



Institute for Spiritual Direction

TSP 302: Old Testament Syllabus

Faculty Name: Sr. Katherine Collard, IHM, M.A.

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Faculty Biography:

Sr. Katherine Collard, IHM, a vowed religious Sister (Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary), received a BA in Religious Studies, with a minor in Philosophy from Marygrove College in Detroit, Michigan and an MA in Pastoral Ministry from Assumption University in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. Also, 30+ hours of Post-Graduate studies in Systematic Theology from the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana.

Required Course Texts:

Senior, Don Ed. *Catholic Study Bible*. Oxford University Press, 1990. ISBN 0-19-528391-0 Paperback; ISBN 0-19-528389-9 Hardbound; ISBN 0-19-528277-9 Paperback expanded edition with concordance.

The Holy See. *The Catechism of the Catholic Church*. Bantam Doubleday Dell Publishing Group, Inc., 1994. ISBN 0-385-47967-0 Paperback

Boadt, Lawrence. Revised and updated by Clifford, Richard & Harrington, Daniel. *Reading the Old Testament: An Introduction*. Second Edition. Paulist Press, 2012. ISBN 9780809147808 Paperback.

Course Description:

This course provides a contemporary overview of the Old Testament Canon of Sacred Scripture from a Roman Catholic perspective. A special emphasis will be directed to understanding and utilizing the various aides available to facilitate an accurate interruption of Scripture. The student will be introduced to the literature, history, and messages of the Old Testament. The student will discover the history of the people of Israel and a picture of Israel’s relationship with God. Yet, the Old Testament is far more than the story of ancient Israel. The material revealed in its pages functions as the theological and moral foundation for three of the world’s major religious traditions: Judaism, Christianity and Islam. As such, it has shaped the history of western civilization and continues to influence the world today. Thus, as we study the ancient text we will also consider its impact on ourselves and on people of other cultures today.

Learning Outcomes:

The student will become familiar with the contents of the Old Testament. S/he will learn about the various types of literature therein and will become knowledgeable of the history and theology of ancient Israel. The student will discover the various “themes” found within the OT canon of Scripture. The student will develop effective skills in reading, thinking and listening by exploring (individually) and discussing (cooperatively) major themes and messages of the OT within its historical and cultural context. The student will come to understand the significance of the OT in shaping today’s societies – religiously, historically, economically, politically and socially. S/he will come to realize the relevance of these ancient texts in the contemporary landscape.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES	COURSE OUTCOMES	LEARNING STRATEGIES	ASSESSMENT TOOLS/STRATEGIES
OLD TESTAMENT	<p>Students will become familiar with the contents of the OT.</p> <p>Students will be able to identify the various types of literature found in the OT.</p> <p>Students will recognize the relevance of the OT writings in contemporary society.</p>	<p>Students will articulate their understanding of OT concepts and terms and integrate and synthesize those concepts and terms during class discussions and through written material.</p>	<p>Students will be evaluated by attendance and active participation in class, written papers, quizzes and a final exam.</p>

<p>REFLECTIVE SKILLS</p>	<p>Students will reflect upon the significance of the OT texts and be able to apply them to ministerial situations.</p> <p>Students will show a capacity for theological reflection in their own lives.</p>	<p>Students will utilize their reflection skills on the concepts presented in each unit by writing the required written papers.</p>	<p>The ability to reflect on the theological concepts presented will be evaluated through class discussions and required written papers.</p>
<p>COLLABORATIVE LEARNING</p>	<p>Students will be able to utilize the insights of other students in their own learning process.</p> <p>Students will be able to analyze the perspectives of other students.</p>	<p>Students will develop and expand their understanding of the OT and clarify their thinking through interaction with peers</p>	<p>Collaborative learning will be evaluated by the interaction of the student with their peers in the classroom setting</p>

Grading Policy:

This is a pass/fail course, but recognition will be given to students who display an exemplary level of learning excellence.

Course Requirements:

1. Attendance and active participation each week is of primary importance to the successful completion of this course. Attendance and active participation includes responding to other students' insights during class as well as voicing one's own theological insights based on the readings and discussions.
2. Completion of assigned readings and assignments each week.
3. Submission of required written papers, as noted in the class assignment schedule.
4. Participation is required in class presentations that will be assigned at the beginning of the semester.
5. Successful completion of all "Pop" Quizzes.
6. Successful completion of Final Exam.

Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to be “present” for all classes. “Presence” is understood as physical attendance in class and participation in appropriate discussions. Students must contact the instructor if they plan on being absent from class. “Make-up” work will be assigned if deemed necessary by the instructor.

Students with Learning Disabilities:

If a student is in need of an accommodation based on the impact of their disability, please contact the instructor to schedule an appointment to discuss the course format, anticipate your needs and explore potential accommodations. I rely on the Office for Students with Disabilities for assistance in verifying the need for accommodations and developing accommodation strategies. If you have not previously registered with the Office for Students with Disabilities, I encourage you to do so. Just a reminder, requests for accommodations are not retroactive.

Academic Dishonesty Policy:**Definitions**

Academic dishonesty is unethical behavior which in any way violates the standards of scholarly conduct. It includes such behaviors as cheating on assignments or examinations, plagiarizing, submitting the same or essentially the same papers for more than one course without the consent of all instructors concerned, misappropriating library materials, or the destroying of or tampering with computer files. Also included in academic dishonesty is knowingly or intentionally helping another student violate any part of this policy.

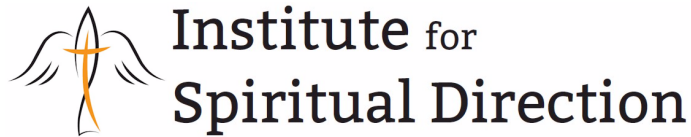
Plagiarism is the failure to give credit for the use of material from outside sources. It includes, but is not limited to, verbatim use of a quote without quotation marks and adequate documentation, submission of a paper prepared by another person as one’s own work, using the ideas, facts, words, or data of someone else and claiming them as your own, or not documenting ideas, facts, words, or data gathered during research.

Grading Scale

Total Possible Points for the Course = 1000.

Item	Points	% of Grade
Attendance & Active Participation	350	50%
4 Reflection Papers	400	30%
4 "Pop" Quizzes	100	10 %
Final Exam	150	10%

920-1000 (97-100%)	A
820-919 (88-91%)	B
720-819 (78-81%)	C
620-719 (68-71%)	D
Below 619 (Below 61%)	E



Introduction to the Old Testament

Course of Study

Lesson 1

Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4

Pages 1 to 67

- Introducing the Old Testament
- The People and Lands of the Old Testament
- Archaeology and the Old Testament
- Literary Tools for Old Testament Study

Lesson 2

Chapters 5, 6, 7

Pages 69 to 124

- The Pentateuch
- Genesis 1-11: The Preface to Israel's Story
- Genesis 12-50: The Patriarchs

Lesson 3

Chapters 8, 9

Pages 127 to 162

- The Exodus from Egypt
- The Covenant and Journey to Canaan: Exodus 19 through Numbers

Lesson 4

Chapters 10, 11

Pages 164 to 192

- The Israelite Possession of Canaan: The Books of Joshua and Judges
- Canaanite Religion and Culture

Lesson 5

Chapter 12

Pages 194 to 208

- "A King Like Those of Other Nations": the Books of Samuel and Kings

Lesson 6

Chapter 13, 14, 15

Pages 211 to 268

- Daily Life in Ancient Israel
- Israelite Worship and Prayer
- The Kingdom Split into Two

Lesson 7

Chapters 16, 17, 18

Pages 270 to 332

- The Great Prophets of the Eighth Century
- The Last Days of the Kingdom of Judah
- Jeremiah and the Deuteronomistic History

Lesson 8

Chapters 19, 20, 21

Pages 335 to 390

- Prophecy During the Babylonian Exile
- Sing Us a Song of Zion!
- Struggle to Restore the Land

Lesson 9

Chapters 22, 23, 24

Pages 393 to 447

- Life in the Postexilic Community
- The Cultivation of Wisdom
- Faith Confronting New Challenges

Lesson 10

Chapter 25, 26

Pages 450 to 480

- The Closing of the Old Testament
- Ten Great Themes of Old Testament Theology

Lesson 11

Student Presentations

OT Summary

Lesson 12

- Final Exam
- Potluck

Student Presentations will be scattered throughout the Semester. A Sign-Up Sheet will be distributed during the second week of class.