

**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-1113 Old Testament Literature 1, 4 credit hours

### Course Description

This course introduces students to the narrative, legal, and genealogical literature of the Old Testament. Distinctive features and functions of various literary types are discussed. Course also surveys students through a variety of Old Testament themes.

### Course Objectives

By the completion of this course students should be able to:

1. Utilize basic Bible study skills in the study of Old Testament literature
2. Describe the narrative genre including its various literary features and use of poetics
3. Discuss theological and interpretive issues related to the narrative, legal, and genealogical genres of Old Testament literature
4. Articulate key Old Testament themes and discuss their implications within the canon
5. Compose a historical overview of Old Testament literature that develops a consistent storyline

### Course Textbook(s) and/or Supplemental Information

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

### Assignments

**Class Participation:** Active participation is expected in this online course. Participation includes two main areas: discussion boards and reading.

- a. **Discussion Boards:** You must maintain a significant presence in the discussion board. Students must make an initial post that indicates a familiarity with the assigned text(s) and critical thought on the subject and the question at hand. This initial post is due each week by 12:00 AM CDT on Saturday. Students must make two additional posts on fellow student's postings by 12:00 AM CDT on Tuesday.
- b. **Reading Course Expectations:** The completion of the course reading, online articles, etc. is an important part of the course. You are expected to complete the weekly reading assignments prior to your discussion boards each week so you are able to discuss the concepts with others in the course.

### Paper Assignments:

- **Assignment 1: Legal Analysis**

In this assignment, you will study the Law to examine what it *itself* shows about God's care for his people. Examine the following passages and discuss how each of them demonstrates God's intense precautionary love for Israel.

Analysis of each passage should consist of at least a full paragraph. Avoid quoting each passage in full but instead provide only the verse reference. This assignment should be completed in the "Legal Analysis Worksheet" provided in Week 1's **Lesson Resources** folder.

- **Assignment 2: Genealogical Analysis**

In this assignment you will explore the question: Why is Biblical Genealogy important? Utilizing this week's readings as well as additional resources from the supplemental reading complete the "Genealogical Analysis Worksheet" located in Week 2's **Lesson Resources** folder that summarizes the significance of the genealogical literature to the study of the Old Testament. Address the questions on the worksheet and then complete the **Week 2 Quiz** on Blackboard. 40% of your quiz grade will be the successful completion of this "reflective" worksheet, and the remaining 60% will be answering the multiple choice questions on Blackboard. You will turn in the Genealogy Analysis Worksheet in Blackboard and then take the Quiz.

- **Assignment 3-1: Story Analysis**

In this assignment, you will examine various literary techniques the Old Testament authors used in their writing that are discussed in *RHB*. Using each of the literary characteristics outlined in the chapter, read and analyze Judges 16:1-22.

- **Assignment 3-2: Ruth Analysis**

Using skills learned in weeks 3 through 5, analyze the book of Ruth as in depth as possible. Read and reread the book in search of every literary feature being put to use by the author. It is advised that students use the provided Narrative Analysis guides to ensure they address every aspect of Old Testament narrative covered in the Dutcher-Walls reading.

This study may begin with you compiling pages of notes on their observations in the text. You should submit a **minimum 6 page double-spaced paper** as a literary analysis of the book of Ruth.

- **Assignment 4: Second Samuel Analysis**

You will study literary techniques biblical authors used to advance their arguments, points, and ideas in *RHB*. In this assignment you will complete an in-depth literary study of 2 Samuel.

- **Assignment 5: Historical Analysis**

Study Ezra 1-2:2:

- A) Note every historical and cultural feature in the text that identifies the layer of history and culture behind the narrative that is foreign to today's readers.
- B) See the document "Historical and Cultural Analysis Guide" in Week 5's **Lesson Resources** folder as an aid to guide you in this assignment.

To complete this assignment, fill in and complete the document titled: "Ezra Observation Assignment" located in Week 5's **Lesson Resources** folder.

- **Assignment 6-1: Covenant**

Most biblical scholars today believe that covenant is one of the most significant themes in Old and New Testament theology. God's covenant pulls together the entire canon into one grand story. It also clearly defines the parameters of God's relationship with his people. Therefore, covenant is also an interpretive key for understanding certain passages in the Old Testament that would otherwise be difficult to grasp. In other words, covenant is the **context** for God's actions and revelation to Israel throughout the Old Testament.

This week you will have read each of the various Old Testament covenants God has made with his people. Often, one or more of these covenants are an important hermeneutical (interpretational) key for understanding other Old Testament passages.

Choose **one** of the passages and consider how one (or more) of God's covenants help you as a reader to interpret what is happening in the text. After studying your text and reviewing the Old Testament biblical covenants, provide answers to the questions in the worksheet on Blackboard titled: "Covenant Questions Worksheet."

- **Assignment 6-2: Old Testament Storyline**

Create a **5-7 page double-spaced paper** that communicates the OT Storyline by emphasizing themes through each OT period that we have studied in this course: from Genesis-Ezra/Nehemiah (Narrative, legal, genealogical books). 1-3 themes may be used, but the themes must be clearly present in each genre that have been covered in this course. Feel free to use, but also go beyond the themes of covenant, land, and kingship. See the document in Week 6's **Lesson Resources** folder: "Old Testament Storyline" to help you with this assignment.

- **Assignment 7: Thematic Analysis**

Trace the "Land/Seed" theme through the book of Exodus. Connect the significance of Genesis 1:28 ("Be fruitful and multiply...") with Pharaoh's execution of Hebrew babies. This assignment should be 4-6 pages in length (MLA).

- **Assignment 8: Kingship**

Based upon your readings on Old Testament kingship, choose a position on this issue. Using the "Kingship Assignment Worksheet" posted on Blackboard, defend the position you have chosen by answering the questions given in the table provided.

### Assessments

Your grade for this course will consist of:

Class Participation: Discussion Boards – 15% Reading Reports – 10%	25%
Assignment 1	10%
Assignment 2	5%
Assignments 3-1 and 3-2	15%
Assignment 4	5%
Assignment 5	10%
Assignments 6-1 and 6-2	10%
Assignment 7	10%
Assignment 8	10%
	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%

### Course Copyright Statement

Copyright © 2013 by The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. All rights reserved.

Unless otherwise specified, the materials and services on this website are for your personal and non-commercial use, and you may not modify, copy, distribute, transmit, display, perform, reproduce, publish, license, create derivative works from, transfer, or sell any information, software, products or services obtained from the website without the written permission from Moody Distance Learning, Moody Bible Institute, 820 N. LaSalle Blvd., Chicago, Illinois 60610.

### ADA Compliance Statement

Moody Bible Institute complies with the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) as well as Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, by providing appropriate accommodations to qualified students with disabilities. We value diversity and inclusion and recognize disability as an aspect of diversity. Our shared goal is to create learning environments that are accessible, equitable, and inclusive. If you anticipate barriers related to the format, requirements, or assessment of this course, you are invited to address the professor with your concerns; additionally, you are encouraged to contact Gayla Gates, our disability services provider, at the Student Resource Center to discuss possible environmental modifications or adaptations. Please note, accommodations are not retroactive, therefore we encourage you to contact our service provider within the first two weeks of the semester. Contact Gayla Gates at [ggates@moody.edu](mailto:ggates@moody.edu) or 312-329-2177.