



Course ID:	Course Title:	Fall 2018
BT 501	Introduction to the Bible	Prerequisite:
		Credits: 3

Class Information		Instructor Information		Important Dates	
Days:	Wednesday	Instructor:	Dr Greg Herrick	First day of classes:	Wed., Jan 9
Time:	6.30pm-9.30pm	Email:	gregjherrick@gmail.com	Last day to add/drop, or change to audit:	Sun, Jan 13
Room:		Phone:	403-700-6396	Last day to request revised exam:	Mon, Mar 11
Lab/ Tutorial:	n/a	Office:		Last day to withdraw from course:	Fri, Mar 22
	n/a	Office Hours:		Last day to apply for coursework extension:	Fri, Mar 29
Final Exam:				Last day of classes:	Fri, Apr 5

Course Description

An introduction to the events of the Old and New Testaments in their historical and canonical perspective. The general historical framework of the events presupposed by the Old and New Testaments will be studied in order to locate the biblical materials in a narrative. The development of canon with its implications for interpretation will be considered.

Expected Learning Outcomes

As a result of taking this course, the student will:

1. Know the basic chronological framework in which Scripture is situated, especially as it related to major events in the life of Israel (including exodus, conquest, united/divided monarchy, exile & return, Jesus' ministry and the apostolic period), and major cultural and international factors as they pertain to the testaments. The student will also gain an appreciation for Israel's major institutions.
2. Gain an appreciation for the literary and theological character of Scripture and various methods/principles for reading scripture well.

Textbooks

Arnold, Bill T. and Beyer, Bryan E. *Encountering the Old Testament: A Christian Survey*. Third Edition. Encountering Biblical Studies. Edited by Eugene Merrill. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2015.

Elwell, Walter A. and Robert W. Yarbrough. *Encountering the New Testament: A Historical and Theological Survey*. Third Edition. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2013.

Course Schedule

#	Date	Topic	Assignment
1	Jan 9	Intro to Course and The Old Testament Chs. 1-3 in <i>EOT</i>	None
2	Jan 16	Genesis - Exodus	#1 - Read <i>EOT</i> 4-6 Questions
3	Jan 23	Leviticus-Deuteronomy	#2 - Read 7-9 Questions
4	Jan 30	Joshua – 1 Samuel	#3 - Read 11-13 Questions
5	Feb 6	2 Samuel – 2 Chronicles	#4 - Read 14-16 Questions
6	Feb 13	Ezra-Esther & Poetry	#5 - Read 18, 21, 23 (Psalms) Questions
7	Feb 20	NO CLASS	
8	Feb 27	Major – Minor Prophets	#6 Read 24-26, 29, 31 Questions Paper 1
9	Mar 6	Jesus & The Gospels	#7 - Read <i>ENT</i> 2, 5, 7, 8 Questions
10	Mar 13	Jesus & The Gospels	#8 - Read 9, 11, 12 Questions Paper 2
11	Mar 20	Acts & Paul's Letters	#9 - Read 13, 14, 16 Questions
12	Mar 27	Paul & His Letters	#10 - Read 17-19 Questions
13	Apr 3	General Epistles & Revelation	#11 - Read 22-24 Questions In Class Test

Requirements:

1. All assignments - readings and papers - are due *before* the appropriate class period;
2. Reading – Best 10/11 Readings & Questions – 60% (1-3 sentence answer for each question);
3. 1 In Class Final Test – 20%;
4. 2 x 3-5 Page Papers – 10% ea
 - a. *Bible* Events & Chronology Overview (3 Sources)
 - i. Table of Nations
 - ii. Patriarchs
 - iii. Israel in Egypt
 - iv. Exodus & Conquest
 - v. United and Divided Monarchy
 - vi. Assyrian & Babylonian Deportations & Return
 - vii. Intertestamental Period
 1. The Greeks & Alexander the Great (Maccabees)
 2. The Romans & Caesar Augustus
 - viii. Jesus Ministry, Death & Resurrection

- ix. Apostles & Early Church
- b. Major Bible Genres & Themes Overview (3 Sources)
 - i. Sample Genres (and Subgenres)
 1. Law
 2. Historical Narrative, Reports, Heroic Accounts
 3. Poetry, Proverb, Lyric, Song, Hymn
 4. Apocalyptic, Visionary, Prophetic Subgenres (e.g., legal disputation)
 5. Genealogy
 6. Parable
 7. Biography, Miracle Stories, Pronouncement Stories
 8. Letter
 - ii. Sample Themes
 1. Creation
 2. Monotheism
 3. Covenant
 4. Theocracy
 5. Law
 6. Sacrifice
 7. Prophecy & Fulfillment
 8. Messiah
 9. Redemption
 10. The People of God

Attendance:

The attendance policy is spelled out in the Seminary Handbook.

Grade Summary:

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>
A+	90 and above
A	85-69
A-	80-84
B+	77-79
B	73-76
B-	70-72
C+	67-69
C	63-66
C-	60-62
D+	55-59
D	50-54
F	Failure

Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform University-wide conversion scale. The relationship between raw scores (e.g. percentages) and the resultant letter grade will depend on the nature of the course and the instructor’s assessment of the level of each class, compared to similar classes taught previously.

Please note that final grades will be available on student registration system. Printed grade sheets are not mailed out.

Ambrose University Academic Policies:

Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and/or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a "Request to Withdraw from a Course" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Exam Scheduling

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a

laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a course Extension from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to acknowledge to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Note: Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.