

Introduction to the Old Testament

Orientation conference call: Tuesday Jan. 16 at 6:30 PM Central Time

Class Sessions Jan. 19 – April 4, 2024

Course facilitator: Dr. Michael Chan, Concordia College

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. Michael Chan. Michael Chan is the Executive Director of the Faith and Learning at Concordia College, Moorhead, MN. He is a graduate of Pacific Lutheran University (B.A.), Luther Seminary (M.A. in Old Testament), and Emory University (Ph.D.). He taught Old Testament at Luther Seminary before his work at Concordia. Chan has written many articles and books including *Exploring the Bible* (with Eric Barreto). In addition to being a sought-after speaker and author, he also hosts the Gospel Beautiful podcast, which interviews guests about the challenging task of preaching the Gospel in the 21st century.

Orientation Tuesday Jan. 16 at 6:30 PM Central Time: 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 **Tuesday Jan. 16 at 6:30 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— Sessions 3 and 8 on Tuesday at 7:30 PM Central Time

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

Course Schedule

Jan. 19, 2024	Session 1	Canon and Exegesis
Jan. 26	Session 2	The Primeval History - Genesis 1-11
Feb. 2	Session 3	The Ancestral History - Sarah and Abraham
Feb. 9	Session 4	Exodus and the Decalogue; Deuteronomy
Feb. 16	Session 5	The Deuteronomistic History
Feb.23	Session 6	Amos and Prophecy; the First Isaiah and the Messiah
March 1	Session 7	Jeremiah
March 8	Session 8	The Exile, Second Isaiah, and the Servant
March 15	Session 9	Job
March 10	Holy Week Break	
March 29	Session 10	Psalms
April 18	Final Paper Due	