



QTC



OT301/501

Old Testament Foundations

Online Learning Mode

QUEENSLAND THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

About this Unit Outline

This unit outline contains information essential to finding your way around the unit Old Testament Foundations. It provides a structure for your learning, giving details of lecture topics, assessment requirements, and key resources.

UNIT OUTLINE **SEMESTER 2 2016**

Important notice

While every care has been taken to ensure accuracy in the information given below, **it is the personal responsibility of each student to check the current ACT Undergraduate or Postgraduate Handbook**, copies of which may be found in the Library or online at www.acttheology.edu.au

It is very important that students plan their time carefully to ensure that reading and especially assignments receive adequate attention and so as to prevent a bottleneck of work at the end of the semester.

It is very important that all quoted material in assignments be properly footnoted and acknowledged. The attention of students is drawn to the section in the current ACT Undergraduate or Postgraduate Handbook, headed "**Academic Misconduct**". Failure to comply with the standards required will incur penalties as outlined in the ACT Undergraduate or Postgraduate Handbook.

The attention of students is also drawn to the section in the current ACT Undergraduate or Postgraduate Handbook, headed "**Guidelines for Essays.**" (see also the QTC Student Handbook) All essays should comply with these standards.

Information about this unit

Unit description

This unit will introduce students to key features of the contents and background of the Pentateuch (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy) and the Former Prophets (Joshua, Judges, 1–2 Samuel, and 1–2 Kings).

Learning objectives

OT301 Learning Outcomes

Know and understand

1. The Pentateuch/Torah
 - a) Genesis 1-11
 - b) Genesis 12-50
 - c) Exodus
 - d) Leviticus/Numbers
 - e) Deuteronomy
2. The Historical Books/Former Prophets
 - a) Joshua and Judges
 - b) 1 and 2 Samuel
 - c) 1 and 2 Kings

Be able to

1. Discuss the content and character of the writings of the Pentateuch/Torah and the Historical Books/Former Prophets
2. Explain the influence of the Ancient Near Eastern background on the Pentateuch/Torah and the Historical Books/Former Prophets
3. Analyse the themes and theology of the Pentateuch/Torah and the Historical Books/Former Prophets

Be in a position to

1. Integrate perspectives from 'Old Testament Foundations' with their other theological studies
2. Apply perspectives from 'Old Testament Foundations' to current issues in Christian life and thought

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Know and understand:

1. The Pentateuch/Torah
 - a) Genesis 1-11
 - b) Genesis 12-50
 - c) Exodus
 - d) Leviticus/Numbers
 - e) Deuteronomy
2. The Historical Books/Former Prophets
 - a) Joshua and Judges
 - b) 1 and 2 Samuel
 - c) 1 and 2 Kings
3. Selected approaches to the Pentateuch/Torah and the Historical Books/Former Prophets

Be able to:

1. Discuss the content and character of the writings of the Pentateuch/Torah and the Historical Books/Former Prophets
2. Explain the influence of the Ancient Near Eastern background on the Pentateuch/Torah and the Historical Books/Former Prophets
3. Analyse the themes and theology of the Pentateuch/Torah and the Historical Books/Former Prophets
4. Evaluate selected approaches to the Pentateuch/Torah and the Historical Books/Former Prophets

Be in a position to

1. Integrate perspectives from 'Old Testament Foundations' with their other theological studies
2. Apply perspectives from 'Old Testament Foundations' to current issues in Christian life and thought

How this Unit Contributes to the Course

At QTC, all students studying towards the MDiv, GradDipDiv, BTh, BMin, DipTh, DipMin or Wordworks usually include this unit within their course. This unit provides a foundation for further advanced Old Testament study.

This unit is designed as a PRIMARY DOCUMENT unit; therefore the main objective is to ensure that students have a deep familiarity with the text of Genesis-2 Kings as a foundation for further study of the Old Testament.

Pre-requisites and Co-requisites

This is a core unit and as such there are no pre-requisites or co-requisites associated with it.

How this unit is organized & what we expect of you

This unit is delivered in online mode, and organised in terms of learning activities for you to undertake each week.

Every week we will look at 1-3 topics (see Unit Timetable), with learning each week involving a combination of reading notes provided by the lecturer, listening to audio material from the lecturer, short readings from relevant books and articles, and short non-assessed exercises to get you thinking about and applying the material learnt.

Audio recordings and reading notes will normally be provided to you in brief sections, to help your learning to be more varied and enjoyable.

During most weeks of the course you will also participate briefly in discussion on the online forum for the unit, as indicated in the assessment section of this unit outline: further details on what is expected regarding online forum contributions will be provided in Week 1 of the Semester.

