

Introduction to the Old Testament

Orientation conference call: Thursday Feb. 1, 2018 7:30 PM Central Time

Class Sessions Feb. 2- April 19, 2018

Course facilitator: Dr. Ralph W. Klein, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

This ten lesson course introduces students to the high points of the Old Testament:

- The Primeval History in Genesis 1-11
- The stories of Sarah and Abraham
- Exodus-Deuteronomy
- The Deuteronomic History (Joshua-Kings)
- Amos and Isaiah
- Jeremiah
- Isaiah 40-55
- Job
- Psalms

The course is supported by an up-to-date textbook and a study guide, including web resources.

Facilitator as Resource

The class facilitator will be familiar with the lectures and reading material, read student postings, and will be rotating the type of interface he uses with the student each week. The week that there is a live chat, the chat will be the interface. Other weeks the facilitator will be responding to either essays or to threaded discussions or give a general written response to the issues of that week.

The facilitator for this course is Dr. Ralph W. Klein, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. Dr. Klein is also editor of *Currents in Theology and Mission* and Curator of the LSTC Rare Books Collection. His websites include: The Old Testament and the Ancient Near East <http://OT-studies.com> ; The Gruber Rare Book Collection <http://collections.lstc.edu/gruber/>

Orientation Thursday Feb. 1, 2018: You will be enrolled in the course site at the beginning of the orientation week. Please take this time to explore the course site. There are a number of tasks to do during the orientation time: update your profile, introduce yourself in the “Getting to Know You” forum, and indicating your choice about “Why are you taking this course?” You can’t hurt anything, click around the course homepage and explore! There will also be an orientation video conference call using the tool Zoom with the course facilitator on **Thursday Feb. 1 at 7:30 PM Central Time**. The instructions for that call will be in the course website.

Weekly course guide:

Sometime Friday –Monday of each week

- read the assigned readings in both the Old Testament and textbook
- watch the lectures on DVD
- post your discussion essay by Monday evening

Tuesday-Thursday

- respond to at least 2 of your classmates essays (respond first to those with no responses or the fewest responses)

-do the assignment for the session

Thursday-Friday

-post to the key question forum based on the week's assignment

-Respond to at least 2 people

Live Discussion– Session 5, Thursday March 8

During this week there will be a live online small group discussion, using Zoom, the online tool used for the orientation call.

Course Schedule

Feb. 2, 2018	Session 1	Canon and Exegesis
Feb. 9	Session 2	The Primeval History - Genesis 1-11
Feb. 16	Session 3	The Ancestral History - Sarah and Abraham
Feb. 23	Session 4	Exodus and the Decalogue; Deuteronomy
March 2	Session 5	The Deuteronomistic History
March 9	Session 6	Amos and Prophecy; the First Isaiah and the Messiah
March 17	Session 7	Jeremiah
March 23	Holy Week Break!	
March 30	Session 8	The Exile, Second Isaiah, and the Servant
April 6	Session 9	Job
April 13	Session 10	Psalms
May 4	Final Paper Due	