

Course Syllabus

I. Course Description

Bible Survey is a synthetic survey of all of the books of the Bible with a major emphasis in the Old Testament. The books will be studied chronologically.

II. Course Objectives

- A. To give a general understanding of the books of the Bible and how they relate to one another
- B. To help the student appreciate the continuity of the Old Testament and the development of the New Testament
- C. To lay a foundation for more detailed study of the individual books of the Bible in the future

At the end of this course students should be able to:

1. Recite the books of the Bible in canonical order
2. State the general theme for each of the books of the Bible
3. Trace the history of the nation of Israel from the time of the call of Abram through the return from captivity
4. Identify major regions, cities, and bodies of water in the land of the Bible

III. Course Textbooks

Required:

- The primary textbook for this course will be the Bible. Each student should bring a copy of the Bible to every class. **This is important!**
- Printed notes *Bible Survey*. These notes are purchased directly from the professor.
- *Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts Old and New Testaments*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1996.

IV. Class Policies

- A. **Attendance.** So much material is covered each week that missing even one class can cause one to feel lost. Experience has shown that those who do well are almost without exception those who attended every class. Four or more absences will result in course failure. See college catalog and *Community Guidelines 2009* for further details.
 - If you arrive after the prayer at the beginning of class, you are late. Arriving late 3 times = 1 absence!
 - If you arrive more than 30 minutes late or leave class more than 30 minutes early, you will be counted absent.

- Lowest quiz grade will be dropped for those who **attend every class**. When returning to class after an absence the student **must** be prepared to take the quiz missed the week of the absence. The quiz on the material covered during the absence **must** be made up the following week. This will keep you from getting too far behind.

B. **Demeanor**

- Students should conduct themselves in a manner that is respectful and considerate of others. Any student engaging in behavior that is disruptive or distracting to others will be asked to leave and will be counted absent.
- College policy is that hats are not to be worn during class.
- Notebook computers should be used only for class work.
- All cell phones should be turned off (If you are expecting an emergency call, please inform me before class, put the phone on vibrate, and sit in the back of the room and leave the room to answer the call). Texting during class is strictly prohibited and will result in a reduction in grade if caught.
- Eating during class time is prohibited.
- A 15 – 20 minute break will be given in the middle of each class. Students should not leave the classroom except during that time without permission of the instructor.

C. **Honesty.** Doing work for another student and copying work from a student from a previous semester is considered cheating. See the section on cheating/plagiarism in *Community Guidelines 2009*.

D. **Class notes.** The student is responsible for the content of missed lectures. If you must miss a class, get the notes you missed from a classmate.

E. **Assignments.**

Assignments will be graded as follows:

- Assignments will not be accepted late **unless** absent the date the assignment was due. A grade of “0” will be recorded for the missing assignment.
- Each question will be graded as right or wrong. Please read and answer questions carefully.
- Grade will be reduced by 5% if questions are not included.
- Assignments are not considered late if they are turned in the first class back after an absence.

F. **Quizzes.** A quiz will be given at the beginning of each class session. This makes it **essential** that you be on time. These quizzes will cover any material covered to that date. If you are present in class, you **must take the quiz**. **All missed quizzes due to absence must be made up within 1 week. Any quiz not made up within 1 week will receive a grade of “0”.**

G. **Preferential Treatment and Extra Credit.** Please do not ask to be allowed not to take a quiz because you had a busy week. We all have busy weeks. Plan ahead. If you are in class, you must take the quiz. No extra credit work will be given to improve a poor grade. The final grade reflects 22 separate grades earned throughout the semester.

H. **Syllabus.** The content of this syllabus can be modified as necessary at the sole discretion of the professor and written notice to the student.

I. **BlackBoard**, a course management system, will be utilized in this course. Students must access BlackBoard for current syllabi, announcements, course notes, discussion questions, and other communications and materials.

