



The University of Manchester

School of
Languages & Cultures, Faculty of Humanities
Course Unit Descriptor



Arts,

Modified Date: February 2016

GENERAL INFORMATION

Credit Rating	10
Course Unit Title	Old Testament Theology
Unit Code	317 (8317 distance learning version)
Unit Level	3
Contact Hours	22 (n/a for distance learning)
FHEQ Level	6
Teaching Period	Flexible delivery
Teaching Staff	Dr Zoltan Schwab
ECTS	5

EXTERNAL FACING COURSE UNIT OVERVIEW

The unit gives an overview of some of the major theological themes of the Old Testament (OT). It discusses topics such as God's revelation, creation, human failure, divine judgment and the unfolding redemptive purposes of God for humankind. Attention is given to God's election of, and covenant with, Israel, suffering and death, and to the OT hope for the future. Throughout the unit students are encouraged to think through the implications of their studies for God's people today and to consider whether the OT has a central theme.

COURSE UNIT OVERVIEW

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AIMS

To present the students with a critical overview of the major theological themes of the OT.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Knowledge and Understanding

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

- Describe and analyse some of the main theological ideas of the OT

Intellectual Skills

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

- Critically discuss the theological significance of the passages studied

- Assess the importance of the OT for understanding the New Testament
- Reflect sensitively on the application of the OT in the life of the Church

Practical Skills

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

- Provide an interpretation of key passages
- Explain the major theological themes of the OT in the context of the church and the world
- Communicate their ideas to others (317)

Transferable Skills and Personal Qualities

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

- Evaluate their own views and the opinions to others
- Work independently to analyse and apply texts

Employability Skills

Students will consolidate skills such as interpreting texts appropriately, giving attention to detail, managing and evaluating information, organizing and presenting their ideas. These skills are vital to a range of employment contexts.

SYLLABUS

1. OT vs. NT
2. Nature of OT Theology
3. God: anthropomorphic or not
4. 'Dark God'
5. God's Love and Wrath
6. Monotheism, Polytheism, Trinity
7. Election and Covenant
8. Land, Nation, State, City
9. Sin, Sacrifice, Salvation
10. Memory, Sabbath, Prayer
11. Fear of the Lord, Presence of God

TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS

317: Interactive lectures

8317: Distance learning

Unit materials are available at Spurgeon's *Online* to support student learning

ASSESSMENT METHODS

Assessment task	Length	Weighting within unit
Formative:		
• 315: An exposition of a passage from the Major Prophets	10 minutes	n/a
• 8315: An exposition of a passage from the Major Prophets	750 words	n/a
Summative:		
• 315: An essay	3000-3500 words	100%
• 8315: An essay and a learning journal*	3000-3500 words	100%
		Pass/fail*

* Distance learning students are required to pass this element.

FEEDBACK METHODS

- Oral feedback in class (317 only)
- Written feedback on formative and summative written submissions within 15 working days

REQUISITES

Available on which programme(s)?	BA in Theology
Available as Free Choice (UG) or to other programmes (PG)?	Available as Free Choice (UG)
Pre-requisite units	103 Reading and Using the Bible or 112 Introduction to the Bible or equivalent
Co-requisite units	n/a

RECOMMENDED READING

Boda, Mark J., *A Severe Mercy, Sin and Its Remedy in the Old Testament* (Winona Lake, Indiana: Eisenbrauns, 2009) [<https://www.perlego.com/book/1990054/a-severe-mercy-sin-and-its-remedy-in-the-old-testament-pdf>]

Boda, Mark J., *The Heartbeat of Old Testament Theology, Three Creedal Expressions* (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker, 2017) [<https://www.perlego.com/book/1277657/heartbeat-of-old-testament-theology-acadia-studies-in-bible-and-theology-three-creedal-expressions-pdf>]

Goldingay, John, *Old Testament Theology. Three Volumes* (Downers Grove: IVP, 2003, 2006, 2009) [<http://web.a.ebscohost.com/ehost/detail/detail?vid=3&sid=ce2e2ba7-8d9e-4507-8b83-58044647d653%40sdc-v-sessmgr03&bdata=JnNpdGU9ZWZWhvc3QtbGI2ZQ%3d%3d#db=nlebk&AN=642402;>

