



Syllabus:

SCS 105 Overview Christian Scriptures

Course Overview

Course Instructor

Name	Reverend Karen Epps
Office Hours	By appointment
Telephone	949.280.6635
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Response Time Policy	Within 24 hours

Course Description

This course explores the Gospels, letters, history (Book of Acts), and apocalyptic literature (Book of Revelation) that comprises what is more commonly known as the “New Testament” of the Judeo-Christian Bible. The student will develop a basic understanding of the Christian Scriptures’ meaning for the people to whom they were written. This course is based on the premise that, whatever else the Christian Scriptures may be; they most definitely *are* the response of early Christian writers to both the person and the message of Jesus Christ. This course examines the Christian Scriptures as a testament *about* Jesus by early Christian communities.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, learners will be able to:

- Describe and explain the four major divisions of the Christian Scriptures
 - Gospel
 - Letter
 - History
 - Apocalyptic literature
- For each of the four canonical Gospels, describe the view of Jesus the writer presents
- Examine the emergence of the Christian church as an organization separate from Judaism
- Describe the essential elements of the Apostle Paul’s theology
- Describe the significance of the Book of Revelation

Required Books

- Bible (New Revised Standard Version)
- Borg, Marcus J. *Reading the Bible Again for the First Time*, New York: Harper Collins, 1989.

Recommended Online Resource

- Audio Bible NIV (Genesis – Revelation)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B2tlR3nfzjQ&list=PLHZp_z2RSv22-oT8SQ66ADvEImLMsS8ZD
- The Bible Project (A collection of short videos on each of the books in the Bible. It can be helpful – be advised the theology is mainstream Christianity)
<https://bibleproject.com>

Recommended Books

- Ehrman, Bart D. *A Brief Introduction to the New Testament*, New York: Oxford University Press, 2013.
- Robertson, A.T. *A Harmony of the Gospels*
- Throckmorton, Burton H. *Gospel Parallels: A Comparison of the Synoptic Gospels*, Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1992.

Live Collaborate Class Sessions

All times Central Time (CT) Zone

February 2023

1. Thursday, February 2 – 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. CT
2. *No live session*
3. Thursday, February 16 – 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. CT
4. *No live session*

March 2023

4. Thursday, March 2 – 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. CT
5. *No live session*
6. Thursday, March 16 – 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. CT
7. Thursday, March 23 – 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. CT