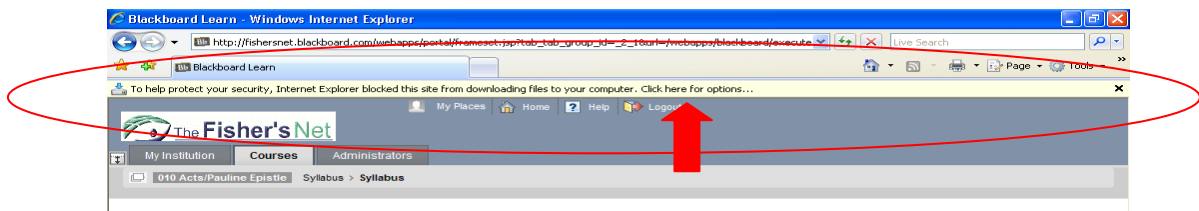
Students are expected to keep their personal information current in BlackBoard and check the website throughout the semester for updated information. This is a very important communication tool and students will be held responsible for the information that BlackBoard contains.

To access BlackBoard:

1. Go to www.bible.edu. Click on Academics>WBC Academics>BlackBoard or Academics>CBS Academics>BlackBoard. Once the BlackBoard login page opens, save it or bookmark it to your favorites. That way, if the bible.edu website is down, you will have the link to access our BlackBoard site. You can also access the WBC/CBS BlackBoard website directly at <http://fishersnet.blackboard.com>.
2. On the BlackBoard page click Login. The format for user names for WBC students is wbc-firstlastname (i.e., wbc-johncalvin) and for CBS students, cbs-firstlastname (i.e., cbs-johncalvin). Your password is the last four digits of your primary telephone number given at registration, with the following exception: *Students who have used Blackboard in the past will use the same login information as in previous semesters, including previously used passwords.*
3. Verify that your **school e-mail address** is current on the My Institution tab in Tools>Personal Information. **Students are responsible for keeping their personal information current in Blackboard.**
4. If you have questions or access problems, contact Kathi Haley at khalley@bible.edu or iblackboard@bible.edu. **For prompt results, requests for help should be made during regular business hours 9:00 am–5:00 pm, Monday–Friday.**

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

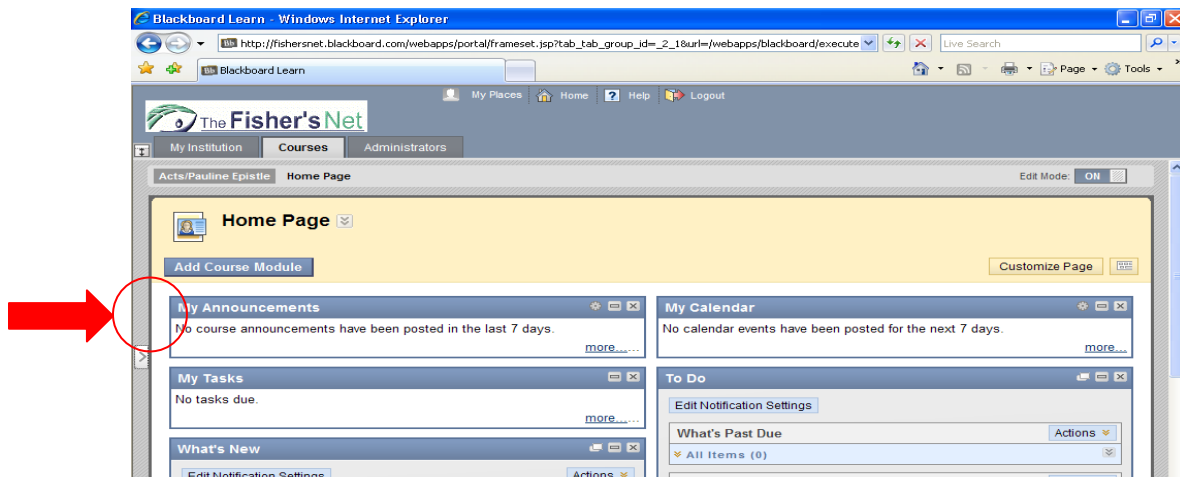
1. **Can't download your files?** Blackboard 9.0 has a new security feature that is activated when you try to download files.



