

# COS 221 HEBREW BIBLE 1

Spring Heights, Spencer, WV  
Fall 2017

Instructor: Rev. Dr. John Lepp  
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## COURSE TEXTS:

- 1. The Pentateuch: Interpreting Biblical Texts**, Terence E. Fretheim, Abingdon Press; (November 1, 1996), ISBN-10: 0687008425, ISBN-13: 978-0687008421
- 2. The Old Testament: A Historical and Literary Introduction to the Hebrew Scriptures**, Michael D. Coogan, Oxford University Press; 2 edition (January 22, 2010), ISBN-10: 0195378407, ISBN-13: 978-0195378405

## REFERENCE TEXTS:

- 3. The New Interpreter's Bible One-Volume Commentary ("IOVC")**, Beverly R. Gaventa (Editor), David L. Petersen (Editor), Abingdon Press (July 1, 2010), ISBN-10: 068733411X, ISBN-13: 978-0687334117
- 4. Oxford Bible Atlas**, Adrian Curtis, Oxford University Press; 4 edition (June 15, 2009), ISBN-10: 0199560463, ISBN-13: 978-0199560462

First Weekend: September 15-17

**Read:** Genesis 12-24, Exodus 1-20, Judges 1-3:6, 17-21, 1 Samuel 8-10 and the **IOVC** commentary on each, **The Old Testament: A Historical and Literary Introduction to the Hebrew Scriptures**

General Articles in **IOVC**

- How the Bible Was Created
- The Canon of the Old Testament
- Cultures of the Ancient Near East
- Cultures of Early Judaism

Second Weekend: November 17-19

**Read:** Leviticus 19, Exodus 19, Esther, and the Apocryphal book of Judith and the **IOVC** commentary on each, **The Pentateuch: Interpreting Biblical Texts**

General Articles in **IOVC**:

Hebrew Narrative	Prophetic Literature	Legal Literature
Hebrew Poetry	Wisdom Literature	Apocalyptic Literature

## ASSIGNMENTS

**All papers can be submitted by email prior to class in order to be graded and returned at class time. Final submission time is at the first and second class.**

**First Weekend:** September 15-17:

1. Read the Abraham stories in Genesis 12 - 24 and **write** a 1-2 page paper on the significance of the covenant with Abraham for the Christian church today.
2. Read Exodus 1- 20 and **write** a 1-2 page paper on the importance of the Exodus, the Passover and the Wilderness experience for the nation of Israel and the Christian church today.
3. Read Judges 1-3:6, 17-21, 1 Samuel 8-10 and **write** a 1-2 page paper on the differences between a theocracy and a monarchy.

**Second Weekend:** November 17-19:

1. Read Esther and the Apocryphal book of Judith and write a 1-2 page paper on why Esther is in the Protestant canon and Judith is not.
2. Read Leviticus 19 (and Exodus 19) and prepare an exegesis that leads to a sermon. Hand in the written exegesis and the sermon either written or on audio or videotape.