

**RANGER COLLEGE**  
**Syllabus-Fall Semester 2010**

**COURSE NUMBER:** PHILOSOPHY 1316 **COURSE TITLE:** HISTORY OF RELIGIONS I **CREDIT HOURS:** 3 hours/week **LEC:** 3 hours/week **NO LAB**

**Professor:** Dr. Shawn Brewer      **Office:** 405 S. Seaman, Eastland, Texas  
**Office hours:** by appointment weekdays **Office Phone:** 254-629-3355  
**E-mail:** [Tbrewer@rangercollege.edu](mailto:Tbrewer@rangercollege.edu)

**I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

A non-sectarian survey of the history and literature of the Hebrew people during the Old Testament period with an emphasis upon the development of their socio-political and religious institutions and ideas.

**II. REQUIRED BACKGROUND/PREREQUISITES**

None

**III. REQUIRED TEXTBOOK**

Hester, H. I. *The Heart of Hebrew History: A Study of the Old Testament*. Broadman Press: Nashville, Tn. 1980 revised edition  
**NIV or NASB** (New International or New American Standard Bible)

**IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION**

Lectures, discussions, handouts, assigned readings and outside research will be used to assist students in grasping subject material.

**V. BASIC INTELLECTUAL COMPETENCIES**

The Basic Intellectual Competencies listed below are components of a process designed to assist and prepare students for becoming well-educated individuals who are intellectually flexible, articulate and have the capacity to become responsible and creative members of society. These competencies are included in this course and they are noted by the following numbering system:

B1: Reading—the ability to analyze and interpret a variety of printed materials, books and documents, articles and maps

B2: Writing—The ability to produce clear, correct and coherent prose adapted to purpose, occasion, and audience.

B3: Speaking—The ability to communicate orally in class, coherent and persuasive language appropriate to purpose, occasion, and audience.

B4: Listening—the ability to analyze and interpret various forms of spoken communication, possess sufficient literary skills of writing and reading.

B5: Critical Thinking—The ability to apply both qualitative and quantitative skills analytically and creatively to subject matter to evaluate arguments and construct alternative strategies.

## VI. COURSE OBJECTIVES

- I. To introduce the student to the historical, cultural, political, Religious, and social background of the Hebrew people as recorded in the Old Testament. (B1, B2,B3,B4, B5)
- II. To provide students with background materials necessary for their Understanding of the message and content of the Old Testament and assist them in formulating opinions concerning religious matters. (B1, B2, B3, B4, B5)
- III. To challenge the students to read and demonstrate a knowledge of The content of the Old Testament. (B1, B2, B3, B4, B5)
- IV. To teach students the value of the Old Testament within our Society for philosophical and societal interactions in an American culture that has a great number of differing religious groups. (B1, B2, B3, B4, B5)

## VII. COURSE CALENDAR (tentative to change based upon class progress)

### Lecture

1. Discussion of Syllabus and Introduction to Class
2. Philosophy/reason & faith/ Bible basics
3. Research article, 1-3 pages on Middle East
4. Hebrew Nations periods (Hester, 15-79) Genesis 1-11
5. Abram—Jacob, Genesis 12-36; Hester, 83-101
- 6. Exam 1, Intro—Jacob**
7. Joseph, Gen. 37-50, Hester 101-107
8. Exodus 1-14, Numbers 1-9, Hester 111-123
9. Exodus 15-40, Numbers 10-20, Hester 123-132
10. Numbers 31-36, Deut. 28-34, Hester 132-136
11. Joshua 1-24, Hester 139-154
12. Judges 1-21, Hester 155-162
13. 1 Sam. 1-18, Hester 165-176
14. Review for exam II
- 15. EXAM II – Joseph to Judges**
16. 1 Sam 19-31, II Sam. 1-24, Hester 176-188
17. 1 Kings 1-11, Hester 188-196
18. 1 Kings 12-22, II Kings 1-10, Hester 196-216
19. II Kings 11-25, Hester 217-246
20. Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Hester 249-270
21. Review for exam III
- 22. EXAM III – Samuel to Esther**
23. Hester 273-278, Intro. to Prophets and Poetry
24. Amos/Hosea/Isaiah/Micah, Hester 281-290
25. Zephaniah/Nahum/Habakkuk, Hester 287-290

26. Jeremiah/Ezekiel, Hester 291-293  
Thanksgiving Break
27. Obadiah/Joel/Jonah, Hester 291-295; 270-280
28. Haggai/Zechariah/Malachi, Hester 29-295
29. Intro. to Wisdom literature, Hester 299-311, Psalms 1-23,  
Proverbs
30. Ecclesiastes/ Job, Hester 312,
31. Song of Songs/Ruth/Lamentations
- 32. FINAL EXAM**

## **VIII. COURSE/CLASSROOM POLICIES**

1. Regular and punctual attendance in all classes is considered to be essential for optimum academic success. If the student has the equivalence of three weeks of unofficial absences in a course in which he/she is currently enrolled, the instructor may drop the student from the course with a grade of "F". It is the responsibility of the instructor to keep accurate and comprehensive records of attendance.

Unofficial absences are counted from the first day of classes as listed in the College Calendar, regardless of the student's registration

The only official absence is an authorized College activity. All work and/or assignments missed because of an official absence must be completed within two weeks of the official absence or a grade will be recorded as a zero. An additional official absence during the two-week period does not extend the deadline for the completion of said assignments. (Ranger College Catalog)

2. Students are expected to participate in classroom discussion and come to class having done the required readings.
3. Make-up papers should be completed within one week of the original due date. Any paper not made up within one week of the original due date will receive a grade of zero. No more than one paper should be made up.
4. Any assignment reflecting cheating, plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty will receive a grade of zero.
5. Adult behavior is expected at all times. Misconduct, Disruptive behavior, including sleeping in class, use of cell phones, etc. will be punishable by immediate dismissal

from the class for the day and any assignment due that day will be given a grade of zero with no makeup.

6. **ADA STATEMENT:** Ranger College provides a variety of services for students with learning and/or physical disabilities. **The student is responsible** for making initial contact with the Ranger College Counselor. It is advisable to make this contact **before or immediately** after the semester begins.

## **IX. ASSESSMENT**

Four Major Exams (17.5% each)	70% (course objectives)
5-10 page paper over major character of Old Testament	10%
Daily Quizzes	10%
Classroom attendance and participation	10%

A study time and review time will be given during the class time prior the scheduled exam detailing the format and the material to be covered. Unannounced quizzes will be given concerning assigned readings of the text, a give number which will be dropped at the end of the semester, however, quizzes are not subject for make up.

Those students desiring extra credit may select a second character study to write and present to the class from an additional list to be provided after the semester begins. Paper will be due before the last lecture in November.

A = 90-100 B = 80-89 C = 70-79 D = 60-69 F = below 60

## **X. NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT**

ADMISSION, EMPLOYMENT, AND PROGRAM POLICIES OF RANGER COLLEGE ARE NON-DISCRIMINATORY IN REGARD TO RACE, CREED, COLOR, SEX, AGE, DISABILITY AND NATIONAL ORIGIN.

## **XI. RECEIPT OF SYLLABUS FORM**

**Legibly print the following information**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

“I have received and understand the information in the syllabus for Philosophy of Religion 1316 and I agree to abide by the stated policies.”

**Signature of student:** \_\_\_\_\_

