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OT 520 Old Testament Introduction

John A. Cook

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Syllabus

Course: OT520 W1 (SP 2009)
Title: Old Testament Introduction
Hours: 3.00
Published: Yes, on 12/15/2008
Prerequisites:

None

Department: Old Testament
Faculty: Dr. John Cook



Email: john.cook@asburyseminary.edu
Office: AD
SPO: 788

Meetings:

During 02/09/2009 to 05/22/2009 on Wednesday and Friday from 8:00a to 9:15a in M307.

Maximum Registration: 50

Catalog Description: An introduction to (1) the literature of the Old Testament in its socio-historical, literary, and canonical contexts; and (2) critical study of the Old Testament.

Objectives:

OT 520 Introduction to the Old Testament

Spring 2009, W/F 8:00-9:15, TBD

Instructor: John A. Cook 3 credit hours
john_cook@asburyseminary.edu enrollment limit: 30
BC 336; 859-858-2292 prerequisites: IBS-1, OT520, OT501
Office hours: T/Th 9:30-10:30; W 12-1

Description

An introduction to (1) the literature of the Old Testament in its socio-historical, literary, and canonical contexts; and (2) critical study of the Old Testament (from catalog).

Goals

1. Become familiar with the structure, content, and themes of the Old Testament literature.
2. Develop an appreciation of the socio-historical, linguistic, and literary background to the Old Testament and their role in interpretation.
3. Become conversant with the discipline of biblical studies and understand its relationship with the Church.

Procedures

1. Reading extensive portions of the Old Testament and relevant secondary literature.
2. Lectures on select topics and key biblical texts, modeling critical interpretation and theological appropriation of the Old Testament.
3. Discussion of select topics and key biblical texts.

Requirements

1. Textbooks (available at the bookstore or online):
 1. Coogan, Michael David [= COT]
2006 *The Old Testament: A Historical and Literary Introduction to the Hebrew Scriptures*. New York: Oxford University Press.
 2. Coogan, Michael D., ed. [= COH]
1998 *The Oxford History of the Biblical World*. New York: Oxford University Press.
2. Class preparation (10%)
Come to class prepared for the day's lecture and/or discussion by having completed the assigned reading *prior* to the class period. Read faithfully, ask questions regularly, engage with fellow students and the instructor. Attendance (physically and mentally) is important, so a record will be kept, and a portion of your grade will be based on your attendance and participation in class.
3. Three exams (20% each)
Exams are closed-book, electronic exams (online). Format consists of multiple choice, short answer, and an essay based on readings and class lectures; "fair game" essay questions will be provided in advance of each exam
 1. Exam 1 covers material from weeks 1–5; take by end of **week 6**.
 2. Exam 2 covers material from weeks 6–10; take by end of **week 11**.
 3. Exam 3 covers material from weeks 11–14; take by **final exam time**.
4. Two essays (15% each)
Students will prepare two brief (1500–1750 words) essays (to be announced).
 1. Essay 1 TBA (due **March 27th**)
 2. Essay 2 TBA (due **May 11th**)

Evaluation

1. Written assignments
See guidelines and rubric for written assignments on the course web page.
2. General policies
Assignments will not be accepted after the due date except in the case of emergencies (i.e., major illness or act of God); if you need extra time to complete an assignment, begin working on it earlier. *Appeals* for reevaluation of work must be submitted in writing, specifying the basis for your disagreement with the grade.
3. Grade scale (See ATS catalog for 4.0 scale)

A = 96–100%	B = 87–89.99%	C = 78–80.99%	D = 69–71.99%
A- = 93–95.99%	B- = 84–86.99%	C- = 75–77.99%	D- = 66–68.99%
B + 90–92.99%	C+ = 81–83.99%	D+ = 72–74.99%	F = 0–65.99%
4. Incomplete work (ATS policy)
"A grade of 'I' denotes that the work of a course has not been completed due to an unavoidable emergency, which does not include delinquency or attending to church work or other employment. If the work of the course is incomplete at the end of a term without an emergency, a letter grade will be given based on the grades of work done, with incomplete work counted as 'F.' (See ATS Catalog)

Schedule (TBA)