

<p>Dr. David M. Howard, Jr. Bethel Theological Seminary Winter 2003 OT 112 - Section 1: WF 8:15-9:45 am</p>	<p>Office Hours: T 1:00-3:00 pm W 1:00-2:00 pm Th 3:00-4:00 pm <i>or by special appt</i></p> <p>Office: A-203 Telephone: 651-638-6197 / P.O. Box 7016 E-mail: dhoward@bethel.edu Web site: www.bethel.edu/~dhoward</p>
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1 SAMUEL – SONG OF SONGS

(OT 112)

Catalogue Description

“An examination of the books of 1 Samuel through Song of Songs, including the contents, major themes, and theological messages of each. Special emphasis is placed on the human and divine dimensions of the Kingdom of God, as well as continuity of themes with earlier Scriptures. Special attention also is given to legitimate ways of reading the Bible. This involves understanding the particular qualities of Hebrew poetic and wisdom texts, and developing a valid hermeneutic for interpreting them. Exposure to proper methods of interpreting Old Testament narrative texts is presupposed. Students will build on their Hebrew knowledge and exegetical skills. Prerequisites: BT101/BI101, OT111, and Hebrew language sequence. *St. Paul only. Four hours.*”

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, the student shall be able to demonstrate

1. A thorough knowledge of the contents of 1 Samuel through Song of Songs.
2. A grasp of the major themes of these books, and how these fit the larger themes of the Old and New Testaments.
3. The basic skills of Biblical exegesis, including the special nature of Hebrew poetic texts.
4. A knowledge of relevant extra-Biblical materials, including a knowledge of their roles in exegesis and apologetics.

In addition, a goal of this course is to stimulate a love and appreciation for these portions of the Old Testament, and their use in Christian ministry.

Required Textbooks

1. *The Bible*. Any modern version is acceptable.
2. David M. Howard, Jr., *An Introduction to the Old Testament Historical Books*. Chicago: Moody, 1993.

3. C. Hassell Bullock, *An Introduction to the Old Testament Poetic Books*. 2nd ed. Chicago: Moody, 1988.

Course Requirements

1. Reading (20%)

- A. The entire contents of the books of 1 Samuel to Song of Songs are to be read, in any version desired. International students may read the Bible in their own language. *Each book must be read at one sitting. This is an essential part of the course experience and may not be waived.*
- B. The corresponding chapters in each textbook are to be read on the days the Biblical books are covered.

Note: All readings must be completed by the beginning of the class period in which they are assigned. They will be accounted for using the forms at the end of the syllabus.

2. Worksheets (40%)

Eight worksheets are to be completed and handed in at class time on the dates indicated. These should be typed, double-spaced, with ragged right margins, no larger than 12-point type. These usually will be on important passages, and most will cover a different aspect of the exegetical task (grammatical, literary, theological, practical, etc.). Because these worksheets will be discussed in class, late submissions are not accepted. (Circumstances that a congregation would accept for a pastor's missing a Sunday sermon may allow for rare exceptions.) The lowest worksheet (or one missed) will be dropped.

3. Exams (40%)

Two unit exams (non-cumulative) will be given, according to the schedule below. These will be out-of-class exams, and procedures will be announced in class for taking them. They will cover the Bible reading, textbook readings, worksheets, and class lectures and discussions. Study guides for these exams are posted on the "Classes" page of the professor's Web site.

Grading Summary

Reading	20%
Worksheets	40%
Exam I	20%
Exam II	<u>20%</u>
	100%

Grading Scale

93-100%	A
86-92%	B
78-85%	C
70-77%	D
0 - 69%	F

Note: Because of the obvious educational benefits to oneself, as well as common courtesy to others, regular and on-time class attendance are expected. Unexcused absences beyond two class periods will result in a grade reduction. An average student should expect to invest ca.120 hours in this class in order to achieve an average grade. Individual outcomes, of course, may vary.

