



To develop Christ-minded leaders who make a difference in the world.

OT 508 The Book of Leviticus

Winter, 2019

INSTRUCTOR: Jerry Shepherd, Ph.D.
Office Phone: (780) 431-5250
Home Phone: (780) 434-1164
jerry.shepherd@taylor-edu.ca

SCHEDULE: Tuesdays, 6:30—9:30 PM, January 22—April 23

CREDITS: 3 [90 hours of work outside of class time]

DESCRIPTION:

An intensive study of the book of Leviticus in its Ancient Near Eastern and canonical contexts. Special attention will be given to issues concerning sacrifice, atonement, worship, ritual, justice, holiness, messianism, and the relevance of Old Testament law and ritual to Christian faith and practice.

TARGET STATEMENTS:

A. Knowledge – Students will:

- Articulate an understanding of the book of Leviticus in its various ancient Near Eastern contexts: literary, historical, cultural, religious, and sociological.
- Articulate an appreciation for the historical and theological trustworthiness of this portion of the canon.
- Articulate what it means to read the book of Leviticus from a Christological and canonical perspective.
- Develop a strategy for preaching and teaching the book of Leviticus.

B. Character – Students will:

- Know God more fully and what he has revealed of himself in the book of Leviticus.
- Develop in their spiritual formation, and in their lives *coram Deo*, before God, becoming holy as God is holy, and being conformed to the image of God in Christ.
- More fully understand what it means to love one's neighbor, and to put that understanding into practice.

C. Ability – Students will:

- Develop in their skill of biblical exegesis.
- Acquire an increased ability to apply Scripture in different contextual situations.

TEXTBOOK(S):

Gane, Roy. *Leviticus, Numbers*. New International Version Application Commentary. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2004.

ISBN-10: 0310210887

ISBN-13: 978-0310210887

Available on Kindle and in Logos

Sklar, Jay. *Leviticus: An Introduction and Commentary*. Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 2014.

ISBN-10: 9780830842841

ISBN-13: 978-0830842841

Available in Kindle and in Logos

The student should also have a copy of the *Guide for Research and Writing (SBL style)*. This is available online on the seminary website, as well on the Moodle site for the course.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. **Assignment 1: (5%) Class attendance and Participation.** Students are expected to attend class and to contribute meaningfully to class discussions.
2. **Assignment 2: (5%; 40 hours) Reading of all assigned material.** Students are expected to read all textbooks and other assigned material. Additionally, the book of Leviticus should be read through twice in two different versions. You will be asked on the final exam to indicate your level of compliance with this requirement.
3. **Assignment 3: (25%; 8 hours) Class presentation.** Students will deliver a presentation in class regarding the passage they have chosen to examine in their exegesis paper. These presentations will take place in late March.
4. **Assignment 4: (5%; 2 hours) Presentation evaluations.** Students will fill out and submit evaluations of the other students' class presentations. These evaluations will be due within one week after each presentation.
5. **Assignment 5: (35%; 30 hours) Exegesis paper.** Students will submit an exegesis paper of a passage chosen in consultation with the professor. The paper should be approximately 15-20 pages (3750 words). Guidelines will be given in class as to what is expected of the student in these papers. Due April 16.
6. **Assignment 6: (25%; 10 hours) Final exam.** This will be based on all readings, lectures, handouts, materials on the website, and student presentations. Tuesday, April 23.

EVALUATION:

Assignment 1	5%
Assignment 2	5%
Assignment 3	25%
Assignment 4	5%
Assignment 5	35%
Assignment 6	25%
Total	100%

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Excessive, unexcused absences and lack of participation may adversely affect your grade. More than three unexcused absences may result in failure for the course.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. MOODLE

Taylor Seminary's Moodle is located on a shared platform with our partner seminary, Sioux Falls Seminary. Bookmark this site on your computer for easy, regular access: <https://moodle.sfseminary.edu>

Moodle log-in is the first initial of your first name and your last name - all in lowercase, with no spaces. For example, if your name is John Calvin, you would log-in as jcalvin

The default password is: TaylorSem123\$ (After your first login it will require you to change it)

The default enrolment key is the course code (all in lowercase, with no spaces). The course code consists of the course prefix followed by the course number.

For example, Old Testament Introduction's key is: ot417

If you are having trouble logging into Moodle or self-enrolling, please email teresa.seibel@taylor-edu.ca

2. COURSE WRITING

Formatting

All studies and papers should be typed and formatted according to the Society of Biblical Literature writing style as outlined in the Seminary's *Guidelines for Research Writing in Religion & Theology (SBL)*. For the full stylesheet, please refer to Patrick H. Alexander, et al., ed., *The SBL Handbook of Style: For Biblical Studies and Related Disciplines* (Atlanta: SBL Press, 2014) which is in Reading Room.

Research Language.

You should employ acceptable research language for your paper which is not too informal yet reads inclusively. Avoid the use of gender specific language (e.g., Do not refer to "man" generically or to "mankind," "men," "he"; rather use "humankind," "humanity," "person," etc.)

Plagiarism.

Academic honesty and integrity is essential to the academic enterprise and the Seminary community. All written work submitted *must* be your own. *Guidelines for Research Writing* defines plagiarism as the failure to give credit where credit is due: "To plagiarize is to give the impression that you have written something original which in fact you have borrowed from another without acknowledging that other person's work" (*Guide for Research and Writing*, 2016, p. 11-13). If you borrow ideas or distinctive phrases, or include direct quotations in your written assignments, you must acknowledge your source(s) properly by in-text citation or footnote. It is also wrong to copy another person's work or to submit an assignment previously handed in for credit in another course. **Students guilty of plagiarism may receive a grade of zero for the assignment and may be brought to the attention of the Seminary's Academic Committee.**

3. COURSE WITHDRAWAL POLICY

After the period for which tuition refunds are available, a “W” will be placed on the transcript of a student who withdraws from any course. Beyond those dates, an “F” will be recorded on the student’s transcript.

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