Essays
Each student must complete two Essays. One is due in Module 3 and the other is due in Module 7.

Essay #1 (Module 3): The Abrahamitic covenant does not come into full fruition until the exodus event, which marks the real beginning of the history of Israel. In the first essay, please describe the significance of the exodus in relationship to the covenant God made with Abraham. Additionally, explain how the Mosaic covenant compliments the Abrahamitic covenant.

Essay #2 (Module 7): The prophets played a significant role leading to and during the exile. At this time, messianic ideas blossomed. Please describe one of these messianic portraits drawn by the prophets. Please explain how these may have been understood in relationship to the Davidic covenant.

Requirements:

Length: 3-4 double-spaced, typed pages
- To meet the length requirement, the paper must be three full pages
  - Acceptable paper will end on the fourth page

Style: MLA, 7th edition
- MLA style formatting is required for the paper
- Double-spaced
- MLA formatted header (last name page number in the heading, not the text area)
- MLA formatted heading (Student Name, Instructor Name, Full name of class, Date in International format [i.e., 10 October 2012])
- MLA required title
- In-text citations are required and must have a matching entry in the Works Cited

Helpful Links for essay writing
10 Steps for writing an essay: http://www1.aucegypt.edu/academic/writers/

Owl at Purdue; Descriptive essay
- What is an essay? https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/685/01/
- Descriptive essay? https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/685/01/

Essay Sources
A research paper is only as good as its sources. With this in mind, the following source guidelines shall apply:

- Unacceptable Resources
  - Wikipedia
  - Standard Dictionary (e.g., Merriam-Webster)
  - Encyclopedia (e.g., Britannica)
  - Any website that does not have a .edu extension
    - Exception: If the site is accessed from a .edu, it is acceptable. However, the student must add a footnote giving the original URL from the .edu)

- Acceptable Resources
  - Biblical or theological dictionary or encyclopedia
  - Textbooks
  - Cannon online Library Resources (http://saintleolibrary.cloudaccess.net/homepage.html)
    - Journals (accessed through EBSCO)
    - eBooks
      - ebrary/Religion
      - Oxford Digital
      - Gale Virtual Reference Library/Religion/Encyclopaedia Judaica
    - The library Reference desk will scan and email as PDF any resource that you request
      - Request has to be specific
• Use the following link for an article or a book/chapter request:
  http://saintleolibrary.cloudaccess.net/forms2.html

  o Websites
    ▪ Vatican, Catholic or sites approved by the Professor
    ▪ Biblegateway.com/Additional Resources/Dictionaries (cite as eBook)
    ▪ This does not allow for use of Biblegateway.com for any other source than an eBook
  o Required Resource Types
    ▪ Textbook
    ▪ One book other than a textbook
    ▪ Peer-reviewed journal
    ▪ .edu or other acceptable Website (see Websites above)
  o Required number of resource
    ▪ 6 resources are required for the better score
      ▪ Four required (see above)
      ▪ Two others
        ▪ You can have only one Website
        ▪ The other two can be any combination of book and peer-reviewed article

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Essay Rubric

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scoring Rubric for Essays</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>90-100 “A” range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Paper reflects excellent research demonstrating an exceptional understanding of the topic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Paper interacts with all research material by demonstrating how the research applies to the topic; personal reflection is based on the research</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Research resources</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o All 4 types are used; 6-8 resources are used</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Use of resources is spread equally between most of the resources</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Each resource is cited multiple times (2-3 minimum)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o Material is summarized with minimal quoting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Quoting shows you found an idea</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Summarizing shows you understand a concept</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Writing demonstrates good sentence structure and use of grammar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Paper is organized and presents the material well</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Paper flows well idea to idea, with excellent transition between the ideas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Paper demonstrates an excellent understanding of the nature of theology as personal search and academic discipline</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Good | Paper demonstrates an excellent use of theological vocabulary  
|      | Paper demonstrates an excellent awareness of historical process and implications  
|      | Paper reflects basic research demonstrating a good understanding of the topic  
|      | Paper interacts with the research by demonstrating how the research applies to the topic; personal reflection is based generally on the research  
|      | Research resources  
|      |   - All 4 types are used; 5-6 resources are used  
|      |     - Use of resources is spread equally between most of the resources  
|      |     - Each resource is cited multiple times (1-2 minimum)  
|      |   - Material is summarized with minimal quoting  
|      |     - Quoting shows you found an idea  
|      |     - Summarizing shows you understand a concept  
|      | Writing demonstrates adequate sentence structure and use of grammar  
|      | Paper is organized and presents the material satisfactorily  
|      | Paper flows from idea to idea, with above average transition between the ideas  
|      | Paper demonstrates a good understanding of the nature of theology as personal search and academic discipline  
|      | Paper demonstrates a good use of theological vocabulary  
|      | Paper demonstrates an awareness of historical process and implications  
<p>| 80-89 | “B” range |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Score Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Average       | • Paper reflects fair research demonstrating an adequate understanding of the topic  
• Paper has minimal interaction with the research; personal reflection is based on opinion with little influence from the research  
• Research resources  
  o All 4 types are used; only the 4 are used  
    ▪ Use of resources is spread equally between most of the resources  
    ▪ Each resource is cited multiple times (1-2 minimum)  
  o Websites are not .edu  
  o Material is summarized with minimal quoting  
    ▪ Quoting shows you found an idea  
    ▪ Summarizing shows you understand a concept  
• Writing demonstrates adequate sentence structure and use of grammar  
• Paper is organized and presents the material acceptably  
• Paper flows from idea to idea, with reasonable transition between the ideas  
• Paper demonstrates a fair understanding of the nature of theology as personal search and academic discipline  
• Paper demonstrates the use of a basic theological vocabulary  
• Paper demonstrates some awareness historical process and implications                                                                 | 70-79  
  "C" range |
| Below Average | • Paper reflects little research demonstrating little understanding of the topic  
• Paper no interaction with the research; personal reflection is based on opinion with no influence from the research  
• Research resources  
  o Resource types favor the text and websites; only the 4 are used  
    ▪ Use of resources favors one resource, citing the others only once  
  o Websites are not .edu  
  o Material quoted; no summaries  
    ▪ Quoting shows you found an idea  
    ▪ Summarizing shows you understand a concept  
• Writing demonstrates poor sentence structure and poor grammar  
• Paper is poorly organized and difficult to read  
• Paper ideas are disjointed with no apparent connection  
• Paper demonstrates a weak understanding of the nature of theology as personal search and academic discipline  
• Paper demonstrates a very weak use of a basic theological vocabulary  
• Paper demonstrates minimal historical process and implications                                                                 | 60-69  
  "D" range |
| Unsatisfactory| • Paper reflects no use of the research and an unsatisfactory understanding of the topic  
• Paper is personal opinion only, showing no research  
• Paper demonstrates no understanding of the nature of theology as personal search and academic discipline  
• Paper demonstrates no theological vocabulary  
• Paper demonstrates no awareness historical process and implications                                                                 | <60  
  Failing |