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 620
THE POETRY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

COURSE DESCRIPTION
A survey of the historical background, nature, and purpose of divine revelation in the poetic literature of the Old Testament. An analysis of the form and content of the poetic books of the Old Testament: Job through Song of Solomon, and Lamentations.

RATIONALE
This course provides the student with the knowledge and tools to understand and apply the poetical books of the Old Testament. The ministerial student should be able to properly interpret the poetry of the Old Testament for preaching, teaching, and/or counseling.

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. Holy Bible
D. 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. Describe the general themes and contents of the Old Testament poetical books.
B. Delineate the major critical issues and interpretive problems in the Old Testament poetical books.
C. Identify the characteristics of Hebrew poetry and wisdom literature
D. Analyze the relationship between the Old Testament poetical books and the comparative ancient near eastern literary material.
E. Synthesize a Christian understanding of the Old Testament poetical books.
V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes

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 3 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. The student is required to post 1 thread of at least 400 words by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Thursday of the assigned module/week. The student must then post 1 reply of at least 100 words by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of the same module/week, except for Discussion Board Forum 3, in which replies are due by Friday. For each thread, assertions should be supported with at least 2 citations in parenthetical format. Each reply should cite at least 1 source. Acceptable sources include textbook(s), presentations, and the Bible. (Outcomes: C & E)

D. C.S. Lewis Book Critique

The student will complete a 5–6-page book critique which will summarize the contents of the text and also critique the text. The student will be graded based on the guidelines stated in the grading rubric found within Blackboard. This assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of Module/Week 5. (Outcomes: A, B, C, D, & E)

E. Research Paper

The student will complete a 10–12-page Research Paper based on the topics found within the Assignment Instructions found in Blackboard. This assignment is to be graduate level work with a minimum of 10 scholarly sources. Of the 10 sources, only 1 commentary from the Church Fathers, 1 commentary from the Reformation period and 1 popular commentary may be cited, but these are not required. There are 2 steps to this assignment. The first step is a topic submission which is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of Module/Week 3. The final step is the submission of the completed Research Paper, submitted through SafeAssign, which is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of Module/Week 7. (Outcomes: A, B, C, D, & E)

F. Exams (3)

There are 3 exams in this course. Each exam consists of multiple-choice, true/false, and matching questions. Each exam will have a 90-minute time limit and draws from the textbooks and presentations. Each exam is to be completed by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of the assigned module/week. (Outcomes: A, B, C, D, & E)
VI. Course Grading and Policies

A. Points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion Board Forums (3 at 50 pts ea)</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper: Topic and Bibliography</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>C.S. Lewis Book Critique</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exams (3 at 100 pts ea)</td>
<td>300</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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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 LUODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport
# COURSE SCHEDULE

**OBST 620**


<p>| MODULE/|</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEAK</th>
<th>READING &amp; STUDY</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bullock: pp. 19–22, 34–42&lt;br&gt;Lewis: chs. 1–3&lt;br&gt;DOT Readings&lt;br&gt;2 presentations</td>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist&lt;br&gt;Class Introductions&lt;br&gt;DB Forum 1</td>
<td>10&lt;br&gt;0&lt;br&gt;50</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Bullock: pp. 22–34, 42–59, ch. 2&lt;br&gt;Lewis: chs. 4–6&lt;br&gt;DOT Readings&lt;br&gt;2 presentations</td>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Bullock: ch. 3&lt;br&gt;Lewis: chs. 7–9&lt;br&gt;DOT Readings&lt;br&gt;Job 1–42&lt;br&gt;2 presentations&lt;br&gt;1 lecture note</td>
<td>Research Paper: Topic and Bibliography&lt;br&gt;DB Forum 2</td>
<td>50&lt;br&gt;50</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Bullock: ch. 4&lt;br&gt;Lewis: chs. 10–12&lt;br&gt;DOT Readings&lt;br&gt;Psalms 1, 2, 6, 8, 18, 19, 21, 22, 34, 38, 45, 47, 51, 69, 73, 76, 80, 93, 105, 109, 110, 119, 124, 127, 139, 149, 150&lt;br&gt;2 presentations</td>
<td>Exam 2</td>
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<td>Bullock: ch. 5&lt;br&gt;DOT Readings&lt;br&gt;Proverbs 1–31&lt;br&gt;2 presentations</td>
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<td>200</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Bullock: ch. 6&lt;br&gt;DOT Readings&lt;br&gt;Ecclesiastes 1–12&lt;br&gt;2 presentations</td>
<td>Exam 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>MODULE/WEEK</td>
<td>READING &amp; STUDY</td>
<td>ASSIGNMENTS</td>
<td>POINTS</td>
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<td></td>
<td>DOT Readings</td>
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<td>Song of Solomon 1–8</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2 presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>DOT Readings</td>
<td>DB Forum 3</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lamentations 1–5</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2 presentations</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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<td><strong>1010</strong></td>
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DB = Discussion Board  
DOT: *Dictionary of the Old Testament*

**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.