

LIDLAW COLLEGE
Te Wananga Amorangi

120.515 Old Testament Introduction
Course Assessment and Delivery Outline

Campus: Christchurch
Lecturer/Tutor: Richard Neville

Semester 2, 2015
NQF Level 5, 15 credits

CONTENT OVERVIEW

An introduction to the Old Testament, including its Ancient Near Eastern context, its literary nature, its major themes, its importance for understanding the New Testament, and its relevance for today.

ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

Assessment	Word count	% Final Grade	Due Date
Reading groups/journal	Not specified	15%	Sept 5 and Oct 31
Essay on the Monarchy	2500	45%	August 22
Essay on Proverbs	1800	40%	Sept 27

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week/Date	Topic	Assessment Task
1	Course introduction and Wisdom Literature	
2	Proverbs and Job	
3	Job and Ecclesiastes	
4	Song of Songs and Psalms	
	INTENSIVE WEEK	Monarchy essay due
5	Psalms	
6	Pentateuch: Genesis	Journal due
7	Pentateuch: Exodus and Leviticus	
8	Pentateuch: Numbers and Deuteronomy	
9	Historical Books: Joshua, Judges, Ruth	
	MID-TERM BREAK	
10	Historical Books: Samuel to Esther	
11	Prophetic Books: Eighth Century Prophets	Proverbs essay due
12	Prophetic Books: Remaining Prophets	Journal due
Study and Examinations		

ASSESSMENT TASKS AND DUE DATES

1. Group Bible Readings and Journal

Length: 5-10 reflections (and questions) per journal entry
 Learning outcomes: 1 and 4
 Percentage weighting: 15%
 Due date: 11.59pm, September 5 and October 31

This assessment gives you the opportunity to read and discuss a wide range of Bible texts in a small group context. You will receive credit for each meeting you attend and for a journal in which you record your questions and reflections. More detailed instructions are available on Moodle.

Criteria for Assessment

1	Attendance at group readings
2	Are there journal entries for each group meeting?
3	Do the journal entries show thoughtful inquiry and reflection?

2. Essay: Introducing the Monarchy

Length: 2500 words
 Learning outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4
 Percentage weighting: 45%
 Due date: 11.59pm, August 22

This essay investigates the fascinating question of the introduction of the monarchy into ancient Israel. Detailed instructions for this essay are available on Moodle.

Criteria for Assessment

1	Breadth of understanding.
2	Depth of treatment.
3	Critical judgment.
4	Cohesion, logic and flow of the argument.
5	Presentation, style, grammar and spelling.

3. Character studies: an investigation into the *simple*, the *fool*, and the *mock*er in the book of Proverbs.

Length: 2000 words
 Learning outcomes: 3 and 4
 Percentage weighting: 40%
 Due date: 11.59pm, September 27

This assessment gives you the opportunity to carry out a careful study of some interesting characters found in the book of Proverbs. These characters are the simple [*peʿtî*], the fool [*k^esîl*, 'ēwîl, nābāl], and the mocker [*lāṣ*]. Detailed instructions on how to complete this assignment are available on Moodle.

Criteria for Assessment

1	Breadth of understanding.
2	Depth of treatment.
3	Critical judgment.
4	Cohesion, logic and flow of the argument.
5	Presentation, style, grammar and spelling.

LEARNING HOURS

Class time	36 hours
Pre-reading for classes	14 hours
Group readings and journal	15 hours

Monarchy essay	45 hours
Proverbs essay	<u>40 hours</u>
	150 learning hours (15 credits)

TEXTBOOK

The highly recommended text for this course is,

John H. Walton, and Andrew E. Hill, *Old Testament Today* (2nd ed.), Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2014.

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

Surveys and Introductions

Longman III, Tremper and Raymond B. Dillard. *An Introduction to the Old Testament* (2nd ed.), Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2006.

Histories of Ancient Israel

Provan, I., V.P. Long and T. Longman III. *A Biblical History of Israel*, Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2003.

Old Testament Theologies

Brueggemann, Walter. *Theology of the Old Testament*, Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1997.

Goldingay, John. *Old Testament Theology* 3 vols. Downers: InterVarsity Press, 2003, 2006, 2009.

Archaeology of Ancient Israel

Hoerth, Alfred J. *Archaeology and the Old Testament*, Grand Rapids: Baker, 1998.

Customs and culture of Ancient Israel

Borowski, Oded. *Daily Life in Biblical Times*, Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2003.

King, P. J. and L. E. Stager. *Life in Biblical Israel*, Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2001.

The Ancient Near Eastern Culture and Customs

Currid, John D. *Ancient Egypt and the Old Testament*, Grand Rapids: Baker, 1997.

Nemet-Nejat, Karen Rhea. *Daily Life in Ancient Mesopotamia*, Peabody: Hendricksen, 1998.

The Ancient Near Eastern Texts in Translation

Hallo, W. W. and K. Lawson Younger Jr. (eds.). *The Context of Scripture* 3 vols. Leiden: Brill, 1997-2002.

Bible Dictionaries and Encyclopaedias

Arnold, B. T. and H. G. M. Williamson (eds.). *Dictionary of the Old Testament: Historical Books*, Downers Grove: IVP, 2005.

Baker, David W. and T. D. Alexander (eds.). *Dictionary of the Old Testament: Pentateuch*, Downers Grove: IVP, 2003.

Longman III, Tremper and Peter Enns (eds.). *Dictionary of the Old Testament: Wisdom, Poetry and Writings*, Downers Grove: IVP, 2008.

Sakenfield, Katherine Doob (ed.). *The New Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible* 5 vols., Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2006-2009.

Atlases

Currid, John D., and David P. Barrett. *Crossway ESV Bible Atlas*, Wheaton: Crossway, 2010.