

**OT501: PENTATEUCH (4 units).**

**John Goldingay, David Allan Hubbard Professor of Old Testament, and  
Daryl Jump, Adjunct Instructor in Old Testament Studies**

---

**DESCRIPTION:**

The course studies the origin and historical value of Genesis to Deuteronomy; the different blocks of "law" and the principles they embody; the books as a narrative with a plot, characters, and themes; and their significance for Christian faith, life, and ministry.

**RELEVANCE FOR MINISTRY:**

By the end of the course students should have:

- Gained familiarity with these books of the Bible with their foundational significance for an understanding of the gospel, of the commitment of the people of God, and of what it means to be human
- Considered questions raised by a recognition that these books are God's word, and by the application of critical methods to them, in the context of current ferment over the origin of the Pentateuch
- Developed skills in the interpretation of Old Testament narrative
- Considered how to relate Old Testament "law" to doctrinal, pastoral, and moral questions in church and world

**COURSE FORMAT:**

The course will be conducted on the Internet using a 10-week lesson program aligned with Fuller's academic calendar. Lectures for each lesson will be available online. Students and instructor will interact with the material weekly through homework assignments and threaded discussions.

**REQUIRED READING:**

- NRSV or alternatively a TNIV Bible
- Alexander, T. D. and D. W. Baker, eds. *Dictionary of the Old Testament: Pentateuch*, IVP, 2002
- Van Wijk-Bos, J. W. H. *Making Wise the Simple*. Eerdmans, 2005.
- Course reader, which will be available online

**RECOMMENDED READING:**

- Borowski, O. *Daily Life in Biblical Times*. Atlanta: SBL, 2003.
- Brueggemann, W. *Genesis*. Knox, 1982
- Frankel, E. *The Five Books of Miriam: A Woman's Commentary on the Torah*. Harper, 1996
- Fretheim, T. *Exodus*. Knox, 1991
- Goldingay, J. *After Eating the Apricot*. Paternoster, 1996
- Goldingay, J. *Old Testament Theology, Volume One*. (pp.42-518) IVP, 2003
- Hartley, J. E. *Leviticus*. Word, 1992
- Olson, D. T. *Numbers*. Knox, 1996
- Winner, L. F. *Mudhouse Sabbath*. Paraclete, 2003
- Wright, C. J. H. *Deuteronomy*. Hendrickson/Paternoster, 1996
- For maps of the biblical world: <http://www.studylight.org/se/maps/>

**ASSIGNMENTS:**

1. Weekly reading and homework assignments (20%)
2. Weekly threaded discussions (20%)
3. Two 10-page papers (60%)

**PREREQUISITES:** None

**RELATION TO CURRICULUM:** Meets M.Div. core requirement in Old Testament "a" (OTA). Ministry Focus  
Elective in MA in Global Leadership

**FINAL EXAMINATION:** None

Updated October 2007