REL 1200

Introduction to Christian Scripture

Section: R7WM

In Person

Fall Term 2026

Course Meeting Information

Dual Enrollment Information

This course is offered through Florida International University's Dual Enrollment Program. Dual enrollment students earn college credit while completing high school requirements and are expected to meet FIU's academic standards, follow FIU policies and the FIU Student Conduct and Honor Code, and complete all course requirements listed in this syllabus.

Students may visit **dualenrollment.fiu.edu** for additional information and resources, including the Dual Enrollment Library Guide. For questions, students may contact the Dual Enrollment Office at **dualenro@fiu.edu.**

Partner High School: Westminster Christian School

Class meeting times	
Day:	Tues. Thurs. Fri.
Time:	8:00 AM - 9:30 AM

Class meeting times	
Location:	Westminster Christian School WCS HS 206

Professor Information

Matthew Dubocq

Roles: Primary Instructor

Email: mdubocq@fiu.edu and mdubocq@wcsmiami.org

Phone: 7862555252

Office Hours: By Appointment Only (please email for appointment)

Office Location: HS206

Department or Academic Unit: Religious Studies

Course Prerequisites

Course prerequisites, if any, are listed below.

Course Description

Course Description and Purpose

This course offers an overview of the Christian scriptures, from the Jewish Torah through the New Testament canon. It is intended to provide students
with introductory knowledge writing, development and collection of the modern Bible, emphasizing its diversity, complexity, and its influence on Western culture.

Introduction to the Christian Scriptures will also encourage the study of the entire body of the Christian canon as well as a critical examination of contemporary Christian textual study and interpretations using a variety of social science disciplines and methods. In addition, with the rise of politicized religious movements in many if not most world

religions, it becomes more important than ever to provide balanced, academic analysis in the study of the Christian scriptures in all of its myriad interpretations, and its influential role in the public sphere.

In summary, the course will cover the following topics:

How shall we read the Bible?
The Old Testament world.
Primeval History.
Ancestral Stories.
The Composition of the Pentateuch.
Exodus and Covenant
Sojourn in the Wilderness
The Reformation and the origins of Protestantism.
Historical and Social Contexts of the Prophets
Settlement in the Land
Movement to Monarchy
The Latter Prophets
Exile and Beyond
The Context of the Writings
The Psalms
The Wisdom Books
Daniel
The Five Scrolls
Between the Testaments
Sociohistorical Developments
Jewish Beliefs and Religious Practices in Antiquity
Greek and Roman Beliefs and Religious Practices in Antiquity
The World of the Gospels
The Genre and Literary Tradition of the Gospel
The Acts of the Apostles
Paul's Life, Ministry, and Letters
The Pauline Tradition
The Contours of Paul's Theology
The General Letters and Revelation
The World of Early Christians
Overarching Story of the Christian Scriptures.

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

- In addition to providing an engaging introduction to the topic, Introduction to Christianity has four specific objectives. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to: Identify and analyze the historical stages in the development of the Christian scriptures. Evaluate, contrast, and analyze the wide variety of approaches to the study and interpretation of the Christian scriptures. Identify, compare, and contrast various methods for dating and determining the authorship of portions of the Christian canon.

Textbook and Course Materials

NO Textbook Required

Required/Recommended: Recommended

Authors: N/A

Publisher: N/A

Publication Date: N/AN/A

Copyright Date: N/A

ISBN 10: N/A

ISBN 13: N/A

Notes: Panther Book Pack does not apply to courses offered at the high school; textbooks are facilitated by the school.

Chapters/Pages: N/A

Panther Book Pack

Get all required course materials for $22 per undergrad credit hour through Panther Book Pack. You'll be charged automatically unless you opt out within 3 days after the add/drop deadline.

For more details, to compare costs, and to learn how to access your course materials, visit the Panther Book Pack information page on FIU OneStop.

Expectations of the Course

Statement of Understanding between Professor and Student

Every student must respect the right of all to have an equitable opportunity to learn and honestly demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students must adhere to a standard of academic conduct, demonstrating respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of the University. As a student taking this class:

I will not represent someone else's work as my own

I will not cheat, nor will I aid in another's cheating.

Lateness Policy

See WCS Student Handbook

Difficulties can arise during a semester: a car accident, a death in the family, relational stress, sickness, or simply a case of summertime college burnout. Sooner or later, these things inevitably happen to everyone. When you have a problem, the best thing is for you to do is message me right away. I will work with you to the best of my ability. If you are proactive (e.g., let me know what is going on before a deadline), I can help you strategize so that you can still make the deadlines as best as possible, instead of missing them completely.

Academic Misconduct Statement

See WCS Student Handbook

Academic Misconduct includes: **Cheating** – The unauthorized use of books, notes, aids, electronic sources; or assistance from another person with respect to examinations, course assignments, field service reports, class recitations; or the unauthorized possession of examination papers or course materials, whether originally authorized or not. **Plagiarism** – The use and appropriation of another's work without any indication of the source and the representation of such work as the student's own. Any student who fails to give credit for ideas, expressions or materials taken from another source, including internet sources, is responsible for plagiarism.

Assignments & Assessments

How shall we read the Bible?
The Old Testament world.
Primeval History.
Ancestral Stories.
The Composition of the Pentateuch.
Exodus and Covenant
Sojourn in the Wilderness
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Overarching Story of the Christian Scriptures.

Grading

Classwork will count (35 percent of the overall final grade):

There will be weekly quizzes on assigned readings. (25% of the overall final grade)

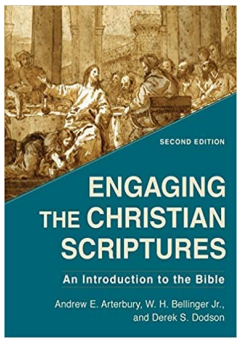
There will 5 tests (45% of the overall final grade)

Grading System (Fall 2016 to Present)

Grade	Description	Points per credit
A	-	4.00
A-	-	3.67
B+	-	3.33
B	-	3.00
B-	-	2.67
C+	-	2.33
C	-	2.00
D	-	1.00
F	Failure	0.00

Readings, Materials, and Open Educational Resources (OER)

Textbook:



Andrew E. Arterbury, Bellinger, Dodson. *Engaging the Christian Scriptures: An Introduction to the Bible*. Baker Academic, 2021.

Additional Recommended Readings:

Gordon Fee, Douglas Stuart *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*. Zodervan Academic, 2021

Jonty Rhodes, *Covenants Made Simple.* P&R Publishing 2013

Schedule of Topics

How shall we read the Bible?

The Old Testament world.

Primeval History.

Ancestral Stories.

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Policies & Resources

As a member of the FIU community, you are expected to be knowledgeable about the behavioral expectations set forth in the FIU Student Conduct and Honor Code.

In addition, the FIU Policies and Procedures Library website serves as the official repository for university-wide policies and procedures.

Nondiscrimination Statement

The **Office of Civil Rights** (OCR) is responsible for ensuring that FIU maintains a workplace and learning environment free from discrimination, where current and prospective faculty, staff, and students are treated equitably. If any student, employee, or applicant has a sincere and reasonable belief that they have been discriminated against or harassed based on age, color, disability, marital status, ethnic or national origin, race, religion, retaliation, sex, or any other protected category, they can report their concerns to the OCR team through report.fiu.edu.