

ENGL 2280

The English Bible as Literature

Syllabus



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Office Hours: MW 12:30-2:30; TR 10-12:15

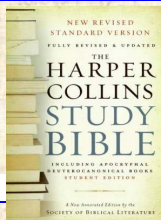
Course Description and Goals

This course will examine the Bible in English translation, with special attention to its literary qualities, conceptual content, and development within history. Accordingly, the course will

- assist students in reading, understanding, and appreciating social, cultural backgrounds, and contexts of the Bible;
- acquaint students with the Bible's literary forms and conventions;
- make students aware of what is known, what is theorized, and what is believed about the history of biblical texts, their composition, editing, translation, transmission, and canonization;
- give students a sense of the rich complexity of this book, the influence it has exerted on literature, history, and the many and various ways the Bible has been thought of, used, and read.

Prerequisite: an intermediate writing course at CSCC, or the equivalent

Textbook (Students are Required to Purchase this Edition of the Bible)



The Harper Collins Study Bible (NRSV), Student Edition

Course Outcomes

By the end of the course, students will be able to

- understand the distinction between a literary and scriptural approach to reading the Bible.
- read and discuss the major social, political, and philosophical events forming the backdrop for the development of the Bible.
- understand the reasons for different translations of the Bible
- appreciate the different literary forms and strategies used by the authors of the Bible
- discuss the themes, stylistic and content differences of selected chapters in the major books of the Old Testament and New Testament
- use the appropriate methodology and rhetorical devices to write papers that support a controlling idea and are logically and soundly developed

General Education Goals

Columbus State Community College has defined a series of general learning outcomes that all students are expected to acquire before they graduate. English 2201 addresses this need by providing students with the materials, methods, and instruction in

- Critical Thinking
- Effective Communication
- Information Literacy

Sharing of Class Content

Transmission, or distribution of class content (e.g., lectures, discussions, *PowerPoint* presentations, etc.) is strictly prohibited unless the course instructor has provided written permission via the syllabus or a signed form. Transmitting, sharing, or distributing course content onto public, commercial, or social media sites is strictly prohibited.

General Classroom Conduct

Course materials, content, and discussions may involve controversial issues. Please treat these subjects with the sensitivity they deserve. Please turn off or silence communication devices. Bringing visitors, taking photographs, or using recording devices is not permitted in the classroom without advance permission from the instructor. Please do not bring children or leave them unsupervised in the building. Occasionally, the instructor may need to invite other faculty or participants to class. According to college rules, there should be no eating, drinking, tobacco, or e-cigarette/personal vaporizer use in the classroom.

Course Policies

1. You are expected to attend all classes. If you are absent, for whatever reason, you miss the learning that goes on in the classroom, and your performance (grade) will undoubtedly be affected. Here is the English Department's policy on attendance:

Because this course requires class participation, interpersonal interaction, and peer review, students should attend all classes for the full class time. Students who have missed 20% of the required class hours risk failing the course. Habitual tardiness may, at the discretion of the instructor, be considered in computing class attendance. **Faculty are under no obligation to provide make-up assignments for students who have missed class.** Understandably, sometimes students miss class because of life's circumstances. Because faculty do not want to have to judge the validity of an excuse, there is no need to return to class with a doctor's excuse. If you are absent, your final grade may be affected since you may miss class directions and instructions, and **you cannot make up in-class work for which you are not present.**

My experience in English 2280 is that students who miss class two or more times rarely earn an average grade ("C") or above.

This course demands a lot of reading which at times can be challenging. If you miss class, you are responsible for finding out from a classmate what you missed. *I do not give make-up lectures, distribute PowerPoint slides, or repeat assignments.* Occasionally, students enter the class believing that if they merely "read the Bible" on their own (and not attend class regularly), they will pass the course. These students, **in all cases**, have been mistaken. Moral: attend all classes.

2. If you cannot make it to class on time, take the course another semester. It is disruptive (and disrespectful) to be late, not only to me, but to your fellow classmates. In other words, I take it personally.

3. Read all the material assigned before you come to class; be certain also that you acquire the *assigned* Bible edition, as translations can vary and alter interpretation. It is your responsibility to check your understanding about all the issues in the reading and to ask questions about anything that is unclear or incomplete. Use the entire book (footnotes, maps, illustrations) to help you understand the material.

4. I open e-mails only from the free student e-mail service provided by Columbus State.

5. Your course grade will be calculated on a total of 500 points, computed as follows:

Exam 1 - 100points (20%)
 Exam 2 - 100 points (20%)
 Exam 3 -125points (25%)
 1 Essay -75 points (15%)
 Homework 100 points (20%)

For each exam, homework assignment, and for the essay response, you will earn a letter grade that will convert to points using the the following percentage equivalent:

A = 95	B+ = 88	C+ = 78	D+ = 68	E = 55 or No Credit
A- =90	B = 85	C = 75	D = 65	
	B- = 80	C- = 70	D- = 60	

No make-up exams will be given. For the essay response, I **will not** accept late work or electronically submitted copies. Nor will I accept copies left in my mailbox. If you're not going to be in-class the day the essay is due, you need to give me a copy *in person* before the due date.