After you have clicked on a file you may get a tan bar across the top of your page

that has a security warning and says "...click here" to download files. Click "click here" and then select download files. BlackBoard then boots you back to the course home page. Again, select the documents/links you want to open/download, and it should give you the option of opening or saving them to your computer.

2. **Can't see the course menu on your course home page?** Check to make sure that you have not inadvertently expanded the content window.



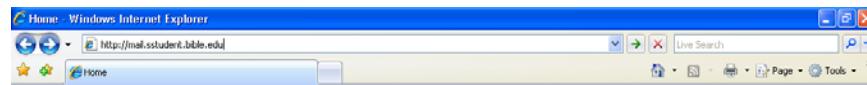
Click on the small arrow tab at the left margin; the content window will minimize and your course menu will again appear in the left margin.

3. **Can't print a document directly from BlackBoard?** First save the file to your computer and then print.
4. **Can't open audio files in BlackBoard?** First save the audio file to your computer and then open.

J. How to Access Your Student E-mail Account

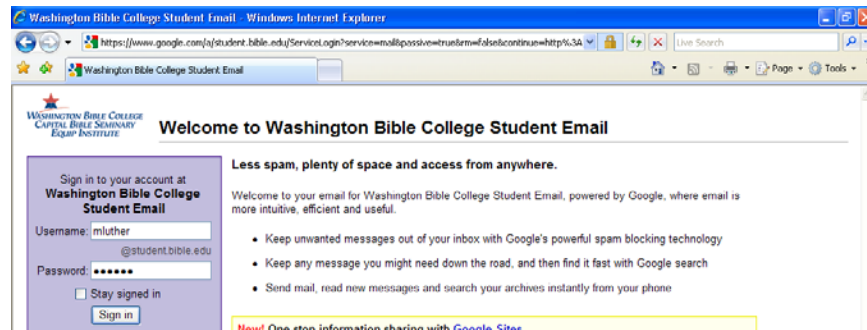
Why is this important? All official communication and notices from WBC/CBS go to your student e-mail address.

In the browser window type in <http://mail.student.bible.edu>.



The format for your student e-mail address is fristinitiallastname@student.bible.edu.

Example: mluther@student.bible.edu. The password is your student ID number.

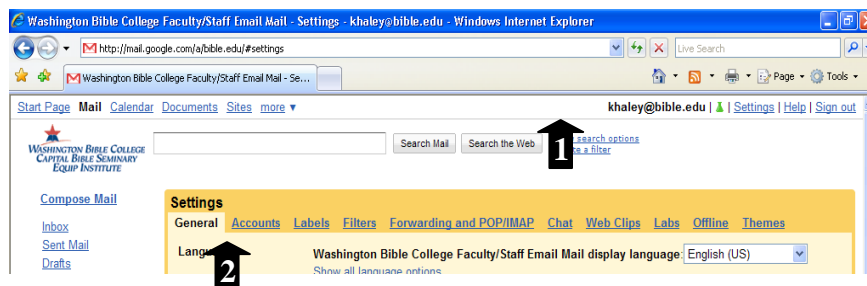


Known problems with student e-mails:

1. There may be more than one student with the same first initial and last name.
2. If you have a suffix with your last name such as Sr. or III, you will need to include the suffix with your last name in the address format.
Example: mlutherjr@student.bible.edu

If you cannot access your student e-mail account, e-mail Davey Ermold, dermold@bible.edu, for assistance.

Once you have accessed your student e-mail account, you can forward it to your personal e-mail account.



V. Course Projects and Assignments

A. Projects

1. Written assignments are assigned for each class. See schedule below.
2. Memorize the books of the Bible in canonical order.

