

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SEMINARY

2075 EAST MADISON AVENUE • EL CAJON • CALIFORNIA 92019-1108

OT-511 Old Testament Introduction 1: Genesis-Judges

Spring Term Module 3

January 9 – February 20, 2017

ONLINE & Mondays 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Professor: Dr. Brian K. Moulton

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Course Description

A study of the Pentateuch, Joshua and Judges with emphasis on the historical and cultural background, structure, genre, themes, theological implications and application of these books. *(three units)*

Required Textbooks

1. *The Holy Bible*. A translation based on formal equivalence, such as the *New King James Version* or the *New American Standard Bible*, is recommended for study.
2. Merrill, Eugene, Mark F. Rooker and Michael A. Grisanti. *The World and the Word: An Introduction to the Old Testament*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Academic, 2011. ISBN: 978-0-8054-4031-7
3. Sailhamer, John H. *The Meaning of the Pentateuch: Revelation, Composition and Interpretation*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2009. ISBN 978-0-8308-3867-7

Please Note: In order to get your books before classes begin, it is your responsibility to order the texts at least one month prior to the start of class or be willing to pay for expedited shipping.

Course Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes

The student who successfully completes this course will be able to . . .	Program Objectives*	SCS Institutional Objectives*	Course Requirement (CR #)
1. understand the background and history of the Old Testament.	1,3	1,3,4,7	1,2,3,5
2. articulate the dating, authorship, literary composition, theological themes, and meaning of the Torah through Judges.	1,2,3	1,3,4,5,7,8	1,2,3,5
3. develop critical thinking, research, and writing skills for biblical study, apologetics, and communication	3,5	1,3,4,7	1,3,4
4. synthesize biblical knowledge from the Genesis to Judges for daily application	4,5	1,2,6	1,3

* *The program objectives and institutional objectives are published in the current Seminary Catalog.*

Course Requirements

Many if not all written assignments will be turned in through Blackboard and will be processed through software to check for plagiarism.

1. *Reading:* The student will read the assigned weekly material carefully and critically.
2. *Quizzes:* The student will be responsible for the material covered in the reading assignments for each session with a scheduled quiz.
3. *Short Studies:*

Application Paper—Suggest specific applications for today’s Christian from each of the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20. Naturally, take caution regarding the Sabbath commandment (2 pages).

Interpretive Paper—Numbers 20:1-13 details the sin of Moses when he struck the rock to get water. What’s this all about? What did Moses do wrong? What was his punishment? For this paper I want you to get inside the mind of Moses and inside the mind of God and explain in brief why all this happened (2 pages)

Map Project—Create a map of the Land of Israel, locating the geographical information found in Judges, including the sites of significant battles, locations of various judgships, locations of Israel’s main enemies during the period of the Judges, etc. (piece of tagboard). For students online, please take several pictures of your map and its detail and send those to me as an email file attachment.
4. *Research Paper:* The student will write an 8–10 page well researched paper on a topic related to the course. The topic is up to the student. Guidelines will be given in class.
5. *Final Exam:* The student will be tested on the material covered in the reading and lectures during the entire course. This includes multiple choice, true/false, short answer, and essays.

***All laptop computers, electronic devices, writing and reading material brought to class are to be used only as directly related to the immediate class discussion and in a way that does not distract others. Browsing the internet, playing computer games, checking e-mail, text messaging, etc. is inappropriate and unacceptable during class.

Sequence of Instruction

Read the table like this, “At Session ____ on _____, the scheduled session content is _____, and the assignment *due before that session* is _____.”

Session	Date	Session Content	Assignment Due
1	Jan 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why Study the OT? • The Nature of OT Introduction • The Canon of the OT 	Reading: The Book of Genesis (skim) <input type="checkbox"/> Reading: <i>The World and the Word: An Introduction to the Old Testament</i> chapters 1-4, 8-9.

