

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: WSBM 110 Old Testament Panorama

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. J. Bryan Born; Pastor Brody Loewen (wsbm@willingdon.org)

DATE: Thursdays | January 23 – March 20, 2025 | 7:00pm-9:00pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Old Testament Panorama surveys the biblical narrative from Genesis to Malachi. We overview the four main sections of the OT (Pentateuch, History, Writings and Prophets), explain the various literary genres, and identify key themes emerging from the biblical text. This course takes a bird's eye view of the larger narrative, while paying special attention to how God reveals himself and His salvation plan through Israel's story.

WSBM 110 Old Testament Panorama is one of the core courses at WSBM.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completing the course, students will be able to:

- Identify the big picture of the OT through story and characters, as well as the ways God revealed himself and his salvation plan
- Understand the unique characteristics and purposed of each major section of the OT
- Apply the narrative of the OT to their own life, allowing it to shape them as a worshiper and follower of Christ
- Practice the life of faith as outlined in the OT, specifically to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our holy and merciful God

REQUIRED READING

The Holy Bible (in any quality translation – ESV, NIV, NRSV, NLT)

Wright, Christopher J.H. *The Old Testament in Seven Sentences: A Small Introduction to a Vast Topic*. IVP Academic, 2019.

COURSE PROGRAM

Date	Topic	Assignments Due
Jan 23	Intro to the OT	
Jan 30	Gen: First Stories	
Feb 6	Exo-Deu: Formation	
Feb 13	Jos-Rut: Settling	<i>Jesus through the OT Chart</i>
Feb 20	Sam-Chr: Kingdom	
Feb 27	Ezr-Est: Exile and Return	
Mar 6	<i>Prayer Summit – no class</i>	
Mar 13	Isa-Mal: Prophetic Message	<i>Textbook Review</i>
Mar 20	Job-SoS: Writings	<i>Personal Application Project</i>
Mar 27	<i>No class</i>	<i>OT Reading and Reflections</i>

STUDENT ASSIGNMENTS

1. Old Testament Reading and Reflections (40%)

Students will read selected portions from the OT in a language of their choice during the time of the course. For each passage, provide a short title describing the content or an important lesson. See the Drama of the OT Reading Guide on the class website.

Due: Upload to the class site by March 27, 2025

2. Jesus through the OT Chart (10%)

Complete the *Jesus through the Old Testament* chart, which is attached to the end of the syllabus and available on the Moodle course site.

Due: Upload to the class site by February 13, 2025

3. Textbook Review (20%)

Write a 500-700 word review of *The Old Testament in Seven Sentences*. Summarize the author's main points (300-400 words), and include personal responses to the book (200-300 words). Consider: How is this book useful/not useful? Would the student recommend this book? Why/why not? How has the material in the book most affected the student?

Due: Upload to the class site by March 13, 2025

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

Four short quizzes will be held in class. Each quiz will take approximately ten minutes.

5. Personal Application Project (10%)

The student will participate in a fresh application project, inspired by their time studying the OT. This will be something the student is not already doing. It should involve at least 1-2 hours of work (plus writing out the report). The report will be a 200-word summary of what they did, why they chose to do it (eg. supporting OT verses), what surprised the student during the project, and what was learned in the process. Some examples include:

- Reciting memorized Scripture (6-7 verses minimum) in front of 3 family/friends
- Pursue reconciliation with someone with whom the student has conflict
- Clean up a local playground to honor God's creation

Due: Upload to the class site by March 20, 2025

Jesus through the Old Testament

In the chart below, complete the sentence "Jesus is..." using 15 words or less to describe the coming Ruler and Redeemer.

Reference	Jesus is...
Gen. 3:15	The seed of the woman who will completely defeat the enemy. (Example)
Gen. 12:3	
Gen. 49:10	
Deu. 18:15	
Jos. 5:13-15	
2 Sam. 7:16	
Psa. 22	
Isa. 7:14	
Isa. 9:6-7	
Isa. 11:1-12	
Jer. 23:1-8	
Eze. 21:24-27	
Dan. 2:44-45	
Dan. 7:13-14	
Mic. 5:2	
Hab. 2:14	
Zec. 9:9-10	

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED READING

Bauckham, Richard K. *Who is God? Key Moments in Biblical Revelation*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2020.

Fee, Gordon D. Fee & Stewart, Douglas. *How to Read the Bible Book by Book*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002.

Wright, Christopher J.H. *Knowing Jesus through the Old Testament, 2nd ed.* Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 2014.

Bible Project OT Book Videos, <https://bibleproject.com/explore/book-overviews/?type=old>