Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.
COURSE SYLLABUS

OBST 510
OLD TESTAMENT INTRODUCTION

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Deals with the two major subdivisions of OTI: (1) general introduction which involves the matters of text, canon, and the particular question of the date and authorship of the Pentateuch; and (2) special introduction relating to the treatment of the individual books of the Old Testament one-by-one, giving an account of authorship, date, purpose, and integrity. The goal of the course is to provide a basis for an introduction to the tools used in the Old Testament materials in their historical and theological context.

RATIONALE
The course is an introduction to the Old Testament and the environment in which it was written. The people, lands, cultures, and beliefs of the ancient world greatly affected the authors and text of the Old Testament. Therefore, deliberate consideration must be given not only to the study of the Old Testament text but also its world.

I. PREREQUISITES
For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the Academic Course Catalog.

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASES
Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING
A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
C. Microsoft Word
   (Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES
(Meets seminary MDiv. PLOs #1–3)
Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
A. Identify the authors, general dates, and themes of the books of the Old Testament. (See assignments V. A and D)
B. Recognize the social, historical, and literary backgrounds of the books of the Old Testament. (See assignments V. A and D)
C. Compare the Old Testament conceptual world with that found throughout the Ancient Near East. (See assignments V. B and C)

D. Distinguish selected characters of the Old Testament and their individual contributions to biblical history. (See assignments V. A and D)

E. Assess the place of the Old Testament among the other Ancient Near Eastern writings. (See assignments V. B and C)

F. Explain the approaches to studying the Old Testament. (See assignments V. A and D)

G. Recall the processes of Old Testament composition and canonization. (See assignments V. A and D)

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations (See MLOs IV. A, B, D, F, and G)

B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C. Discussion Board Forums (2)

The student will complete 2 Discussion Board Forums. In the first week the forum is assigned, the student will post a 400-word thread in response to a prompt. The following week, the student will post 2, 200-word replies to his/her classmate’s threads. (See MLOs IV. C and E)

D. Book Summaries (2)

The student will write 2 book summaries throughout this course. Book Summary 1 must be 11 pages, not including the title page. Book Summary 2 must be 15 pages, not including the title page. (See MLOs IV. C and E)

E. Exams (2)

The student will complete a mid-term and a final exam based on the textbook readings and weekly presentations. Each exam is open-book/open-notes and consists of 50 multiple choice and true/false questions. (See MLOs IV. A, B, D, F, and G)

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Requirement</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion Board Forums</td>
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<td>Thread (2 at 60 pts ea)</td>
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<td>Replies (2 at 40 pts ea)</td>
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<td>Book Summary 2</td>
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<td>Mid-term Exam (Modules 1–4)</td>
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### Final Exam (Modules 5–8)

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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>25</td>
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**Total** 1010

### Scale

- **A** = 940–1010
- **A-** = 920–939
- **B+** = 900–919
- **B** = 860–899
- **B-** = 840–859
- **C+** = 820–839
- **C** = 780–819
- **C-** = 760–779
- **D+** = 740–759
- **D** = 700–739
- **D-** = 680–699
- **F** = 0–679

### Late Assignment Policy

If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.

Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

1. Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will receive a 10% deduction.
2. Assignments submitted more than one week late will receive a 20% deduction.
3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the class will not be accepted.
4. Late Discussion Board threads or replies will not be accepted.

Special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, personal health issues) will be reviewed by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.

### Style Guidelines

All assignments for this course are to be formatted in accordance with the [LBTS Writing Guide](#) and the latest edition of the Turabian style manual (*A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*). Discussion assignments and essay examinations may use the parenthetical citation style. All other written assignments should use the footnote citation style. Supplemental writing aids are available via the [Online Writing Center](#).

### Extra Credit

No additional “for credit” assignments will be permitted beyond those given in the course requirements stated above.

### Course Changes

Course requirements are subject to change by the administration of the University at any time with appropriate notice.

### Disability

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at [www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport](http://www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport).
VII. BIBLIOGRAPHY


# COURSE SCHEDULE

## OBST 510


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MODULE/ WEEK</th>
<th>READING &amp; STUDY</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
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<td>Merrill et al.: chs. 1–4&lt;br&gt;Oswalt: Introduction, chs. 1–3&lt;br&gt;1 presentation</td>
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<td>Merrill et al.: chs. 41–44, Epilogue&lt;br&gt;1 presentation</td>
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<td>250</td>
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**TOTAL** 1010

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.