

## COURSE SYLLABUS

---

# Old Testament Basics

Course Lecturer: Sid Buzzell, PhD

## Course Description

---

Many people are curious about the Old Testament but may lack an understanding of how it fits together. In this course, Dr. Sid Buzzell will provide a simple overview of this enduring and influential part of the Bible and examine spiritual insights that speak to our hearts today. We hope that this short course will whet your appetite for further study in the Old Testament.

Special Note: Dr. Buzzell would like to thank Dr. Howard G. Hendricks, professor at Dallas Theological Seminary, for his insights into the Old Testament and the impact it made on Dr. Buzzell's teaching of this course.

## Course Objectives

---

Upon completion of this course, you should be able to:

1. Describe what the Old Testament teaches us about God's character.
2. Understand why the Old Testament books are placed in the order that they are and identify the categories of books contained within the Old Testament.
3. Explain the characteristics of each of the categories of books in the Old Testament.
4. Identify the four eras (or periods) into which the Old Testament is divided.
5. Understand the general narrative flow and major events in Old Testament history.
6. Describe the important people in the Old Testament and their contribution to Old Testament history.
7. Gain a deeper understanding of the authors of the Old Testament books, their purpose, and the context in which they were writing.
8. Know the characteristics of Hebrew poetry and gain a deeper understanding of wisdom literature.
9. Understand the context of the Prophets and summarize their collective eternal message.

## Course Lecturer

---



Dr. Sid Buzzell is the Dean of Christian University GlobalNet and former Dean of the School of Theology at Colorado Christian University in Lakewood, Colorado, where he taught Bible courses, leadership, and homiletics. He received a BS from Philadelphia College of Bible, a ThM from Dallas Theological Seminary, and a PhD from Michigan State University.

## Course Methods

---

Throughout this course, a number of methods will be used to engage the students in learning and processing information, interacting with other students (when possible), and applying the learning to their lives.

## Lesson Structure

---

Each lesson is organized in a similar structure. It is important that students review the lesson objectives for each lesson so they will be familiar with the learning outcomes for that lesson. The lesson lectures are available in video or text format. Lessons are structured as follows:

- **Lesson Objectives:** The Lesson Objectives describe the learning outcomes students should achieve by the end of each lesson.
- **Lecture:** Each lesson in this course includes a lecture of approximately 10-25 minutes in length. These instructional lectures can be watched as many times as needed. The same content is available in the lesson transcript (PDF), for students who can benefit from this alternative medium.
- **Quizzes:** Short, interactive quizzes within each video lesson help students test their knowledge along the way.

## Course Requirements

---

Course requirements will be provided by the student's course facilitator, instructor, or leader. For students taking this course independent of a facilitator, this is a self-study course and there are no requirements; students may do as much, or as little work in the course as they like.