6. Study Guides for the exams are posted on the course's *Blackboard* site. Students who use them to prepare for class generally earn higher grades on the exams..

Homework Assignments

The homework questions, posted on *Blackboard*, assess how well you're retaining the knowledge from the course. Thus, they will prepare you also for the exams. There are five sets of them due, at various times throughout the semester (see Course Calendar). They consist of essay responses to questions to get you to think about the material in lecture and in the readings. They must be typed in *Microsoft Word* and submitted through the course site on *Blackboard* ("Submit Assignments Here"). They will be graded on the basis of quality of thinking and writing clarity. Click on the tab **Homework Assignments** more details.

Academic Assessment

Columbus State Community College is committed to assessment (measurement) of student achievement of academic outcomes. This process addresses the issues of what you need to learn in your program of study and if you are learning what you need to learn. The assessment program at Columbus State has four specific and interrelated purposes:

1. to improve student academic achievement
2. to improve teaching strategies
3. to document success and identify opportunities for program improvement
4. to provide evidence for institutional effectiveness

You are assessed and graded on your achievement of the outcomes for this course. You may also be required to participate in broader assessment activities .

ADA Statement

In order to comply with the regulations of the American Disabilities Act, Columbus State Community College has adopted the following policy:

"It is the college policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students. If you would like to request such accommodations because of a physical, mental, or learning disability, please contact the Department of Disability Services, 101 Eibling Hall, 297-2570 (VOICE/TTY available)."

English Department Services

The English Department offers multiple free tutoring services that you may find helpful. The **Columbus Campus Writing Center** (tutoring@csc.edu) is located in 102 Columbus Hall. Services are also available at Delaware and some regional learning centers. The **Online Writing Center** (OWC) may be accessed by logging onto *Blackboard* and looking under "My Organizations."

The hours and other information about the Writing Center services can be found on the English Department website (<http://www.csc.edu/academics/departments/english/>); follow the links for the Writing Center.

Financial Aid

If you are a Financial Aid recipient, I am required to monitor and report your progress during the quarter. Failure to turn in assignments and participate may result in being academically withdrawn from this class. (Refer to your "Standards of Satisfactory Performance" or call Financial Aid if you have questions regarding this policy.)

For the purposes of financial aid reporting, a student meets the participation and attendance criteria if s/he has actively engaged in the class and demonstrated a meaningful attempt toward completion of the course. Examples of active engagement may include, but are not limited to: completing a graded course assignment (e.g., homework, quiz, essay, project, or lab); actively participating in studio or practicum sessions; making content-related contributions to an online discussion forum (including responses both to prompts and to student/instructor posts).

Student Code of Conduct/Plagiarism

Procedure No. 7-10(G), effective July 1, 2010: As an enrolled student at Columbus State Community College, you have agreed to abide by the Student Code of Conduct as outlined in the Student Handbook. You should familiarize yourself with the Code. The Columbus State Community expects you to exhibit high standards of integrity, respect, and responsibility. Any confirmed incidence of misconduct, including plagiarism and other forms of cheating, will be treated seriously and in accordance with College Policy and Procedure 7-1-0. Academic misconduct (cheating) is described as:

- a) Using open textbooks, notes, electronic devices, or other assistance during an examination, except those that have been authorized by the instructor.
- b) Copying from another person's work during an examination.
- c) Collaborating with another person on an assignment in a manner not authorized by the instructor.
- d) Obtaining, distributing, or using the contents of an unadministered test.
- e) Substituting for another student or permitting any person to substitute for oneself in an examination.
- f) Submitting an assignment purporting to be the student's original work which has been wholly or partly created by another person.
- g) Presenting as one's own ideas, organization, or wording of another person without acknowledgement of sources.
- h) Knowingly permitting one's own work to be submitted by another student as if it were the student's own.

Plagiarism, such as borrowing passages or whole documents from the internet or other sources, and presenting another author's actual words, ideas, organization, or conclusions as one's own, will not be tolerated. Students who borrow another writer's material must document their sources accordingly. Students who present as their own the material written by others will be reported to the Dean of Student Life and penalized. A confidential record of the incident will be kept on file pursuant to the Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Because the penalty is severe, ranging from zero for the assignment to failing the course to academic dismissal, all students should avoid the slightest hint that they have used borrowed material without giving credit.

Title IX

Columbus State Community College is committed to creating a learning and working environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment by providing open communication and mutual respect. If you have encountered sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, sexual assault, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, age, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, genetic information (GINA), military status or disability, please contact one of the following people:

Renee Fambro Director of Equity & Compliance Human Resources	Danette Vance Title IX Deputy Coordinator Human Resources	Joan Cook Title IX Deputy Coordinator Human Resources	Darla Van Horn Title IX Deputy Coordinator Student Life
Rhodes Hall 115 rfambro@csc.edu	Rhodes Hall 115 dvance1@csc.edu	Rhodes Hall 115 jcook@csc.edu	Eibling Hall 203(D) dvanhorn@csc.edu
Phone: 614.287.5519	Phone: 614.287.2433	Phone:614.287.2636	Phone:614.287.2856

For additional information about your options at Columbus State Community College or to file a complaint online, please visit our webpage at:<http://www.csc.edu/services/title-ix/>

Withdrawal from the Course

If you decide to withdraw from (drop) this course, you must do so officially with the Office of Records and Registration. Failure to withdraw officially will result in a failing grade recorded on your transcript.

