



WILLINGDON

SCHOOL OF THE BIBLE & MINISTRY

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*WSBM exists to equip God's people - head, heart and hands - through the Word of God, helping them know Jesus Christ personally and carry on His ministry.*

**Course:** WSB 110 Old Testament Panorama 1: Genesis to Esther

**Instructor:** Ken Esau ([ken.esau@columbiabc.edu](mailto:ken.esau@columbiabc.edu))

**Day:** Thursday, May 25 (7:00pm-9:00pm); Friday, May 26 (7:00pm -9:00pm); Saturday May 27 (8:00 am to Noon; 1:00 pm-5:00 pm)

**Format:** The course will be taught in a compressed in-person format. Students should be present for each of the sessions. There will be quizzes that can only be taken in person.

i. **Course Description**

As a core course in the Willingdon School of the Bible and Ministry, Old Testament Panorama 1: Genesis to Esther surveys the historical books in order to become familiar with the big picture or big story (the “metanarrative”) of what God is doing in the Old Testament toward his ultimate mission. This course will overview the 13 stages of the OT story which collectively point in the direction of Jesus, the inauguration of God’s Kingdom, and the final return of Jesus.

ii. **Course Objectives**

- **To show familiarity** with each of the 13 stages of the OT story (themes, key events, etc.) and the relationship between them and God’s larger mission.
- **To be** shaped as worshipers of God and followers of Christ through an increased desire to participate in God’s larger story.
- **To practice** an increased desire to read, study, and meditate on Scripture (OT and NT).

iii. **Required reading**

- *The Holy Bible* (in any quality translation—NIV, ESV, NRSV, NLT; but try not to use a paraphrase—The Message, Living Bible)
- Christopher JH Wright, *The Old Testament in Seven Sentences: A Small Introduction to a Vast Topic* (IVP Academic, 2019).

iv. **Recommended reading**

- Christopher J.H. Wright, *Knowing Jesus through the Old Testament*, 2nd ed. (InterVarsity, 2014).
- Gordon D. Fee & Douglas Stewart, *How to Read The Bible Book by Book* (Zondervan, 2002).
- Bill T. Arnold and Bryan E. Beyer, *Encountering the Old Testament*, 3rd ed. (Baker Academic, 2015).
- Richard K. Bauckham, *Who is God? Key Moments in Biblical Revelation* (Baker Academic, 2020).

v. **Student Projects and Qualification**

**Old Testament Reading and Reflections (50%)**

Students will read selected portions from the Old Testament in the language of their choice during the time of the course. They will write out one or two key observations (O) PLUS one or two key questions (Q) that they have about each chapter in their reading. See Sample below.

**Due:** Two weeks after the last class; Upload to the class site before 12:00 am (Midnight) June 10, 2023.

**Book Review (25%)**

Write a 900-1000 word review of The Old Testament in Seven Sentences. The review should give about 100 words to summarize the author's material and respond to each of the seven chapters (700 words total). Finally provide some personal response to the book (200-300 words total): How is this book useful or not useful? Would you recommend this book? How has the book most affected you?

**Due:** Upload to the class site before 12:00 am (Midnight) June 3, 2023.

**Mini quizzes (4 X 5%= 20%)**

Four short quizzes (with 20 Multiple Choice questions each) will be held in class (Friday at 7:00 pm; Saturday at 8:00 am; 1:00 pm; 4:45 pm). Ten minutes will be allotted for each short quiz.

**Personal Application Project (5%)**

Students will be asked to do some application project that comes out of their time studying the Old Testament. It should involve at least 1-2 hours of work (plus writing out the report). Students could memorize a key section of the Old Testament (6-7 verses minimum—Dt 5:5-21; OR 6:4-9 OR Psalm 23) and practice that until you can recite that successfully in front of a least 4 friends/family. Students could pursue a reconciliation project with a person with whom they are in conflict. Students could pursue a project to clean up a local playground or do something to honour God's creation. The Personal Project should not be something the student is already doing.

Students will hand in a 200-word summary of what they did, why they chose to do that (are there any Old Testament Bible verses that supported what you did?), what surprising things (if any) came out of their project, and what they learned from their project.

**Due:** Upload to the class site before 12:00 am (Midnight) June 17, 2023.

**Reading Assignment:**

Here are the required Old Testament chapters to read and respond to (with Observations and Questions). There are about 200 chapters in total.

Genesis 1-25	Joshua 1-13	1 Kings 1-12
Exodus 1-24	Judges 1-12	2 Kings 1-13
Leviticus 1-10	Ruth 1-4	Ezra 3-10
Numbers 5-6, 9-17	1 Samuel 1-15	Nehemiah 1-13
Deuteronomy 1-12	2 Samuel 1-12	Esther 1-10

**Sample Entry for Genesis 1** (Do this for each of the chapters you read):

**Gen.1--**

O—It is interesting that the days seem to start in the evening (“there was evening and morning, the first day”).

Q—What does it mean that human are “in God’s image”?

Q—Why does it say that humans are to “rule” over creation? Does this mean we can trash the creation?

**Gen.2--**