

Syllabus

SCS 100 Overview: Hebrew Scriptures

Course Overview

Course Instructor

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

Course Description

The Hebrew Scriptures (known as the “Old Testament” in the Christian world) are at the root of three major world religions—Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Hebrew Scriptures are a collection of fascinating and sometimes confusing stories, poetry, wisdom sayings and inspired visions. While some stories in Hebrew Scriptures are little known outside scholarly circles, others have become commonplace in conversation, e.g. “David vs. Goliath.” Students will explore the history and development of Hebrew Scriptures, thereby acquiring a solid foundation for continuing study and exploration.

Course Learning Objectives

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

- Identify parts and origins of the Hebrew Scriptures.
- Identify the writers and the times of the writings.
- Compare time periods and explain their significance.
- Explain how the Hebrew Scriptures can present the story of the evolution of the consciousness of humankind.

Required Books

- Borg, Marcus J. *Reading the Bible Again for the First Time: Taking the Bible Seriously But not Literally*. San Francisco: Harper Collins, 2001.
- *The Bible* - in one of the following translations. (The NRSV: New Revised Standard Version; or the NET: New English Translation) Online: Bible Gateway <https://www.biblegateway.com>

Recommended Text/Readings

- ***The New Interpreter's Study Bible***. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2003.
- Davis, Kenneth C. ***Don't Know Much About the Bible***. New York: Harper Collins, 2004.
- Spong, John Shelby. ***Re-Claiming the Bible for a Non-Religious World***. New York: Harper Collins, 2013.

Live Collaborate Class Sessions

All times Central Time (CT) Zone

February 2023

1. Wednesday, February 1 – 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. CT
2. *No live session*
3. *No live session*
4. Wednesday, February 22 – 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. CT

March 2023

5. Wednesday, March 1 – 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. CT
6. *No live session*
7. Wednesday, March 15 – 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. CT
8. Wednesday, March 22 – 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. CT