

Messianic Jewish Rabbinate



BIB-101: Tanakh Survey 5776/2016 Syllabus & Schedule

Instructor Information:

Professor: Rav. Brian Tice, B.Sci., M.Sci.
Telephone: 616.570.8924 (voice calls only, no texting)
Email: rebbe.tice@gmail.com
Skype: pastor.tice

Course Identification:

Course Number:	BIB-101	Course Credits:	3 credit hours
Course Name:	Tanakh Survey	Prerequisites:	none
Class Location:	online		

Course Description

This 12-week course will cover the metanarrative of the *Tanakh*, including Biblical theology and themes, and historical and cultural background of the Ancient Near East (ANE) and how monotheistic worship of *HaShem* stands in contrast to other belief systems of the ANE.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- *Da'at (Theoria)*: internalize basic knowledge of the Tanakh (narrative, theology, themes)
- *Binah (Praxis)*: apply sound hermeneutics to the text of Scripture
- *Chochma (Poiesis)*: make practical application of Scripture in a 21st Century context

Required Course Texts & Course Materials

Sweeney, Marvin A. *Tanakh: A Theological and Critical Introduction to the Jewish Bible*. Minneapolis, Minn.: Fortress Press, 2012. ISBN 978-0-8006-3743-9.

Walton, John H. *Ancient Near Eastern Thought and the Old Testament: Introducing the Conceptual World of the Hebrew Bible*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Academic, 2006. ISBN 978-0-8010-2750-5.

Walton, John H. *Chronological and Background Charts of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1994 (orig. 1978). ISBN 978-0-3104-8161-9.

Supplemental educational learning materials may include but are not limited to

- Turabian, Kate. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. 8th Edition. Chicago, Ill.: University of Chicago Press, 2013.
- The Bible (at least *Tanakh*, in either original languages or in a modern literal translation)
- Internet access (broadband recommended)
- Microsoft Word™ 2010 (or 2013)
- Media player software

- Additional materials will be distributed by the professor in the form of video lectures and supplemental handouts.

Course Format

This course will be conducted in an **online** format combining textbook readings and assignments with email support. There will be a **practical *tzedeqah* component** (service learning) requiring 2-4 hours per week contributing in some way to *Tikkun Olam*. Post-action reports will be shared with your classmates via the discussion board weekly.

Assessment

- Exegetical assignments will be evaluated on a standard grading rubric. Written examinations will be graded according to content (multiple choice, fill-in-the blank, short answer, and/or essay).

Student Homework Policy Statement:

Messianic Jewish Rabbinate (MJR) syllabi contain assignments in alignment with the federal government's definition of appropriate assigned homework for each unit hour. For each hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction, two hour of out of class student work will be assigned. (For example, a 3 credit hour course will include an average of 3 hours of homework each week for 12 weeks). Assignments are directly relevant to course objectives and learning outcomes and are included at the end of the syllabi. Each assignment will be graded and recorded by the instructor.

Course Requirements and Assignments

- **Textbook readings**
- **Discussion Board Forums (10):** The Discussion Boards will cover the texts.
- **Torah Portion Analysis** (see rubric in this packet)
- **Haftarah Portion Project** (see rubric in this packet)
- **Tzedeqah Practicum & Post-Action Reports**
- **Midterm Examination, Final Examination (cumulative), and 5 quizzes**

Course Grading and Policies

Points

The grade for Survey of the OT (*Tanakh*) will be based on the following:

Discussion Board Forums (10 at 25 pts each)	250
<i>Tzedeqah</i> Practicum Component (10 reports at 10 pts each)	100
<i>Torah</i> Portion Analysis	125
<i>Haftarah</i> Portion Project	125
Quizzes (5 at 20 pts each)	100
Midterm Examination	150
Final Examination	150
Total	1000

Scale

A = 940–1000; A- = 920–939; B+ = 900–919; B = 860–899; B- = 840–859; C+ = 820–839; C = 780–819; C- = 760–779; D+ = 740–759; D = 700–739; D- = 680–699; F = 679 and below

Late Assignments Policy

If students is unable to compete an assignment on time, then they must contact the instructor immediately by email. Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

- Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will receive a 10% deduction.
- Assignments submitted more than one week late will receive a 20% deduction.
- Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the class will not be accepted.
- Late Discussion Board threads or replies will not be accepted.

Style Guidelines

All assignments for this course are to be formatted in accordance with the latest edition of the *Turabian* style manual (standard format for humanities and Biblical studies). Discussion assignments and essay examinations may use the parenthetical citation style, but papers must use Turabian/CMOS footnotes.