Session	Date	Session Content	Assignment Due
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Studies in Genesis • Video: “Crossroads” 	<input type="checkbox"/> Reading Report 1 Due. This is a 3 page double spaced summary of the key findings in your reading in the textbook for this week. Please include in this summary your <u>critique</u> of what you have read. Submit digitally to the link in our Blackboard course site. This is a single Word document. Due at week’s end.
2	Jan 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Canon of the OT • The Text of the OT • Studies in Exodus • Video: “Red Sea/Mt. Sinai” 	<input type="checkbox"/> Reading: The Book of Exodus (skim) <input type="checkbox"/> Reading: <i>The World and the Word</i> chapters 5-7 <input type="checkbox"/> Application Paper Due-10 Commandments <input type="checkbox"/> Quiz 1
3	Jan 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorship of the Torah • Studies in Leviticus • Video: “Qumran” 	<input type="checkbox"/> Reading: The Book of Leviticus (skim) <input type="checkbox"/> Reading: <i>The Meaning of the Pentateuch</i> Introduction – chapter 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Quiz 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Note: It’s Time To Order All Textbooks For Next Module!
4	Jan 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literary Composition of the Torah • Studies in Numbers 	<input type="checkbox"/> Reading: The Book of Numbers (skim) <input type="checkbox"/> Reading: <i>The Meaning of the Pentateuch</i> chapter 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Interpretive Paper Due-Moses and the Rock
5	Feb 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Purpose of the Mosaic Law in the Torah • Studies in Deuteronomy • Video “Wet Feet” 	<input type="checkbox"/> Reading: The Book of Deuteronomy <input type="checkbox"/> Reading: <i>The Meaning of the Pentateuch</i> chapters 7 & 10-11 <input type="checkbox"/> Reading: <i>The World and the Word</i> page 163 through chapter 14
6	Feb 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Torah....continued • Studies in Joshua & Judges • Video “Iron of Culture” 	<input type="checkbox"/> Reading: The Books of Joshua & Judges <input type="checkbox"/> Reading: <i>The World and the Word</i> page 271 through chapter 17 <input type="checkbox"/> Map Project Due-Locations in Judges <input type="checkbox"/> Research Paper Due
7	Feb 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Studies in Judges 	<input type="checkbox"/> Final Exam (due at week’s end!) <input type="checkbox"/> Professor’s Concluding Lecture

Student Evaluation

Scheduled Quizzes (3 @ 50 points each).....	150 pts.
Short Studies (3 @ 100 points each).....	300 pts.
First Week Reading Report.....	75 pts.
Research Paper.....	250 pts.
Final Exam.....	225 pts.
	1000 pts.

Grade Scale

The final course grades are not given out until at least three weeks after the course is finished. A student will not be given their final grade unless the course has been paid for in full.

Grade	Percent	Points	Grade	Percent	Points
A	95–100%	950–1000	C	77–79%	770–799
A-	92–94%	920–949	C-	74–76%	740–769
B+	89–91%	890–919			
B	86–88%	860–889			
B-	83–85%	830–859			
C+	80–82%	800–829			

For graduate students, a grade lower than “C-” will be lowered to “F.”

Attendance Policy

For the Modular Courses (21 lecture hours/ 7 weeks), more than 10 minutes missing from class is considered a Tardy, and more than 20 minutes missing from class is counted as an Absence. Two tardies = one absence. You are permitted one absence for a 7-week course. Two absences results in being dropped from the course.

General School Policy: A student who takes an absence from class will receive a penalty resulting in an immediate reduction of their final grade by 7 percent in a modular class and 3.5 percent in a trimester class. However, the student will have the ability to make up between 0 percent and all of the deduction at the professor’s discretion. Only extenuating circumstances such as hospitalization, death in the family, etc. will be considered for making up the deduction.

Late Course Work Policy

No late work will be accepted with a passing grade. Late work will be given 50% of the earned total points. Only extenuating circumstances such as hospitalization, death in the family, etc. will be considered for an extension on the assignment without penalty.

Academic Integrity

Southern California Seminary expects its students to conduct themselves honestly in their personal and academic lives. If evidence arises of academic dishonesty, the dean of the program will investigate the matter and take appropriate action.

Offenses Against Academic Integrity

Cheating. Cheating is never tolerated at SCS.

Plagiarism. Plagiarism can occur intentionally or inadvertently. Intentional acts of plagiarism involve knowingly and willingly treating another person's work as one's own original work. It includes copying or imitating the words, sentences, outlines, or ideas of another person.

Inadvertent plagiarism can occur when a student fails to properly cite original sources.

Plagiarism will not be tolerated at SCS. Therefore, all offenses of plagiarism will be reported to the dean of the program in which the offense occurred and an investigation will be made to determine what disciplinary action should be taken.

Aiding or Conspiring in the Commission of Plagiarism. Helping someone commit plagiarism is viewed as equally dishonest as plagiarism, for all participating parties.

Multiple Submissions. This offense occurs when a student submits a paper that was written for another course as if it were an original paper satisfying the requirements of the present course. Attempting to submit such work is deceptive and a form of academic dishonesty. On the occasion that a student's previous work has some potential for expansion, improvement, or to serve as a starting point for another line of thought (as with Doctrinal Summary/Synopsis) the student will be advised by the professor to what extent a particular previous work may be permitted. The professor may require that a copy of the previous work be submitted with the later work.

Library

The SDCC/SCS Library website is your gateway to library resources and information. For a complete description of the library's holdings, services, staff and access to its online collections, go to: <http://sdcc.edu/library>.