Syllabus Biblical Studies 101: Survey of the Old & New Testaments The Crossings Church – Wentzville, MO

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Taught by: Wes Woodell, MAT

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Class Meets: Saturdays, 9:00am to 11:30am The Crossings Church Wentzville

DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to provide students with a general, introductory overview of the Bible by examining each book in its historical context paying attention to how all of them fit together to tell the larger story of God's activity in the world.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Have successfully completed this course, students should be able to (1) explain the general story of the Bible, (2) articulate the most significant aspects of that story, and (3) articulate how we carry on that story through participation in the life of the church today.

RELEVANCE FOR LIFE AND MINISTRY:

Even though Bibles are more abundant today than ever, most people are biblically illiterate. After taking this course students should not only understand the "big idea" of the Bible, but also be able to explain it to others.

REQUIRED READING:

<u>The Promise and the Blessing: A Historical Survey of the Old and New Testaments</u> by Michael A. Harbin.

RECOMMENDED READING:

A good translation of the Bible (NIV, NASB, NRSV, ESV, NCV, etc.). Each chapter of *The Promise and the Blessing* will provide you with recommended reading from the Bible, sometimes near entire books at a time. Due to the busy schedule of many of the students taking this course, this reading from the scriptures is not *required* for this course, but it is highly recommended to achieve the best possible understanding.

COURSE FORMAT:

The class will meet once a week for discussion of the previous week's homework. Students will be expected to have their outside reading and discussion questions for the week completed before showing up for class.

WEEKLY HOMEWORK:

You will be expected to read 30 to 40 pages out of the textbook each week, and usually will be assigned between 15 and 25 discussion questions to answer related to the assigned reading. Discussion questions must be written out completely, and answers must be given in complete sentences. One word answers or incomplete sentences will not be accepted. Each discussion question is worth 1 point. If you write with a pen or pencil you must write legibly. If you type your homework out on a computer you must print off a copy to bring with you to class.

CLASS MATERIALS:

In addition to your book, you will need to bring whatever you use to take notes with along with a writing utensil (i.e. pen or pencil) – you will be grading your neighbor's homework and will need something to write with each week.

TESTS:

Two major tests will be given to students – one at mid-term and one on the final day of class. The mid-term will cover the Old Testament while the final will be cumulative. Tests will likely consist of a mixture of short answer, multiple choice, and essay questions. More details may be given regarding tests nearer to test dates.

POSSIBLE BONUS ASSIGNMENTS:

We may have a periodic quiz here or there, but, if given at all, they will be for bonus points and will not count against students.

ATTENDANCE:

You are given 7 points for each class session you participate in for a possible total of 98 points at the end of the semester. If you are absent you will not get your daily points. If you are habitually late or leave early attendance points may be deducted.

CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT:

We are here to study the scriptures together and to learn. Please keep that purpose in mind when we are together. Cell phones should be silenced and only answered during class time in emergencies. Students should show up on time. Laptop computers or tablets are welcomed, but please exercise self-control in refraining from allowing them to become distractions. Classroom discussion is welcome, but we need to work to stay on task and on point during class time.

GRADING & ASSIGNMENTS:

- 1. Completion of weekly homework (45%)
- 2. Class attendance (20%)
- 3. Mid-term and Final Exam (35%)

GRADING SCALE:

- A 90-100%
- B 80-89%
- C 70-79%
- D 60-69%
- F Below 60%

Schedule: Survey of the Bible Spring 2015

Textbook: <u>The Promise and the Blessing: A Historical Survey of the Old and New Testaments</u> by Michael A. Harbin (\$26.60 hardcover; \$9.99 Kindle)

OLD TESTAMENT 101 (8 Weeks)

1/24 – Class Introduction

- Syllabus
- Chapter content/questions completed in class
- 1/31 Chapters 1, 2, 3
 - 36 pages of reading
 - 23 discussion questions
- 2/7 Chapters 4, 5, 6
 - 39.25 pages of reading
 - 23 discussion questions
- 2/14 Chapters 7, 8
 - 33 pages of reading
 - 17 discussion questions
- 2/21 Chapters 9, 10, 11
 - 47.5 pages of reading
 - 28 discussion questions
- 2/28 Chapters 12, 13
 - 45 pages of reading
 - 23 discussion questions
- 3/7 Chapter 14
 - 30 pages of reading
 - 15 discussion questions
- 3/14 Chapters 15, 16
 - 27.25 pages of reading
 - 11 questions
 - MID TERM EXAM (100 points)
- 3/21 No Class (Tulsa Workshop; Reel

Truth Cinema)

3/28 – No Class (Campus Spring Break Trip)

NEW TESTAMENT 101 (6 Weeks)

4/4 – Chapters 17, 18

- 43 pages of reading
- 25 discussion questions
- 4/11 Chapter 19
 - 26.25 pages of reading
 - 12 discussion questions
- 4/18 Chapters 20, 21
 - 28.5 pages of reading
 - 12 discussion questions
- 4/25 Chapters 22, 23
 - 24.5 pages of reading
 - 19 discussion questions
- 5/2 No Class (Men's Retreat)
- 5/9 Chapters 24, 25, 26
 - 49 pages of reading
 - 24 discussion questions
- 5/16 Chapters 27, 28
 - 37 pages of reading
 - 20 discussion questions
 - FINAL EXAM (100 Points)
- 5/23 Makeup day if needed

Avg. Reading = 33.30 pages per class Avg. # Questions = 18 per class

 Weekly Homework:
 252 Points

 Attendance:
 98 Points (7 points per class session)

 Tests:
 200 Points

 Total points available = 550