

REL 220: Old Testament

Pima Community College - East Campus
Spring 2009, CRN: 21016, Three (3) credit hours
Prerequisite(s): None

Meets: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:10 - 11:25am in E4 403

Instructor: David Gainey

E-mail: dgainey@juno.com

Web site: <http://ecc.pima.edu/~dgainey>

Cell phone number: 270-2969

Office Hours: By appointment

Description and objectives: Major books of the Old Testament. Includes literary forms, historical context, moral implications of the literature, and religious significance. Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to do the following:

1. Describe the literary forms of the writings of the Old Testament.
2. Examine the historical context of the Old Testament.
3. Discuss the moral implications of the literature of the Old Testament.
4. Evaluate the religious significance of the Old Testament.

Outline:

- I. Literary Forms
 - A. Narrative
 - B. Poetry
 - C. Law
 - D. Wisdom
 - E. Prophecy
 - F. Apocalyptic
- II. Historical Context
 - A. Primeval History
 - B. Pre-exilic History
 - C. Post-exilic History
- III. Moral Implications of the Literature
 - A. Covenant
 - B. Community
 - C. Universality
- IV. Religious Significance
 - A. Judaism
 - B. Christianity

Textbook: NIV Study Bible

Important Dates:

February 12:	Exam 1	April 21:	Exam 3
February 26:	No class (Rodeo Break)	May 5:	Report Due
March 17, 19:	No class (Spring Break)	May 19:	Exam 4
March 24:	Exam 2		

Requirements:

Exam 1	The Pentateuch	20% of total grade
Exam 2	The Former Prophets	20% of total grade
Exam 3	The Writings	20% of total grade
Exam 4	The Latter Prophets	20% of total grade
Report		20% of total grade

Report: Each student will write a five (5) to seven (7) page research paper of an Old Testament book of his or her choice in MLA format. Each paper should include parenthetical notes and a works cited page. Other than the biblical text (the primary source), each student will reference to at least five secondary sources (Old Testament surveys, commentaries, etc. – but no reference sources such as encyclopedias or textbooks). The content of the paper will be an explanation and argument for the theme (message) of the book, including the historical context, the book's contribution to the Old Testament, and the literary styles incorporated by the author. The paper is not a book report, but a thesis paper. The report must be turned in on the due date – late papers will be penalized.

Attendance: Because this is a “lecture” class, regular attendance is required and will be recorded. Students who miss a class session are responsible for getting the notes from another student. When a student arrives late to class, it is his or her responsibility to inform the instructor after class that he or she was present. Students are expected to participate in discussion – students who talk during class, text message during class, surf the Internet during class or work on homework from another class will be asked to leave. Cell phones must be turned off during class. Students must also be able to regularly access their MyPima accounts for required articles.

Withdrawal: The last day to withdraw with a refund (and no grade recorded) is February 2, 2009. The last day to withdraw without a refund (with a grade of “W”) is April 9, 2009. These are student actions that do not involve the instructor. I do not withdraw students or give incompletes without a personal request from the student. If you stop attending class and do not withdraw yourself or ask me for a withdrawal or incomplete, you will receive an F.

ADA: Pima Community College strives to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Reasonable accommodations, including materials in alternative formats, are available to qualified students with appropriate disability documentation. To obtain accommodations a student must register with a campus Disabled Student Resources (DSR) Office. The student may then obtain authorization for specific accommodations and services. All disability-related information will be kept confidential. The East Campus DSR Office is located in the Library/Student Center room L-231 and their phone number is 206-7699.