



OT101 Old Testament Foundations I

Dr Philip E. Satterthwaite | 3CR

About the Course

OT Foundations I and OT Foundations II together form an introduction to the Old Testament. Throughout, the Old Testament is interpreted as part of Christian Scripture, and out of a conviction that Christians cannot afford to neglect this first and larger part of God's Word. Questions relating to history and the ancient Near Eastern context will not be ignored, but the main emphasis is on the meaning, theology and application of the text. OT Foundations I covers the Pentateuch and the Historical Books.

Credits 3CR	Fees* S\$450(Credit) S\$240 (Audit)
Class Format Online	* Alumni are entitled to 10% discount on audit course(s)

About the Lecturer

Dr Philip E. Satterthwaite has been Lecturer in Old Testament and Biblical Hebrew at BGST since 1998. Before that he was Research Fellow in Hebrew & Aramaic at Tyndale House, Cambridge. His main research areas are the Old Testament Historical books and the Septuagint. In 2007 his book *Exploring the Old Testament 2: The Histories* (written with J.G. McConville) was published by SPCK/IVP. Philip has preached and taught in a number of churches in Singapore. He is a member of Prinsep Street Presbyterian Church. He is married to Eileen. Since 2011 he has been Principal of BGST.



Course Objectives

This course aims:

- To introduce the Old Testament books, and the historical and cultural contexts in which they originated;
 - To help students reflect on how to apply the Old Testament in the modern world, and to their own lives.
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Course Outline & Resources

VIDEO LECTURES & ACTIVITIES

For each topic, the relevant video lectures can be accessed through the video links provided on the course Moodle site. At the end of each set of video lectures, the lecture MCQ and short answer questions should be answered before proceeding to the next topic.

REQUIRED READING

All required readings are from: (1) G.J. Wenham, *Exploring the Old Testament I: A Guide to the Pentateuch* (SPCK/IVP, 2003), (2) P.E. Satterthwaite and J.G. McConville, *Exploring the Old Testament II: A Guide to the Historical Books* (SPCK/IVP, 2007). Please see the Course Bibliography below for more details.

S/N	Lecture Topic	Activities	Required Reading
00	Introduction (explains the practical details of the course) [Notes] Why Study the Old Testament? [Notes]		
1	Genesis 1-11: Creation and Beginnings	Lecture 1 MCQ Questions Lecture 1 Short Answer Questions	<i>EOT I</i> , Introduction, xiii-xv, and 1-34
2	Genesis 12-50: the Promise and the Family Dimension	Lecture 2 MCQ Questions Lecture 2 Short Answer Questions	<i>EOT I</i> , 35-56
3	Exodus: Salvation and Law	Lecture 3 MCQ Questions Lecture 3 Short Answer Questions	<i>EOT I</i> , 57-80
4	Leviticus: Holiness, Uncleanness and Commitment to God	Lecture 4 MCQ Questions Lecture 4 Short Answer Questions	<i>EOT I</i> , 81-101
5	Numbers: Death of a Generation	Lecture 5 MCQ Questions Lecture 5 Short Answer Questions	<i>EOT I</i> , 103-22
6	Deuteronomy: Covenant: Life or Death in the Land? Theme and Composition of the Pentateuch	Lecture 6 MCQ Questions Lecture 6 Short Answer Questions	<i>EOT I</i> , 123-97
7	Joshua: Wars of Conquest	Lecture 7 MCQ Questions Lecture 7 Short Answer Questions	<i>EOT II</i> , 1-40 (What are the Histories? ANE History 1550-63BC), 41-72

8	Judges: the Spiral of Apostasy	Lecture 8 MCQ Questions Lecture 8 Short Answer Questions	<i>EOT II, 73–104</i>
9	1 & 2 Samuel: Monarchy: Curse or Blessing for Israel?	Lecture 9 MCQ Questions Lecture 9 Short Answer Questions	<i>EOT II, 105–46</i>
10	1 & 2 Kings: Decline and Exile	Lecture 10 MCQ Questions Lecture 10 Short Answer Questions	<i>EOT II, 147–98, 199–219</i> (Joshua-Kings and Theories of Deuteronomistic Historiography)
11	Ezra and Nehemiah: Return from Exile?	Lecture 11 MCQ Questions Lecture 11 Short Answer Questions	<i>EOT II, 244–650</i>
12	Ruth and Esther: In Praise of Women of God?	Lecture 12 MCQ Questions Lecture 12 Short Answer Questions	<i>EOT II, 220–43</i>
13	1 & 2 Chronicles: Past History and Hope for the Future	Lecture 13 MCQ Questions Lecture 13 Short Answer Questions	<i>EOT II, 266–90</i>

Course Requirements

1. **Video lecture MCQ questions:** Complete all video lecture MCQ questions. Your grade point for this part of the course will be based on your best 10 marks (out of 13) for the MCQs.
2. **Short answer questions:** Complete all short answer questions. Your grade point for this part of the course will be based on your best 10 marks (out of 13) for these short answers.
3. **Article critique:** Write a 1000-word critique of an article relating to one of the Old Testament books covered in OT 101 (see Lecture 00: Introduction for more details).
4. **EOT Responses:** Write two 500-word responses to ‘Think about...’ or ‘Digging deeper’ panels taken from *EOT I* and *EOT II*. Students will be given a list of these panels, and must choose one taken from *EOT I* and one taken from *EOT II* (see Lecture 00: Introduction for more details).
5. **Essay:** One 3000-word essay on a topic suggested by the lecturer or proposed by the student and agreed to by the lecturer.

ASSIGNMENTS BREAKDOWN

S/N	Assignments	Grade Percentage
1	Video Lecture MCQ Questions	10%
2	Short Answer Questions	10%
3	Article Critique	20%
2	EOT Responses	20%
3	Essay	40%
	Total	100%

GUIDELINES FOR ESSAY-WRITING

1. The paper must reflect graduate-level research skills. There must be a minimum of five sources in your bibliography (not including the Bible).
2. The paper must reflect academic integrity in that due credit must be given to every source quoted or used. Footnotes should be used to document the sources. Every source cited should also appear in the bibliography. Please abide by the Turabian or Chicago Style for all your footnoting and bibliography.
3. The paper must reflect a good command of English and organisation of thought. Writing must be concise and clear. Please proof-read your paper before submitting it.
4. The paper must reflect the customary hallmarks of academic writing: treat those who hold different opinions from you with respect, and avoid colloquialisms and slang.

COURSE ASSIGNMENT POLICIES

1. For **style and formatting** of assignments, please refer to the section on “General Formatting for all Assignments” available on the BGST Online Student Manual.
2. ALL assignments are to be submitted by uploading via Moodle. Alternatively, assignments can be sent via email to assignments@bgst.edu.sg without the need to cc. the lecturer (**unless requested by the lecturer**).
3. Students must submit all their assignments **6 months** after the course registration date

Students are advised that BGST **strongly discourages plagiarism**. For more information on this point (what plagiarism is, how BGST penalises it), please consult the BGST ‘Guidelines for Academic Papers’.

Course Bibliography

REQUIRED READINGS

Core Text

*G.J. Wenham, *Exploring the Old Testament I: A Guide to the Pentateuch* (SPCK/IVP, 2003)

*P.E. Satterthwaite and J.G. McConville, *Exploring the Old Testament II: A Guide to the Historical Books* (SPCK/IVP, 2007)

For registration, please proceed to bgst.edu.sg/students-portal/

For more information, contact us at **Biblical Graduate School of Theology**
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