

Introduction to the Old Testament

Orientation conference call: Thursday Jan. 30, 2020 7:30 PM Central Time

Class Sessions Jan. 31- April 16, 2020

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 Zoom discussion, the discussion 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 Jan. 30, 2020: 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 Jan. 30 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 at 7:30

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

Course Schedule

Jan. 31, 2020	Session 1	Canon and Exegesis
Feb. 7	Session 2	The Primeval History - Genesis 1-11
Feb. 14	Session 3	The Ancestral History - Sarah and Abraham
Feb. 21	Session 4	Exodus and the Decalogue; Deuteronomy
Feb. 28	Session 5	The Deuteronomistic History
March 6	Session 6	Amos and Prophecy; the First Isaiah and the Messiah
March 13	Session 7	Jeremiah
March 20	Session 8	The Exile, Second Isaiah, and the Servant
March 27	Session 9	Job
April 3	Holy Week Break	
April 10	Session 10	Psalms
April 24	Final Paper Due	