B. Assignments

The following assignments must be typed and are due on the dates listed. When answering questions, always type out the question first. Number the questions as they are numbered in the syllabus. Skip one line between questions. Spelling is important. Take the time to do a spell check before you print your assignment. Place name and **date the assignment is due** in the upper left-hand corner of the first page.

Note: Reading in the text and written assignments are on the material that was discussed during class the previous week.

August 23rd – Introduction and Genesis

▪ **Assignment Due 8/30**

Read pages 1-21 in the text.

1. I have read the assigned pages. True or False
2. Explain the distinction between the terms “Torah” and “Pentateuch.”
3. Why do we believe Moses wrote the first five books of the Bible?
4. What is the pivotal point of the book of Genesis?
5. How far was the journey that Abram made from Ur to Canaan?
6. What did God promise Abraham in the covenant He made with him?
(Look up the references listed on page 18.)

August 30th – Exodus and Leviticus

▪ **Assignment Due 9/13**

Read pages 22-45 in the text.

1. I have read the assigned pages. True or False.
2. About how long did Jacob’s family live in Egypt?
3. How large was the group that left Egypt?
4. How is the date of the exodus established?
5. Why do movies like *The Ten Commandments* identify Rameses as the Pharaoh of the exodus?
6. What was the twofold purpose of the Mosaic Covenant?
7. What was kept inside the Ark of the Covenant?
8. Why was the ark so sacred to the Israelites?
9. What was the purpose of the urim and the thummim?
10. What is the significance of the term “tent of meeting”?
11. What did the high priest do on the Day of Atonement?
12. Tell me in just a sentence or two what is found in the book of Leviticus.

September 13th – Numbers and Deuteronomy

▪ **Assignment Due 9/20**

Read pages 46-59 in the text.

1. I have read the assigned pages. True or False.
2. What is the general content of the book of Numbers? (Answer with just one sentence.)
3. What is the critical turning point in the book of Numbers?
4. Where was the Tabernacle located while the Israelites were encamped and on the march?
5. What is the general content of the book of Deuteronomy? (Answer with just one sentence.)
6. Give six reasons why we believe Moses and not Josiah wrote Deuteronomy.
7. What do the crimes that required the penalty of death tell us about God?

September 20th - **Chapel** and Joshua, Judges, Ruth

▪ **Assignment due 9/27**

Read pages 60-84

1. I have read the assigned pages. True or False.
2. What is the general content of the book of Joshua? (Answer with just one sentence.)
3. How long did it take the Israelites to conquer the land of Canaan? Why is that significant? (Answer from lecture.)
4. What was a “city of refuge”?
5. How is the book of Judges different than the book of Joshua?
6. How is the depravity of the period of the judges illustrated at the end of the book?
7. What was a “judge”?
8. What is the general content of the book of Ruth? (Answer with just one sentence.)
9. How is the kinsman-redeemer or *goel* a portrayal of Christ?

September 27th - The Kingdom Period

▪ **Assignment Due 10/4**

Read pages 85-149 in the text.

1. I have read the assigned pages. True or False.
2. What three individuals are prominent in the book of 1 Samuel?
3. What is the general content of the book of 1 Samuel? (Answer in just a sentence or two.)
4. What is promised in the Davidic Covenant?
5. What three things happened as a result of Israel’s defeat to the Philistines at Aphek?
6. Why did Israel insist on having a king?
7. What two acts of disobedience resulted in the kingdom being removed from Saul’s family?
8. What is the general content of the book of 2 Samuel? (Answer in just one sentence.)
9. What does 2 Samuel show about a person’s obedience or disobedience to God?
10. What turned Solomon away from his worship of God?
11. What is the twofold division of 1 Kings?
12. What is Solomon’s greatest legacy?
13. What is the twofold division of 2 Kings?
14. What significant contribution was made by the discovery of the Black Obelisk?
15. To whom did the Northern Kingdom fall?
16. To whom did the Southern Kingdom fall?
17. What period of Jewish history do the books of 1 and 2 Chronicles cover?

