

OLD TESTAMENT INTRODUCTION..CLASS SYLLABUS
BIBLICAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
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I. GENERAL INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE

A. General Introduction to the study

1. The objectives for the course:

The major objective for this course is to survey the materials necessary for a fuller understanding of the Old Testament as they are developed in the lower and higher criticism areas. In doing this the course establishes five important basic objectives:

a. To survey the lower criticism of the Old Testament and to demonstrate the trustworthiness of the Old Testament texts.

Our study takes us to the basic documents of the Old Testament for the determination of the trustworthiness of our texts with notations for both the excellencies and limitations of the text of the O.T. as we know it.

b. To survey briefly the historical formation of the canon.

This includes an attempt at an understanding of the methods, means, etc., employed in the formation of the canon with the resultant end of showing why we think it complete and correct in the reformational understanding. The more formal work in the canon is treated in systematic theology under bibliology...or something.

c. To give a comprehensive analysis to the various forms of Old Testament higher criticism with special emphasis on the criticism of the Pentateuch.

d. To survey the various methods of understanding and interpreting the Old Testament and place the foundation for the use of the Old Testament in the life of the church.

To achieve this, the various methods of interpretation are surveyed and the ideas set forth in them are discussed for the practical use of the Old Testament.