Weather Emergency Procedures

If Columbus State closes for a weather emergency, check the Course Announcements on *Blackboard* to see if and how the closing will affect this course.

Coursework Expectations

Columbus State's policy states that students at schools receiving funds from the State of Ohio should be expected to do 30 hours of work for each credit earned. That means students should expect to spend about two hours on work outside of class for each hour spent in class (Policy Number 5-05). Students need to be aware of their out-of-class responsibilities, and they need to be aware that inability to fulfill the requirements for a course may mean failure.

Units of Instruction

- I. Historical and cultural context
- II. Composition, canonization, and translation of the Pentateuch
- III. The Pentateuch
- IV. The Deuteronomic History
- V. The Prophetic Writings
- VI. The Wisdom Literature, Miscellaneous Old Testament Writings
- VII. Introduction to the New Testament, the Gospels
- VIII. Other New Testament books: Acts, Paul's letters

Class Calendar

Note: if dates and topics change, you will be notified in class. Reading assignments are due on the date indicated. All Homework Assignments must be submitted through *Blackboard*.

Week	Assignment
Week 1	
Tuesday, 1/19	Introduction to the course "To the Reader" (xxi) "Strategies for Reading Scripture" (xxxix)
Thursday, 1/21	Discussion: The Bible as Literature, Authorship, Religious Uses, and Translations of the Bible "Israelite Religion" (xliv-xlviii)
Week	Assignment
Week 2	
Tuesday, 1/26	Discussion: Literary Forms of the Bible, Canonization and Translation, Composition of the Pentateuch, Documentary Hypothesis "The Bible and Archeology: (lvii-lxi).
Thursday, 1/28	Genesis 1-9
Week	Assignment
Week 3	
Tuesday, 2/2	Genesis 11-13, 15-19, 21, 22
Thursday, 2/4	Homework #1 due by 12:30 PM Genesis 25-35, 37-50
Week	Assignment
Week 4	
Tuesday, 2/9	Exodus 1-14, 16-19
Thursday, 2/11	Exodus 20-26, 32-34
Week	Assignment
Week 5	
Tuesday, 2/16	Leviticus 10, 11, 15, 16, 18, 19, 25, 26
Thursday, 2/18	Numbers 5, 9-14, 20-15 Deuteronomy 1, 5-7
Week	Assignment
Week 6	
Tuesday, 2/23	Homework #2 Due by 12:30 PM Deuteronomy 12-18, 20, 21, 25, 28, 34
Thursday, 2/25	First Examination
Week	Assignment
Week 7	
Tuesday, 3/1	Introduction to the Former Prophets Joshua 1-11, 23, 24
Thursday, 3/3	Judges 1-8, 11-21 Ruth
Week	Assignment
Week 8	
Tuesday, 3/8	1 Samuel 1-11, 13, 15-19, 24-26, 28-31

Thursday, 3/10	II Samuel 1, 5-7, 11-21, 24 I Kings 1-3, 5-8, 10-11
Week	Assignment
Week 9	Spring Break - No classes
Week	Assignment
Week 10	
Tuesday, 3/22	I Kings 12-19, 21, 22 II Kings 1-5, 10, 17, 22-25
Thursday, 3/24	Homework #3 Due by 12:30 PM Introduction to the Latter Prophets Hosea Isaiah 1-11
Week	Assignment
Week 11	
Tuesday, 3/29	Isaiah 14, 40, 44, 53, 61 Daniel 1-7
Thursday, 3/31	Daniel 12 Song of Solomon Esther (pp.680-691)
Week	Assignment
Week 12	
Tuesday, 4/5	Job 1-10, 38-42
Thursday, 4/7	Second Examination
Week	Assignment
Week 13	
Tuesday, 4/12	Discussion: Introduction to the New Testament and the Gospels Mark 1-8
Thursday, 4/14	Homework #4 Due by 12:30 PM Mark 9-16 Matthew 1-11
Week	Assignment
Week 14	
Tuesday, 4/19	Essay Assignment Due Matthew 25-28 Luke 1-4, 8, 10, 24
Thursday, 4/21	No class; in service day
Week	Assignment
Week 15	
Tuesday, 4/26	John Acts 1-7
Thursday, 4/28	Acts 8-11, 15 Introduction to Paul's Letters I and II Thessalonians
Week	Assignment
Week 16	
Tuesday, 5/3	Philemon I Corinthians 1-7, 10-15
Thursday, 5/5	Homework #5 Due by 12:30 PM Romans Revelation 1-9, 12, 13, 19-22
Week	Assignment
Finals Week	
Tuesday, 5/10	Third (Final) Examination - 12 Noon (No exams given early)