October 4th - Pre-Exilic and Exilic Prophets

Read pages 195-264

There is no written assignment. Concentrate on studying the notes, reading the text and studying the maps and charts in the text.

October 11th – Post-Exilic Period

Read pages 151-165 and 265-276 in the text

- No written assignment – **study for the exam**

October 18th – Fall Break – **No class**

October 25th – **Exam on the Old Testament**

Note: There will be no lecture on the Poetical Books. Independent study will be done on these books by reading the text and answering the questions.

- **Assignment Due 11/1**

Read pages 166-193 in the text.

1. I have read the assigned pages for 10/4, 10/11 and 10/25. True or False
2. When did Job live? What facts suggest this time period?
3. What important question does the book of Job answer?
4. What purpose did the book of Psalms serve for the Jewish people?
5. How were the Psalms originally different than the book of Psalms?
6. What is a Messianic Psalm?
7. What is the general content of the book of Proverbs (just 1 sentence)?
8. What is the stated purpose of the author of Proverbs?
9. What is the general content of the book of Ecclesiastes?

November 1st - Gospels

- **Assignment Due 11/8**

Read pages 282-343

1. I have read the assigned pages. True or False.
2. Which Gospels are known as the Synoptic Gospels?
3. Why is it now believed that Jesus may have been born as early as 5 BC according to our calendar?
4. How does Matthew serve as a bridge between the Old Testament and the New Testament?
5. How much of the Gospel of Mark is devoted to the last 8 days of Jesus' life?
6. List 4 reasons why Jesus wanted to keep His identity as the Messiah a secret.
7. About how much of Luke is not found in the other Gospels?
8. How does John's gospel differ from the Synoptic Gospels?

November 8th - Acts

Read pages 344-360

No written assignment. Study the map.

November 15th – **Chapel** and James, Galatians, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Corinthians

Read pages 423-427, 402-406, 424-429, 370-385

▪ **Assignment due 11/22**

1. I have read the assigned pages for 11/8 and 11/15. True or False.
2. What does James say about faith without works?
3. Why does it appear that James contradicts Paul's teaching of justification by faith?
4. Why was Galatians written?
5. Why did Paul write 1 Thessalonians?
6. Why did Paul write 2 Thessalonians?
7. What is the general content of 1 Corinthians?
8. What seems to be Paul's main purpose in writing 2 Corinthians?

November 22nd – Chapel followed by Romans and Prison Epistles

Read pages 361-369, 386-401, 415-416

▪ **Assignment Due 11/29**

1. I have read the assigned pages. True or False.
2. Study Outline of Romans
3. Why was Ephesians written?
4. What major difference is evident between the first three chapters of Ephesians and the last three chapters?
5. What two themes are prominent in Philippians?
6. What is the resounding theme in Colossians?
7. What is Paul's purpose in writing to Philemon?

November 29th – 1 Tim., Titus, 1 Peter, 2 Tim., 2 Peter, Hebrews and Jude

Read pages 407-414, 417-422, 428-436, 445-446

▪ **Assignment due 12/6**

1. I have read the assigned pages. True or False.
2. What is Paul's purpose in writing his first letter to Timothy?
3. What is Paul's purpose in writing his second letter to Timothy?
4. What is Paul's purpose in writing to Titus?
5. What is the situation of the believers to whom Peter writes his first epistle?
6. Generally, what advice does Peter offer these believers?
7. What is different about the opposition faced by believers in Peter's second letter?
8. Why is Hebrews 1 considered by some to be one of the most Christological passages in Scripture?
9. What is the purpose of Jude?
10. Read pages 437-455. I have read these pages. True or False.

December 6th – 1, 2, 3 John and Revelation
No written assignment. Study for the exam.