The unit will also involve the completion of three further assessments which are designed not only to assess your learning, but also to help you to deepen your understanding of the text.

It is expected that the biblical text to be covered is read at least once in advance of class. You will also be expected to read the relevant section of the course textbook (Dillard & Longman) *after each class*. **Please note that all students are expected to read the biblical books covered in their entirety at least three times during the semester.**

This unit is worth 4 credit points. This means that throughout the semester BTh/BMin/AssocDegTh/DipTh/DipMin students and PCQ candidates' course students should be spending an average of 6–7 hours per week on this unit, including lectures. MDiv/GradDipDiv students should be spending an average of 7-8 hours per week, including the class time. If you find that you consistently have to spend more time than this on the unit, please speak with the unit coordinator as a matter of urgency.

Students are required to complete any set pre-reading, post-reading, ungraded exercises and all assessment tasks by the relevant due date.

Teaching staff

LECTURER & UNIT CO-ORDINATOR

Rev Dr Gary Millar

Email: gmillar@qtc.edu.au

Please feel free to contact Gary if you have any problems or concerns about the course.

Other Key Contacts

Registrar's office

Contact the Registrar's office for any queries about which unit to enrol in next, if you wish to change your enrolment, defer due to illness, family circumstances etc., or request an extension for your assessment (criteria apply).

P 07 3871 9348

E registrar@qtc.edu.au

Moodle functions and queries

Contact the Registrar or the Assistant Registrar for help if something on Moodle is not working, if you need help using Moodle etc.

P 07 3871 9348

E registrar@qtc.edu.au

Library/Resources

Contact the Librarian for help with finding full-text articles, to request a chapter of a book or article emailed to you, to request a book posted to you, for help with logging into the library databases and catalogue, for help with how to renew a book for longer

P 07 3871 9346

E library@qtc.edu.au

Unit timetable: topics & teaching and learning activities

Subject to adjustment

Week	Topic
Week 1	1. Learning to read (again) 2. Introducing Genesis 3. Genesis 1–11 (part 1)
Week 2	1. Genesis 1-11 (part 2) 2. Genesis 1-11 (part 3) 3. Interpreting controversial passages
Week 3	1. Genesis 12-50 (Abraham) 2. Genesis 12-50 (Isaac and Jacob) 3. The history of OT Interpretation
Week 4	1. The OT and History 2. Exodus 1-24 3. Exodus 25-40
Week 5	1. Leviticus – the centre of the Pentateuch? 2. Leviticus, Holiness and Loving God 3. How to preach the gospel from the OT
Week 6	1. Numbers 1-25 2. Numbers 26-36
Week 7	1. Why Deuteronomy matters SO much! 2. Deuteronomy 1-11 3. Deuteronomy 12-26
Week 8	1. On Deuteronomy and the Deuteronomistic History 2. Joshua 1-24 3. Deuteronomy, Joshua and Genocide
Week 9	1. Judges 1-12 2. Judges 13-22
QTC Mission week & Spring Holiday	No classes for 3 weeks
Week 10	1. A word on using commentaries 2. 1 Samuel part 1 3. 1 Samuel part 2
Week 11	1. 2 Samuel part 1 2. 2 Samuel part 2 3. 2 Samuel part 3
Week 12	1. 1 Kings 1-11 2. On patterns in Kings 3. 1 Kings 12-22
Week 13	1. On Prophets 2. 2 Kings 3. The message of Joshua-2Kings and Genesis-2Kings
Assessment Block	No classes

OT301 Assessments

Assessments are submitted online via Moodle.

In order to pass the unit, you must submit all assessment pieces and attain a mark of at least 50% for the unit as a whole.

Late submission of assessment, without prior permission, will be taken into account in determining your mark.

Your assessments must also be within 10% of the required word limit, and your ability to meet this requirement will also be taken into account in determining your mark. For example, for the 800-word Primary Document Study 1 below, your answer should be between 720 and 880 words. QTC seeks to prepare you for ministry, and in ministry delivering presentations on time & within an acceptable length are essential skills.