<http://web.a.ebscohost.com/ehost/detail/detail?vid=4&sid=ce2e2ba7-8d9e-4507-8b83-58044647d653%40sdc-v-sessmgr03&bdata=JnNpdGU9ZWZWhvc3QtbGI2ZQ%3d%3d#AN=642403&db=nlebk>

[http://web.a.ebscohost.com/ehost/detail/detail?vid=5&sid=ce2e2ba7-8d9e-4507-8b83-58044647d653%40sdc-v-sessmgr03&bdata=JnNpdGU9ZWZWhvc3QtbGI2ZQ%3d%3d#AN=642404&db=nlebk\]](http://web.a.ebscohost.com/ehost/detail/detail?vid=5&sid=ce2e2ba7-8d9e-4507-8b83-58044647d653%40sdc-v-sessmgr03&bdata=JnNpdGU9ZWZWhvc3QtbGI2ZQ%3d%3d#AN=642404&db=nlebk)

Gossai, Hemchand (ed.), *Postcolonial Commentary and the Old Testament* (London: Bloomsbury, 2018) [<https://www.perlego.com/book/859083/postcolonial-commentary-and-the-old-testament-pdf>]

Gottwald, Norman K., *Social Justice and the Hebrew Bible, Three Volumes* (Eugene, Oregon: Cascade Books, 2016) [<https://www.perlego.com/book/881389/social-justice-and-the-hebrew-bible-volume-one-pdf>]

[<https://www.perlego.com/book/882144/social-justice-and-the-hebrew-bible-volume-two-pdf?queryID=736943008e1fd3076faec2a80c879690&searchIndexType=books>]

[<https://www.perlego.com/book/882543/social-justice-and-the-hebrew-bible-volume-three-pdf?queryID=de4012ef1170196d71798f4e25a1ed2e&searchIndexType=books>]

Martens, Elmer A., *God's Design*, 4th edition (Eugene, Oregon: Wipf and Stock, 2015)
[<https://www.perlego.com/book/880630/gods-design-4th-edition-a-focus-on-old-testament-theology-pdf?queryID=3f4300ec23ae93086417740143dc6c0d&searchIndexType=books>]

Ollenburger, Ben C. (ed.), *Old Testament Theology, Flowering and Future*, Sources for Biblical and Theological Study, vol. 1 (Winona Lake, Indiana: Eisenbrauns, 2004)
[<https://www.perlego.com/book/2034187/old-testament-theology-flowering-and-future-pdf?queryID=cb87b82ceb37916be1ce73511f62804f&searchIndexType=books>]

Rogerson, John W., *A Theology of the Old Testament, Cultural Memory, Communication, and Being Human* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2010)
[<https://www.perlego.com/book/1470204/theology-of-the-old-testament-cultural-memory-communication-and-being-human-pdf?queryID=1dc1b8b4b6e5ab57d92ffb3c9f73f6b8&searchIndexType=books>]

Waltke, Bruce K., Charles Yu, *An Old Testament Theology* (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 2007) [<https://ereader.perlego.com/1/book/559399/0>]

Walton, John H., *Old Testament Theology for Christians, From Ancient Context to Enduring Belief* (Downers Grove, Illinois: IVP Academic, 2017)
[<https://www.perlego.com/book/970813/old-testament-theology-for-chr-from-ancient-context-to-enduring-belief-pdf>]

Zimmerli, Walther, *Old Testament Theology in Outline* (Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 1978)
[<https://ereader.perlego.com/1/book/804133/5>]

Some reliable web resources:

Bible Odyssey (wide range of short articles and videos by biblical scholars):
<http://www.bibleodyssey.org/>

SOTS Wiki (Introductory wiki articles by Old Testament scholars): <https://sots-ot.wikispaces.com/>

Theology and Ethics (Collection of videos, some of them by biblical scholars):
<https://www.theologyethics.com/2020/05/15/youtube-theology/>

OnScript (Podcast, interviews with theologians, mainly with biblical scholars):
<https://onscript.study/>

Bibliography of works written by black scholars (with links to works that are freely available on-line; please also note that some of these works are available in Perlego and other on-line libraries): <https://ibr-bbr.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/BlackOTBibliography.pdf>

SCHEDULED ACTIVITY HOURS

22 contact hours (n/a for distance learning version)

PLACEMENT HOURS

n/a

INDEPENDENT STUDY HOURS

78 hours (100 hours for distance learning version)

ADDITIONAL NOTES

APPROVAL

Date approved by UGC

Valid from Date (Publishing Date)