December 13th – **New Testament Exam**

VI. Course Grading

Quizzes	25%
Assignments	20%
Final Exam Old Testament	30%
Final Exam New Testament	25%

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

100-97	A+	83-86	B	70-72	C-
93-96	A	80-82	B-	67-69	D+
90-92	A-	77-79	C+	63-66	D
87-89	B+	73-76	C	60-62	D-

VII. Course Schedule

August 23 rd	Introduction and Genesis
August 30 th	Exodus and Leviticus
September 6 th	Labor Day – No class
September 13 th	Numbers and Deuteronomy
September 20 th	Chapel and Joshua, Judges, Ruth
September 27 th	The Kingdom Period
October 4 th	Pre-Exilic and Exilic Prophets
October 11 th	Post-Exilic Period
October 18 th	Fall Break – No class
October 25 th	Final Exam on the Old Testament
November 1 st	Gospels
November 8 th	Acts
November 15 th	Chapel and James, Galatians, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Corinthians
November 22 nd	Romans and Prison Epistles
November 29 th	1 Tim., Titus, 1 Peter, 2 Tim., 2 Peter, Hebrews and Jude
December 6 th	1, 2, 3 John and Revelation
December 13 th	New Testament Exam

VIII. Related Reading

Archaeology of the Bible: 10,000-586 B.C.E
Amahai Mazar
Random House, Inc., 1992
ISBN: 0385425902

A Survey of Israel's History Revised and Enlarged Edition

Leon J. Wood
Zondervan Publishing House, 1986
ISBN: 031034770X

A Survey of Old Testament Introduction

Gleason Archer
Moody Press, 1994
ISBN: 0802482015

Distressing Days of the Judges

Leon Wood
Zondervan Publishing House, 1975
ISBN: 0310347319

Encountering the Old Testament

Bill Arnold and Bryan Beyer
Baker Books, 1999
ISBN: 0801021766

Harmony of Samuel, Kings & Chronicles

William Crockett
Baker/Revell 1985
ISBN: 0801025117

Hearts of Iron, Feet of Clay

(Period of Judges)
Gary Inrig
Moody Press, 1979
ISBN: 0802434878

How to Read the Bible Book by Book

Gordon D. Fee and Douglas Stuart
Zondervan, 2002
ISBN: 0-310-21118-2 (pbk.)

Israel's United Monarchy

Leon J. Wood
Baker Book House, 1979
ISBN: 0801096227

Old Testament Explorer

Charles Dyer and Gene Merrill
Thomas Nelson, 2000
ISBN: 0849914477

Popular Survey of the Old Testament

Norman Geisler
Baker/Revell, 1977
ISBN: 0801036844

*The God of Promise and the Life of Faith
(Understanding the Heart of the Bible)*

Scott J. Haffemann
Crossway Books, 2002
ISBN: 1-58134-261-6 (pbk)

The Prophets of Israel

Leon J. Wood
Baker/Revell, 1998
ISBN: 0801021987

A Harmony of the Words and Works of Jesus Christ

J. Dwight Pentecost
Zondervan Corporation, 1994
ISBN: 0310309514

Archaeology and the New Testament

Merrill F. Unger
Zondervan Publishing House, 1962
ISBN: 0310333814

A Survey of the New Testament Revised Edition

Robert H. Gundry
Zondervan Publishing House, 1981
ISBN: 0310254108

Encountering the New Testament

Walter A. Elwell, Robert W. Yarbrough
Baker Books, 1998
ISBN: 080100103

Harmony of the Gospels

Loraine Boettner
Presbyterian & Reformed, 1933
ISBN: 0875521320

New Testament Introduction

Donald Guthrie
InterVarsity Press, 1975
ISBN: 0877849536

NIV Harmony of the Four gospels, 2nd Edition

Orville Daniel

Baker/Revell, 1966

ISBN: 080105642X

The New Manners and Customs of Bible Times

Ralph Gower

Moody Press, 1987

ISBN: 0-8024-5951-X