ASSESSMENT TASK	DESCRIPTION
<p>Forum Participation Approx. 700 words 10% of final grade</p>	<p>On two occasions during the semester, students will be asked to upload a brief 150 word Summary of the message of a specific passage within the book we have been studying that week, with the lecturer allocating students to weeks for this task at the end of Week 1. When not scheduled to provide a summary, each student shall, in other weeks, respond briefly in approximately 50 words to the summaries uploaded by other students to the forum. Students will be assessed on their contribution to the forum over ten weeks of Semester. No forum contributions are required in Week 1 or in the weeks when the two primary document studies (see below) are due. In line with ACT attendance requirements, students must contribute in at least eight out of the ten weeks, otherwise they will receive a mark of zero out of ten.</p>
<p>Primary Document Study 1 800 words 20% of final grade</p>	<p>Write an 800 word short response to the following question: Do you think the Pentateuch has a 'message'? Give reasons for your answer.</p>
<p>Primary Document Study 2 800 words 20% of final grade</p>	<p>Write an 800 word short response to the following question: Do you think Joshua - 2 Kings is best understood as a collection of unique books or a unified collection? Give reasons for your answer.</p>
<p>Take-Home Exam: 2500 words 50% of final grade</p>	<p>Students will answer three compulsory set questions, with each answer to be approximately 833 words in length. i.e. 2500 words in total. The questions will be made available via Moodle 7 days before the due date.</p>

OT501 Assessments

Assessments are submitted online via Moodle.

In order to pass the unit, you must submit all assessment pieces and attain a mark of at least 50% for the unit as a whole.

Late submission of assessment, without prior permission, will be taken into account in determining your mark.

Your essays must also be within 10% of the required word limit, and your ability to meet this requirement will also be taken into account in determining your mark. For example, for the 1000-word Primary Document Study 1 below, your answer should be between 900 and 1100 words. QTC seeks to prepare you for ministry, and in ministry delivering presentations on time & within an acceptable length are essential skills.

ASSESSMENT TASK	DESCRIPTION
Forum Participation Approx. 800 words 10% of final grade	On two occasions during the semester, students will be asked to upload a brief 200 word Summary of the message of a specific passage within the book we have been studying that week, with the lecturer allocating students to weeks for this task at the end of Week 1. When not scheduled to provide a summary, each student shall, in other weeks, respond briefly in approximately 50 words to the summaries uploaded by other students to the forum. Students will be assessed on their contribution to the forum over ten weeks of Semester. No forum contributions are required in Week 1 or in the weeks when the two primary document studies (below) are due. In line with ACT attendance requirements, students must contribute at least eight out of the ten weeks , otherwise they will receive a mark of zero out of ten.
Primary Document Study 1 1000 words 20% of final grade	Write a 1000 word short response to the following question: Is it appropriate to speak of the 'Pentateuch'? Give reasons for your answer, making reference to recent developments in Old Testament Studies.
Primary Document Study 2 1000 words 20% of final grade	Write a 1000 word short response to the following question: Do you think Joshua – 2 Kings is best understood as a collection of unique books or a unified collection? Give reasons for your answer, with reference to the concept of 'Deuteronomistic History'.
Take-Home Exam: 3200 words 50% of final grade	Students will answer four compulsory set questions, with each answer to be approximately 800 words in length. i.e. 3200 words in total. The questions will be made available via Moodle 7 days before the due date.

Guide to Assessments

1. It is important to remember that these assessments are designed *to test if you have grasped the basic shape and message of the part of the Bible you are considering* (looking at the historical context, appreciating the kind of literature we are reading and how that works, and then how this part of the Bible fits into the whole flow of Scripture). We are not asking you to master the secondary literature on that particular book (or part of a book). Whilst in essays, some interaction with secondary literature (primarily commentaries, especially the introductory discussions) and longer dictionary articles is expected, the assessment will be marked first and foremost on the extent to which you display familiarity with and understanding of the biblical text.
2. Always make sure that you ANSWER THE QUESTION! Before you start to write, you may find it helpful to make sure that you can answer the question asked in a couple of sentences, and then take some time to make sure that your answer is structured appropriately.

Learning Resources

Required Text – you will be expected to read the relevant sections of this textbook before each class:

Dillard, R.B. and T. Longman. *An Introduction to the Old Testament*, 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2006.

OTHER RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

Old Testament History, Background, Interpretation and Theology

Alexander, T. Desmond and Brian S. Rosner, eds. *New Dictionary of Biblical Theology*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2000.

Kitchen, Kenneth A., *On the reliability of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2006.

La Sor, William Sanford, David Allan Hubbard, Frederic William Bush, and Leslie C. Allen. *Old Testament Survey: The Message, Form, and Background of the Old Testament*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1996.

Pratt, Richard L. *He Gave us Stories: The Bible Student's Guide to Interpreting Old Testament Narratives*. Phillipsburg, NJ: Presbyterian & Reformed, 1993.

Provan, Iain W., V. Philips Long, and Tremper Longman. *A Biblical History of Israel*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 2003.

