



# Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - 2024-2025

## Exchange

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam offers many English-taught courses in a variety of subjects, ranging from arts & culture and social sciences, neurosciences and computer science, to economics and business administration.

The International Office is responsible for course approval and course registration for exchange students. For details about course registration, requirements, credits, semesters and so on, please [visit the exchange programmes webpages](#).

# Introduction to the Old Testament

Course Code	G_BATRSPC119
Credits	3
Period	P6
Course Level	100
Language Of Tuition	English
Faculty	Faculty of Religion and Theology
Course Coordinator	prof. dr. E. van Staalduine-Sulman
Examiner	prof. dr. E. van Staalduine-Sulman
Teaching Staff	dr. E. van Staalduine-Sulman
Teaching method(s)	Lecture, Seminar

## Course Objective

After finishing this course, the student:

- has an overview of the content of the Old Testament (BA Objective: knowledge of one religion)
- has an overview of the history and the world in which the Old Testament originates (BA Objective: knowledge of one religion)
- is able to reproduce theories about the origins of Old Testament texts, and their arguments (BA Objective: ability to think critically, consistently, and logically)
- is able to discuss the pros and cons of academic approaches to the Old Testament (BA Objective: differentiate between external and internal perspectives)

## Course Content

Necessary knowledge of, and insight in, the Old Testament, how it came into being, the world in which it originates, the geographical, economical and political background, as well as its reception history and the history of academic approaches to the texts.

## Additional Information Teaching Methods

Reading and learning based on guiding questions.

Lectures and Q&A sessions

## Method of Assessment

Exam (100%)

## Literature

Obligatory:

David M. Carr, *The Hebrew Bible: A Contemporary Introduction to the Christian Old Testament and the Jewish Tanakh*. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell, 2021, or any later edition.

It is also possible to use the previous edition: David M. Carr, *An Introduction to the Old Testament: Sacred Texts and Imperial Contexts of the Hebrew Bible*. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell, 2010, or any later edition.

## Recommended background knowledge

It is wise to have some basic knowledge of the Old Testament texts. It is recommended that you read through Old Testament books that are completely unknown to you.