

Leviticus—Deuteronomy (Winter 2024)



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Course Description

Unfortunately neglected by many, these three books of Scripture (Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy) are fundamental for understanding God's nature, His expectations, and how He fulfilled His plan for the world. Leviticus lays out the terms on which God is willing to remain in the tent in which He took up residence at the end of Exodus. Numbers covers the journey from Sinai to the edge of the Promised Land. All but two of the people who participated in the Exodus as adults die in the wilderness because of their unbelief, but God remains faithful by continuing to work with their descendants. Deuteronomy reminds this new generation of what God expected of them. Taken together, these three books emphasize both the holiness and faithfulness of God, teaching us both that God has expectations of us and that He is gracious in working with us when we fall short of them.

Course Objectives

- 1) To learn what God has revealed in these books about Himself and His plan for the world.
- 2) To identify how God's instructions for the Israelites make them stand out in contrast to the world around them.
- 3) To conform ourselves more closely to the eternal will of God communicated through these books.

Course Evaluation

DISCUSSIONS (15%)

LESSON (30%)

QUIZZES (30%)

WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS (25%)

Course Schedule

Week 1	Syllabus and Expectations Introduction to Leviticus Leviticus 1–3	
Week 2	Leviticus 4–10	
Week 3	Leviticus 11–17	
Week 4	Leviticus 18–27	Quiz 1 (Leviticus)
Week 5	Numbers 1–8	<i>Lesson Topic Due</i>
Week 6	Numbers 9–15	
Week 7	Numbers 16–21	
Week 8	Numbers 22–29	
Week 9	Numbers 30–36	Quiz 2 (Numbers)

Week 10	Deuteronomy 1–6	
Week 11	Deuteronomy 7–13	<i>Lesson Draft Due</i>
Week 12	Deuteronomy 14–20	
Week 13	Deuteronomy 21–27	
Week 14	Deuteronomy 28–34	<i>Final Copy of Lesson Due</i>
Week 15	Overflow/Class Presentations	Quiz 3 (Deuteronomy)

Assignments Description

Discussion (15%)

I will post a discussion thread in Populi each week with a question relating to the week's material. Please post a response to the question before class on Tuesday and a response to one other student's post by 11:59 PM on Saturday. The initial post should be about 150 words. Responses do not have to be any certain length, but the points awarded will be commensurate with the apparent level of effort.

Lesson (30%)

Written (20%): The written manuscript should be roughly 2,000 words long. Please type this assignment in Times New Roman 12-point font, double spaced. Please cite at least 7 sources. Footnote formatting should follow the *SBL Handbook of Style*, 2nd edition. The bibliography at the end of the paper should contain everything cited in the footnotes. Papers should address each of the following questions clearly:

- (1) How does this passage relate to the rest of the book?
- (2) What are the relevant features of the historical/cultural background?
- (3) What is the main idea of the passage?
- (4) How does the passage support this main idea?
- (5) How does this main idea affect our lives today?

Oral (10%): The oral presentation should be about 10 minutes. This will probably involve abridging the paper. The format for this presentation will be discussed closer to the due date, as how much class time can be devoted to this depends on factors that are hard to predict in advance.

Quizzes (30%)

There will be three quizzes during the semester. Each quiz consists of two assignments in Populi. The first assignment, worth 75 points, will consist of multiple-choice, matching, and essay questions over the text and class discussions. The second assignment, worth 25 points, contains blanks for a set of memory verses. They are due at 11:59 PM on Saturday of the week designated in the table above.

Weekly Assignments (25%)

You are expected to read through the books of Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy during the semester (ideally, more than once, using a variety of translations). As you are reading, jot down observations/questions about the text that jump out at you. The assignment for Week 1 is due at 11:59 PM on Saturday evening. Beginning with Week 2, you should submit your observations/questions about the week's material to the appropriate dropbox in Populi by 11:59 PM on Monday night, as they will form a partial basis for our class discussion on Tuesday evening. At least one of your observations or questions should relate to the content of the text, at least one should relate to the application of the text

for today's church, and at least one should relate to the worldviews found in the text, i.e., either God's or that of those to whom the text originally addressed.

Policies and other information

Attendance (From the GLBC Catalogue)

Students are required to attend classes regularly. One unexcused absence for every credit hour in a given course may be permitted, i.e. per one-hour class. Two percent (2%) of the course grade per academic hour for each hour of classroom instruction missed may be deducted for each unexcused absence beyond the above.

Late Work (From the GLBC Catalogue)

Assignments for the term are listed in the syllabus supplied for each course. Every assignment so listed must be completed to pass the course. Late submission of assignments need not be accepted by the instructor. Extenuating circumstances and emergencies will be taken into consideration. If a late assignment is accepted, a grade reduction of 5% per instructional day may be assessed.

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