VanGemeren, Willem, ed. *New International Dictionary of Old Testament Theology & Exegesis*. 5 vols. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1997.

Walton, John H., *Ancient Near Eastern Thought and the Old Testament: Introducing the Conceptual World of the Hebrew Bible*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2006.

On the Pentateuch

Alexander, T. Desmond, *From Pentateuch to Promised Land*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2012.

Alexander, T. Desmond & David W. Baker eds. *The Dictionary of the Pentateuch*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2003.

Clines David J. A., *The Theme of the Pentateuch*. 2nd ed. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1997.

Wenham, Gordon J. *Exploring the Old Testament, Volume 1: A Guide to the Pentateuch*. Exploring the Old Testament 1. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2008.

On Contentious Issues

Collins, C. John, *Did Adam and Eve really exist?* Leicester: IVP, 2011.

Lennox, J. *Seven days that divide the world*, Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2011.

On the Former Prophets

McConville, J. Gordon, *Grace in the End*, Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1993.

McConville, J. Gordon, & P. E. Satterthwaite, *Exploring the Old Testament, Volume 2: A Guide to the Historical Books*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2012.

Commentaries on Genesis

Waltke, Bruce W. *Genesis : A Commentary*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2001.

Walton, John H. *Genesis: the NIV Application Commentary*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2001.

Wenham, Gordon J. *Genesis 1-15*. Word Biblical Commentaries 1. Dallas, TX: Word, 1987.

Wenham, Gordon J. *Genesis 16-50*. Word Biblical Commentaries 2. Dallas, TX: Word, 1994.

Commentaries on Exodus

Enns, Peter W. *Exodus: The NIV Application Commentary*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2000.

Fretheim, Terence. *Exodus*. Louisville, KY: John Knox, 1991.

Commentaries on Leviticus

Kiuchi, Nobuyoshi. *Leviticus & Numbers*. Apollos Old Testament Commentary 3. Leicester: IVP, 2007.

Sklar, Jay. *Leviticus*. Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries 3. Leicester: IVP, 2014

Wenham Gordon J. *The Book of Leviticus*. New International Commentary on the Old Testament. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1979.

Commentaries on Numbers

Ashley, Timothy R. *The Book of Numbers*. New International Commentary on the Old Testament. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1993.

Olson, Dennis T. *Numbers*. Interpretation Commentaries. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 1996.

Wenham, Gordon J. *Numbers: an introduction and commentary*. Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries. Leicester: IVP, 1981.

Commentaries on Deuteronomy

Block, Daniel I. *Deuteronomy: The NIV Application Commentary*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2012

Craigie, Peter C. *The Book of Deuteronomy*. New International Commentary on the Old Testament. London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1976.

McConville, J. Gordon. *Deuteronomy*. Apollos Old Testament Commentary. Leicester: Apollos, 2002.

Wright, Christopher J. H. *Deuteronomy*. New International Biblical Commentary Old Testament Series 4. Peabody: Hendricksen, 1996

Commentaries on Joshua

Hess, R. *Joshua*, Tyndale Old Testament Commentary. Leicester: IVP, 2008

Woudstra, M. *Joshua*, New International Commentary on the Old Testament. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1981.

Commentaries on Judges

Webb, Barry G., *Judges*. New International Commentary on the Old Testament. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2012.

Block, Daniel I., *Judges*. New American Commentary. Nashville, TN: Holman, 1999.

Commentaries on 1,2, Samuel

Woodhouse, John. *1 Samuel: Looking for a leader*, Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2008.

Woodhouse, John. *2 Samuel, Your Kingdom Come*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway 2015.

Firth, David, G. *1 & 2 Samuel*. Apollos Old Testament Commentary. Nottingham: Apollos, 2009.

Commentaries on 1,2 Kings

Provan, Iain M, *1 & 2 Kings*, New International Biblical Commentary, Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2000

Wray Beal, Lissa M., *1 & 2 Kings*. Apollos Old Testament Commentary. Nottingham: Apollos, 2014.

Other Resources

Clines, D.J. A. 'New Directions on Pooh Studies' available at <http://drms.h.com/Clines%20New%20Directions%20in%20Pooh%20Studies.pdf>

ACT Standards: Grades

Grades in assessment instruments are awarded in the following categories-

Grade	Score	GPA
Fail (F)	0-49%	0
Pass (P)	50-57%	1
Pass+ (P+)	58-64%	1.5
Credit (C)	65-74%	2
Distinction (D)	75-84%	3
High Distinction (HD)	85+%	4