COURSE SCHEDULE (OT 112)

Jan 8	Course Introduction Introduction to Old Testament Historical Narrative - I
Jan 10	Introduction to Old Testament Historical Narrative - II Read: Howard, chap. 1
Jan 15	1-2 Samuel Read: 1-2 Samuel Due: <i>Worksheet 1</i>
Jan 17	1-2 Samuel Read: Howard, chap. 5
Jan 22	1-2 Kings Read: 1-2 Kings Howard, chaps. 6-7
Jan 24	1-2 Kings Due: <i>Worksheet 2</i>
Jan 29	1-2 Chronicles Read: 1-2 Chronicles
Jan 31	1-2 Chronicles Read: Howard, chap. 8 Due: <i>Worksheet 3</i>
Feb 5	Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther Read: Howard, chaps. 9, 10
Feb 7	Introduction to Hebrew Poetry Read: “The Student, the Fish, & Agassiz” (on the class Web site)
Feb 10	EXAM I (covering material through Feb 5)
Feb 12	Psalms 1 and 2 Due: <i>Worksheet 4</i>
Feb 14	Introduction to the Psalter - I Read: Psalms 1-72; D & L, chap. 16

- Feb 19 Introduction to the Psalter - II
Read: Psalms 73-150
G. Wilson, "The Shape of the Book of Psalms,"
Interpretation 46 (1992), 129-42.
Due: *Worksheet 5*
- Feb 21 Psalms: Praises
- Feb 26 Psalms: Lament
Read: S. Carney, "God Damn God: A Reflection on Expressing Anger
in Prayer," *Biblical Theology Bulletin* (Oct 1983), 116-20.
Due: *Worksheet 6*
- Feb 28 Psalms: Lament
- Mar 5 Introduction to Wisdom Literature
Wisdom in the Ancient Near East
Read: "A Man and His God" (*ANET*, 589-91); "The Babylonian
Theodicy" (*ANET*, 601-4)
Due: *Worksheet 7*
- Mar 7 Proverbs
Read: Proverbs
Due: *Worksheet 8*
- Mar 12 Ecclesiastes; Song of Songs
Read: D & L, chaps. 17, 18, 19
- Mar 14 Job
Read: D & L, chap. 15
- Mar 17 **EXAM II (covering Feb 7-Mar 14)**

OT 102: READING REPORT FORM (BIBLE AND TEXTBOOKS)

Name (printed) _____ Date: _____

I have completed the assigned Bible and textbook readings for the following book(s):

JOB

This was done

Completely and on time _____
Completely, but late _____
Partially and on time _____
Partially, and late _____

OT 102: READING REPORT FORM (BIBLE AND TEXTBOOKS)

Name (printed) _____ Date: _____

I have completed the assigned Bible and textbook readings for the following book(s):

ECCLESIASTES; SONG OF SONGS

This was done

Completely and on time _____
Completely, but late _____
Partially and on time _____
Partially, and late _____

OT 102: READING REPORT FORM (BIBLE AND TEXTBOOKS)

Name (printed) _____ Date: _____

I have completed the assigned Bible and textbook readings for the following book(s):

PROVERBS

This was done

Completely and on time _____
Completely, but late _____
Partially and on time _____
Partially, and late _____

OT 102: READING REPORT FORM (BIBLE AND TEXTBOOKS)

Name (printed) _____ Date: _____

I have completed the assigned Bible and textbook readings for the following book(s):

PSALMS 73-150

This was done

Completely and on time _____
Completely, but late _____
Partially and on time _____
Partially, and late _____

OT 102: READING REPORT FORM (BIBLE AND TEXTBOOKS)

Name (printed) _____ Date: _____

I have completed the assigned Bible and textbook readings for the following book(s):

PSALMS 1-72

This was done

Completely and on time _____
Completely, but late _____
Partially and on time _____
Partially, and late _____

OT 102: READING REPORT FORM (BIBLE AND TEXTBOOKS)

Name (printed) _____ Date: _____

I have completed the assigned Bible and textbook readings for the following book(s):

EZRA-NEHEMIAH-ESTHER

This was done

Completely and on time _____
Completely, but late _____
Partially and on time _____
Partially, and late _____

OT 102: READING REPORT FORM (BIBLE AND TEXTBOOKS)

Name (printed) _____ Date: _____

I have completed the assigned Bible and textbook readings for the following book(s):

1-2 CHRONICLES

This was done

Completely and on time _____
Completely, but late _____
Partially and on time _____
Partially, and late _____

OT 102: READING REPORT FORM (BIBLE AND TEXTBOOKS)

Name (printed) _____ Date: _____

I have completed the assigned Bible and textbook readings for the following book(s):

1-2 KINGS

This was done

Completely and on time _____
Completely, but late _____
Partially and on time _____
Partially, and late _____

OT 102: READING REPORT FORM (BIBLE AND TEXTBOOKS)

Name (printed) _____ Date: _____

I have completed the assigned Bible and textbook readings for the following book(s):

1-2 SAMUEL

This was done

Completely and on time _____
Completely, but late _____
Partially and on time _____
Partially, and late _____
