

LONG BEACH CHRISTIAN COLLEGE, MTI

(Nondenominational School of Ministry)

COURSE SYLLABUS: EARLY ISRAELITE HISTORY (Joshua–Judges–Ruth) – BIB - 214

Fall 2026 | SEVEN-WEEK | September 14 – October 26

Professor: Dr. Elizabeth Cooper, D.Min.

Required Text (s):

Old Testament Studies Early Israelite History Lecture to be emailed to students one week before classes start | The Holy Bible (NKJV preferred) | Bible Gateway (Online Bible Tool)

<https://www.biblegateway.com/>

Course Description

This course introduces students to the early historical books of the Old Testament—Joshua, Judges, and Ruth—with attention to Israel’s settlement in the land, the cycles of covenant faithfulness and failure, and the theological themes that shape Israel’s identity. Students will engage in Scripture through weekly reflections, short projects, and a final exam.

Learning Outcomes By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Explain major themes in **Joshua, Judges, and Ruth**
- Identify key historical, cultural, and theological developments in early Israelite history
- Analyze the covenant themes of obedience, leadership, and redemption
- Demonstrate understanding through **weekly reflections, one project, completion of study guide** and a **final assignment**.

Course Requirements: All assignments must be emailed by 11:59pm on due date

- Assigned reading (Bible and Lecture)
- Weekly Reflection Assignment, 1.5 typed pages (Times Roman, 12’ fonts, 2.0 spaced)
- Project 1: TBD — Due Week 4 – October 4
- Weekly Examination Questions
- Final Exam — Administered in Week 7

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7 WEEK COURSE ROTATION OVERVIEW:

Date	Focus	Class Content	Homework	Due Date
	Pre-Assignment:	Before first class. 1. Read syllabus. 2. Read the Book of Joshua Ch. 1-7, Deut. 31:7, Acts 3:17-19, & Col. 2:20 & 3:1 3. Vocabulary		Sept. 14
Sept. 14	The Book of Joshua	• Introduction • The conquest of the land under Joshua • The division of the Land among the Tribes of Israel In Class Examination Questions	Reflection Paper – Ch. 1-7 Read: Joshua 8-12	Sept. 20
Sept. 21	The Book of Joshua		Reflection Paper – Ch. 8-12 Read: Joshua 13 – 24	Sept. 27
Sept. 28	The Book of Joshua		Reflection Paper – Ch. 13-24 Mid-Term Project - Handout Read: Judges 1-7, II Cor. 12:10, John 7:37-39, & Hebrews 11:32	Oct. 4
Oct. 5	The Book of Judges Mid-Term Oral Presentations	• Introduction • The history of Israel after Joshua's day • The inner life of the people In Class Examination Questions	Read: Judges 8-16	Oct. 11
Oct. 12	The Book of Judges		Reflection Assignment: Handout Read: Judges 17-21	Oct. 18
Oct. 19	The Book of Judges Reflection Discussion		Final Group Project for the Book of Ruth – Handout Read: Ruth 1-4	Oct. 25
Oct. 26	The Book of Ruth Final Presentation	Final Presentation on the Book of Ruth and In Class Examination Questions		

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SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Assignments, Attendance, and Grading

Assignments

- Weekly assignments include workbook pages and short reflection papers to be submitted before each class.
- Assignments are designed to reinforce the weekly topics and encourage personal engagement with the material.
- Late submissions may be accepted with prior approval but could affect participation of credit.
- **Homework format:** Word or PDF documents should be emailed as an attachment to instructor before 11:59pm on due date.

Attendance

- Regular attendance is expected due to the **accelerated** nature of the course.
- Students should notify the instructor in advance if they must miss a session.
- **More than two absences** may impact the final grade or course completion.

Grading

- Participation and attendance: 30%
- Weekly assignments: 20%
- Mid-Term paper or project: 25%
- Final paper or project: 25%
- Grades will be based on completeness, insight, and engagement with course content.

Expectations:

1. Students must perform college-level work.
2. Work must contain the student's name, date, and be submitted on time.
3. You must include your enrollment name in the Subject of your emails and on your work.
4. Read the required text as assigned—come prepared for class.
5. Bring the appropriate class materials, respect fellow students, and refrain from bringing food or drink to virtual class sessions (bottled water is okay).
6. Have a well-lighted and quiet setting with your **CAMERA ON** for "Remote/Virtual" class.
7. Please come to virtual class in casual-professional attire. **No bonnets, do-rags, or sleepwear on camera.** Just be neat, comfortable, and ready to learn.

Student Honesty | Plagiarism Statement: Plagiarism (intellectual theft) is seen as a shameful act and is not acceptable at LBBC. Each member of the academic community must do their own work. In essence, be careful when using another writer or speaker's material (work). Give credit!

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Refunds and Withdrawals: Refunds to students will be determined by the date the Notice of Withdrawal is processed through the website.

Withdrawal Deadline

- The deadline for withdrawing from classes is at the end of the first week of the class.
- Failure to submit a timely withdrawal request can result in an 'Incomplete' grade on the transcript.
- Failure to submit the required Notice of Withdrawal Email before the deadline will result in the student remaining **ineligible and financially responsible for the class.**

Refund Policy

- 100% refund for payments made before or during week one (1) of Class.
- 0% refund - for payments made during and beyond week two (2) of class.

NOTE: Students who drop a class after the second week will be charged full tuition for the class.

Students may seek approval to transfer a percentage of paid tuition to a class they will take the following semester, but approval is not guaranteed.

LETS GO LBCCMTI SCHOLARS!