the website).

**FINAL EXAM due May 14**, covering Units 7-12

ONLINE RESOURCES:

Tips for Searching the Online Catalog:

<http://library.leeuniversity.edu/guides/bible-online-search-tips.asp>

Purdue University Writing Lab:

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/545/01/>

Especially all nine pages under "General Academic Writing"

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/01/>

Turabian Referencing Guide for writing term papers:

[http://library.leeuniversity.edu/guides/turabian-chicago-style.asp#Turabian\\_Style\\_-\\_Lee\\_University\\_Manual](http://library.leeuniversity.edu/guides/turabian-chicago-style.asp#Turabian_Style_-_Lee_University_Manual)

APA Referencing Guide for writing term papers:

<http://dlibrary.acu.edu.au/library/skapa.htm>

Strunk & White, *Elements of Style*

<http://www.bartleby.com/141/>

Guides to critical thinking:

<http://www.criticalthinking.org/estore/bookstore.cfm>

Google Book Search

<http://books.google.com/>