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 610
PSALMS

COURSE DESCRIPTION
An in-depth study of representative types of psalmic materials. Attention is given to questions of historical setting and literary form as they relate to major religious ideas and teachings.

RATIONALE
OBST 610 explores the message of the book of Psalms and why the Psalms are important to the Christian faith. The course demonstrates how Psalms builds our theology through its reflection on kingship and the promised Messiah and models godly worship through its historical record of Israelite song.

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
Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
A. Identify the major literary genres in the Psalms.
B. Analyze the literary and poetic features of the Psalms.
C. Explain the major theological themes in the Psalms.
D. Evaluate how the Psalms contribute to Christian theology.
E. Appraise evangelical and critical views on the authorship and formation of the Psalms.
F. Apply sound hermeneutics in resolving interpretive issues in the Psalms.
V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations

B. Course Requirements Checklist

As the first activity in this course, please read the syllabus and Student Expectations. After reading the syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will then complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C. Discussion Board forums (3)

There will be three Discussion Board forums throughout the course. The purpose of Discussion Board forums is to generate interaction among students in regard to relevant current course topics. Students are required to post one thread of at least 700 words by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Thursday of each assigned modules/weeks. Students must post one reply of at least 225 words by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of each assigned modules/weeks. (A, B, C, D, & F)

D. Belcher Book Review

Students will read the Belcher text in its entirety and then write a 1200-word (1500-word maximum) review/reflection on this text. This assignment will enable students to understand how the Psalms point to Christ and His person and work. This assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of Module/Week 5. (C, D, & F)

E. Psalms Analysis Paper

Students will write a seven- to eight-page paper that provides a detailed analysis of a selected psalm based upon the psalms listed within the course. The paper should be written with footnotes and conform to Turabian format. Students must use a minimum of five to six academic sources for this paper and include a bibliography (not part of the page count). This paper is a research paper and not a Bible study or sermon on the passage. This assignment will enable students to apply what they have learned regarding literary analysis, interpretation, and personal application of the Psalms. This assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of Module/Week 7. (B, C, D, & F)

F. Quizzes (3)

Three open-book/open-note quizzes will be completed in this course of study. These quizzes will take the form of multiple-choice, true/false, and essay questions. Each quiz contains approximately 35–50 multiple-choice and true/false questions with one to two essays and must be completed within the specified time limit. Each quiz must be completed by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of the assigned module/week except for Quiz 3 which must be completed by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday of Module/Week 8. (A, B, C, D, E, & F)

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points
**Course Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Checklist</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion Board forums</td>
<td>300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Belcher Book Review</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psalms Analysis Paper</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiz 1 (Module 1)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiz 2 (Modules 2–4)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiz 3 (Modules 5–8)</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1010</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**B. 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 = 679 and below

**C. Assignment Policy**

Each assignment should be completed by the end of the module/week in which it is assigned. All late work will be assessed a deduction of 5% per day of the assignment’s point value. Late work may not be penalized at the instructor’s discretion in the event of a military deployment, medical emergency, death in the family, or other extenuating circumstances.

**D. Style Guidelines**

All assignments for this course are to be formatted in accordance with 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. Writing aids are available via the Online Writing Center.

**E. Extra Credit**

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

**F. Course Changes**

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

**G. Disability Assistance**

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
# Course Schedule

**OBST 610**

Textbooks:  

## Reading & Study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Module</th>
<th>Reading &amp; Study</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1           | Belcher: chs. 1–2  
Broyles: chs. 8, 49, 51  
Bullock: chs. 1 & 3  
Futato: ch. 1  
Psalms 8, 49, 51  
3 presentations  
1 lecture note | Course Requirements Checklist  
Class Introductions  
Quiz 1 | 10  
0  
100 |
| 2           | Belcher: ch. 3  
Broyles: chs. 3, 6–7, 13, 26, 44, 79–80  
Bullock: ch. 7  
Psalms: 3, 6–7, 13, 26, 44, 79–80  
2 presentations  
1 website | DB Forum 1 | 100 |
| 3           | Belcher: chs. 4–5  
Broyles: chs. 12, 35, 47, 55, 58–59, 96–99, 109, 137  
Bullock: chs. 11 & 14  
Psalms: 12, 35, 47, 55, 58–59, 96–99, 109, 137  
1 presentation  
1 website | DB Forum 2 | 100 |
| 4           | Belcher: chs. 6–7  
Broyles: chs. 18, 23, 31–32, 62, 91, 107, 121, 145  
Bullock: chs. 6, 8–9  
Psalms: 18, 23, 31–32, 62, 91, 107, 121, 145  
3 presentation | Quiz 2 | 100 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK/MODULE</th>
<th>READING &amp; STUDY</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 5          | Belcher: chs. 8–9  
           Broyles: chs. 2, 20–21, 45, 72, 89, 101, 110, 132, 144  
           Bullock: ch. 10  
           Psalms: 2, 20–21, 45, 72, 89, 101, 110, 132, 144  
           1 presentation | Belcher Book Review | 200    |
| 6          | Broyles: chs. 1, 16, 19, 22, 34, 40, 69, 73, 90, 127–128  
           Bullock: chs. 12–13  
           Psalms: 1, 16, 19, 22, 34, 40, 69, 73, 90, 127–128  
           2 presentation | DB Forum 3 | 100    |
| 7          | Broyles: chs. 15, 24, 29, 46, 48, 82, 84, 104  
           Futato: chs. 2 (pp. 57–80) & 6  
           Psalms: 15, 24, 29, 46, 48, 82, 84, 104  
           2 presentations | Psalms Analysis Paper | 200    |
| 8          | Broyles: chs. 30, 78, 88, 105–106  
           Bullock: ch. 5  
           Futato: ch. 2 (pp. 80–114)  
           Psalms: 30, 78, 88, 105–106  
           3 presentations  
           1 website | Quiz 3 | 100    |
|            | **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.