

Note:

**Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice.
The information below is provided as a guide for course
selection and is not binding in any form.**

MOODY DISTANCE LEARNING

Course Number, Name, and Credit Hours

BI-3301 Ancient Near Eastern Backgrounds and the Old Testament, 3 credit hours.

Course Description

This course leads the student in the use of comparative studies in the interpretation of the Old Testament. Emphasis is placed on the review of broad themes drawn from the ancient Near East (ANE) and their relevance to the study of Scripture. Perspectives on the method of comparative studies are also addressed.

Course Objectives

1. Evaluate the differing approaches to comparative studies from an evangelical perspective
2. Utilize an understanding of the Bible's ANE context to enlighten and enrich biblical interpretation
3. Demonstrate a familiarity with the major civilizations of the ANE
4. Recognize some of the major themes from the literature of the ANE that contribute to/enrich biblical studies
5. Create exegetically based ideas for teaching, preaching, counseling, and personal discipleship based upon an understanding of the cultural world of the Bible
6. Demonstrate a familiarity with the culture and customs of the major societies in the ANE

Required Textbooks

Required textbooks for all Moody Online classes can be found on the [Required Textbooks](#) section of the Moody website.

Assignments

All assignments are due according to the schedule listed on the Course Schedule.

1. **CLASS PARTICIPATION:** Active participation is expected in this online course. Participation includes two main areas: reading and discussion boards.
 - a. **Reading Questions:** The completion of the course reading is an important part of the course. You are expected to complete the reading prior for all assignments and discussion boards. Reading will also be evaluated through assignments.
 - b. **Discussion Boards:** You must maintain a significant presence in the discussion board. Please refer to the discussion board rubric included in the Documents section of this course for more information on how your participation in the discussion board will be assessed. **NOTE:** Some assignments require discussion board discussion that will be graded as part of the assignment's grade. Unless otherwise directed, post your initial response to the discussion question by mid-week (Friday, 11:59pm CT). Then read and respond to at least **TWO** of your classmates' initial posts by the end of the week (Monday, 11:59pm CT).
2. **ASSIGNMENTS:** There are eight assignments in this course requiring skills learned that include work with Microsoft Word and PowerPoint. Specific assignment instructions are provided in the week the assignments are due. As noted above, some assignments require discussion board discussion that will be graded as part of the assignment's grade. The assignments in the course are:

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- a. People Groups of the Old Testament World
 - b. "gods" of the ANE
 - c. Covenant Summary
 - d. Slavery in the Bible and the ANE Summary Handout
 - e. Creation and Temple in the ANE
 - f. Worksheet on Kingship
 - g. Resurrection in the Old Testament
 - h. Comparative Studies Final Assessment
3. **PAPERS:** There are three papers in this course requiring skills learned that include work with Microsoft Word. Specific instructions are provided in the week the papers are due. The papers in this course are:
- a. Covenant Paper
 - b. *Enuma Elish* Paper
 - c. Amenemope Paper
4. **QUIZ:** This course includes a True/False quiz on the reading.

Assessments

Your grade for this course will consist of:

Class Participation	31%
• Reading Questions (7x3%)	
• Discussions (2x5%)	
Assignments	47%
• People Groups of the Old Testament World"(8%)	
• "gods" of the ANE (5%)	
• Covenant Summary (4%)	
• Slavery in the Bible and the ANE Summary Handout (4%)	
• Creation and Temple in the ANE (8%)	
• Worksheet on Kingship (5%)	
• Resurrection in the Old Testament (5%)	
• Comparative Studies Final Assessment (8%)	
Papers	19%
• Covenant Paper (6%)	
• <i>Enuma Elish</i> Paper (5%)	
• Amenemope Paper (8%)	
Quiz	3%
Total	100%

Letter grades are determined by the following scale:

Letter Grade	Percentage Equivalent	Letter Grade	Percentage Equivalent
A	96% or higher	C	73 - 76.9%
A-	90 - 95.9%	C-	70 - 72.9%
B+	87 - 89.9%	D+	67 - 69.9%
B	83 - 86.9%	D	63- 66.9%
B-	80 - 82.9%	D-	60 - 62.9%
C+	77 - 79.9%	F	Below 60%

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Course Bibliography

***See Document in the *Course Resources* section of Blackboard: “ANE Bibliography.”**