Messianic Jewish Rabbinata

BIB-101 - Tanakh Survey

Assignment Schedule 5776/2016

Textbooks

- [TANAK] Sweeney, Marvin A. *Tanak: A Theological and Critical Introduction to the Jewish Bible*. Minneapolis, Minn.: Fortress Press, 2012. ISBN 978-0-8006-3743-9.
- [ANET] Walton, John H. *Ancient Near Eastern Thought and the Old Testament: Introducing the Conceptual World of the Hebrew Bible*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Academic, 2006. ISBN 978-0-8010-2750-5.
- [CBCOT] Walton, John H. *Chronological and Background Charts of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1994 (orig. 1978). ISBN 978-0-3104-8161-9.
- [Tice] Supplemental handouts (downloads) provided by professor.

NOTE: Each course week begins on Saturday evening after sunset and ends on Friday evening at sunset.

MODULE / WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Tice: "Why Study the 'OT'?" Tice: Overview of PaRDeS ANET chapter 10	Discussion Board Forum 1	25
2	CBCOT . 12 TANAK pp. 3-44 (Part I) ANET chapters 1-2	Discussion Board Forum 2 Practicum Post-Action Report 1	25 10
3	CBCOT pp. 13-14 TANAK pp. 45-64 (Part II A & B §§ 1-5) ANET chapters 7-9 Bible: Genesis 1-11	Discussion Board Forum 3 Practicum Post-Action Report 2 Quiz 1	25 10 20
4	CBCOT pp. 15-16 TANAK pp. 65-76 (§§ 6-10) Bible: Genesis 12-21	Discussion Board Forum 4 Practicum Post-Action Report 3	25 10
5	CBCOT pp. 17-24 Bible passages related to your Torah portion TANAK: A-M § 11; N-Z § 12	Discussion Board Forum 5 Practicum Post-Action Report 4 Quiz 2	25 10 20
6	Review readings to date (esp. Bible and CBCOT charts)	Midterm Examination	150
7	CBCOT p. 26 TANAK Part IIIA	Discussion Board Forum 6 Practicum Post-Action Report 5 <i>Torah</i> Portion Analysis ¹	25 10 125
8	ANET chapters 4-5, 11 Bible-1: Joshua & Judges Bible-2: A-M = Samuel & 1	Discussion Board Forum 7 Practicum Post-Action Report 6 Quiz 3	25 10 20

¹ See instructions and rubric on following pages.

	Chron; N-Z = Kings & 2 Chron		
9	TANAK Part IIIB Tice: "Prophets" supplement Bible: Your haftarah portion; Isaiah 40-54 paying close attention to the Servant(s).	Discussion Board Forum 8 Practicum Post-Action Report 7	25 10
10	Tice: "Hebrew Poetry" TANAK pp. 371-398 Bible: Psalms (A-E = Book 1; F- J = Book 2; K-O = Book 3; P-T = Book 4; U-Z = Book 5)	Discussion Board Forum 9 Practicum Post-Action Report 8 <i>Haftarah</i> Analysis	25 10 125
11	CBCOT pp. 27-34 TANAK pp. 399-424 ANET chapters 12-13 Tice: "Wisdom" supplement	Discussion Board Forum 10 Practicum Post-Action Report 9	25 10
12	Review all course content	Final Practicum Post-Action Report Final Examination (cumulative)	10 150

Torah Portion Analysis

Your Torah Portion Analysis will cover your personal parasha. If you do not know yours, you can find it through online *parashah* calculators, such as <http://www.aish.com/jl/l/ms/47139952.html>. Length: 5-7 pages Turabian. Your analysis will be posted to the Discussion Board for peer review.

Process for producing an Exegetical Paper (Torah Portion Analysis)

Adapted from Douglas Stuart, Old Testament Exegesis: A Handbook for Students and Pastors (4th ed.; Louisville, Ky.: Westminster John Knox Press, 2009); ISBN 978-0-6642-3344-0. Extrapolated in accordance with the Fair Use clause of the US Copyright Code.

Text

1. Confirm the limits of the passage.
2. Compare the versions.
3. Reconstruct and annotate the text.
4. Present poetry in versified form.

Translation (do this step only if you have completed/passed at least 2 terms of Biblical Hebrew)

1. Prepare a tentative translation of your text.
2. Check the correspondence of text and translation.
3. Revise the translation as you continue.
4. Provide a finished translation.

Grammatical Data

1. Analyze the significant grammatical issues.
2. Analyze the orthography and morphology for date and other affinities (if working from an ancient manuscript).

Lexical Data

1. Explain all words and concepts that are not obvious.
2. Do concept studies (not word studies) of the most critical words or wordings.
3. Identify any semantic features.

Form

1. Identify the genre (general literary type).
2. Identify the form (specific literary type).
3. Look for subcategories.
4. Suggest a *Sitz im Leben* (life setting).
5. Analyze the completeness of the form.
6. Be alert to partial and broken forms.

Structure

1. Outline the passage.
2. Look for patterns.
3. Organize your discussion of structure according to descending units of size.
4. Evaluate the intentionality of minor patterns.
5. If the passage is poetic, analyze it accordingly.

Historical Context

1. Research the historical background & foreground.
2. Research the social setting.
3. Research the geographical setting.
4. Date the passage.

Literary Context

1. Examine the literary function.
2. Examine the placement.
3. Analyze the authorship.

Biblical Context

1. Analyze the use of the passage elsewhere in Scripture.
2. Analyze the passage's relation to the rest of Scripture.
3. Analyze the passage's import for understanding Scripture.

PaRDeS

1. *Nota bene*: This is not in Stuart's work, but we covered this in Unit 1.
2. Discuss the passage on each level of PaRDeS, remembering that your *remez*, *d'rash*, and *sod* cannot violate the plain sense of the *p'shat* reading.

Application

1. List the life issues.
2. Clarify the nature of the application (informing or directing).
3. Clarify the possible areas of application (faith or action).
4. Identify the audience of the application.
5. Fix the limits of the application.

Secondary Literature

1. Investigate what others have said about the passage (commentaries, journals, etc.).
2. Apply tenable discoveries throughout your paper.

Grading Rubric

	FAIL	PASS	GOOD	EXCELLENT	POINTS
Exegesis (Stuart)	missed the point in all aspects	genuine effort to understand the text(s) a/o concepts	collegiate-level attention to detail	Yeshiva-level attention to detail	/25
Research	no research	1-3 sources, but not all scholarly a/o relevant	3-5 scholarly-level, relevant sources	more than 5 scholarly-level, relevant sources	/25
Structure	not discernible	good writing skills, but may have some issues with clarity, flow, or construction	paragraphs thematically constructed, logical flow, few grammatical errors	paragraphs thematically constructed, logical flow, no grammatical errors	/25
Turabian	did not follow Turabian format	followed Turabian format with few errors	followed Turabian format with no errors	followed Turabian format with no errors; appropriate exegetical foot-notes & appendices	/25
Application	no attempt made	application quoted from a mainstream Christian source	appropriate application which respects Jewishness of text	application demonstrates evidence of critical thinking	/25
Total					/125

Haftarah Analysis

Your Torah Portion Analysis will cover your personal haftarah portion. This will be done in the form of an annotated Powerpoint.™ Process the passage the same way you processed your Torah Portion, but the presentation format will differ as per the following protocol. Your presentation will be posted to the Discussion Board for peer review.

Title Slide

1. Format as a Turabian title page.
2. Appropriate/relevant graphics may be added here and throughout.

History of Interpretation

1. Present a history of interpretation both from Jewish and Christian sources, distinguishing the two.

Present text of passage

1. This can be in Hebrew or English, citing which version was used in the notes field.
2. This does not have to be (and likely should not be) presented in bulk, but rather present a portion of it, analyze it, and then move to the next section.

Analysis slides

1. These do not have to present every step of the Stuart process, but should reflect that the process has been applied.
2. A thematic connection should be established linking the *haftarah* portion to your *Torah* portion.
3. Practical application may be presented as a conclusion slide.

Works Consulted Slide

1. List all works (commentaries, journals, websites) consulted for this project, whether cited or not.
2. Indicate those actually cited by some variance to the text type (e.g. bold, different font or color, etc.).
3. There should be a balance between journal articles/theses and book-type commentaries. Blogs and Wikipedia articles will not qualify as scholarly sources.

Grading Rubric

	FAIL	PASS	GOOD	EXCELLENT	POINTS
Exegesis (Stuart)	missed the point in all aspects	genuine effort to understand the text(s) a/o concepts	collegiate-level attention to detail	Yeshiva-level attention to detail	/25
Research	no research	1-3 sources, but not all scholarly a/o relevant	3-5 scholarly-level, relevant sources	more than 5 scholarly-level, relevant sources	/25
Presentation	chaotic	good writing skills, but may have some issues with clarity, flow, or construction	thematically constructed, logical flow, few grammatical errors	thematically constructed, logical flow, no grammatical errors	/25
Turabian used for citations, annotations, & title/ref slides	did not follow Turabian format	followed Turabian format with few errors	followed Turabian format with no errors	followed Turabian format with no errors; appropriate exegetical footnotes & appendices	/25
Application	no attempt made	application quoted from a mainstream Christian source	appropriate application which respects Jewishness of text	application demonstrates evidence of critical thinking	/25
Total					/125

Ministry Practicum Reflection

Name:	Ministry:
What is the concrete event that challenged or impacted you, or connected to a <i>Torah</i> principle?	
How did you react in the moment?	
How does this experience relate to <i>Torah</i> principles?	
How will you allow the experience to change you?	