



**ENG210-40 – Approaches to Literature
Reading the Bible as Literature
College of Science and Arts
Fall 2011**

Instructor Information

Instructor: Jeanie C. Crain, PhD, Professor
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Course Identification

Course Number: ENG210- 40 Online
Course Name: Approaches to Literature

Required Textbook

Jeanie C. Crain, *The Bible as Literature: An Introduction*, Polity Press, 2010.

Bible Translation preferred—New Revised Standard Version (NRSV <http://www.godweb.org/nrsv.html>); the HarperCollins® Study Bible has extensive study notes that you will find helpful.

Course Description/Overview

ENG210 introduces you to ways of reading and writing about poetry, fiction, and drama.

ENG210-40 The Bible as Literature emphasizes the act of reading the Bible itself, focuses upon the whole text as it exists in its current form, invites an experiential entering into and reliving of the Bible's stories, encourages analytical and holistic reading, explores multiple interpretations, and embraces a power of language originating in the mythological, metaphorical, and symbolic.

Such reading holds potential for helping you to understand literature generally and the Bible in itself. It introduces the common tools of literary analysis: language and style, the formal structures of genre (narrative, drama, and poetry), character study, and thematic analysis.

WebCT Course Environment

Once you log in, you will find announcements, the syllabus, assignments, and required activities within this environment. You will read all chapters in *Reading the Bible as Literature: An Introduction* and complete required writing in the form of answering end-of-chapter questions and exercises. You will submit all required work in WebCT and correspond with your instructor through WebCT email.

For online classes, you will need a computer and reliable Internet access. The University has several computer labs available for your use. The following link provides you with the location and hours of these labs:

<http://www.missouriwestern.edu/imc/acs/labsmap.asp>

Course Policies

Disability: If you have been diagnosed with a disability or if you suspect that you may have a disability that has never been diagnosed and would like to find out what services may be available, please visit the Office of Disability Services (ODS) in Eder Hall, room 203N or visit the ODS website at <http://www.missouriwestern.edu/ds/> as soon as possible. This syllabus, as well as all other printed or electronic materials, can be made available in alternative/accessible formats if requested with sufficient prior notice. Missouri Western is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

Academic Honesty: Violations of academic honesty include any instance of plagiarism, cheating, seeking credit for another's work, falsifying documents, or academic records, or any other fraudulent classroom activity. Plagiarism is the uncredited use (both intentional and unintentional) of somebody else's words or ideas. Violations of academic honesty will result in a failing grade on the assignment, failure in the course, or expulsion from school. Please consult your *Student Handbook*.

Attendance Policy: While you experience more freedom in online classes, you still must meet the same standards required of a traditional class. This means scheduling sufficient time for reading all assigned materials and completing all required writing for the course. Materials should be read prior to the first day of the week's assignments.

Course Learning Objectives

1. Acquire familiarity with several of the tools used for reading and understanding literature generally: language and style, the formal structures of genre (narrative, drama, and poetry), character study, and thematic analysis.
2. Learn that the Bible shares the mythological, metaphorical, and symbolic language that belongs to literature across the centuries.
3. Read and study significant passages in the Bible and learn something about the Bible as a whole, which includes the Jewish and Christian biblical canons.
4. Learn to read the Bible more closely and to appreciate its nuanced and layered levels of meaning and its broad appeal to the interpretive imagination.
5. Discover a library that invites you to engage at deeper levels of study and to greater depths of insight; you have discovered why the Bible continues to appeal to and attract more scholarship than any other collection of literature.

Course Resources

Course Website(s)

- [WebCT](#) Course Site
- [Bible as Literature Web](#)
- [Professor's Home Page](#) (includes electronic, older Bible as Literature and other Bible Analyses)

Course Requirements

Approximately every two weeks, you will read and complete writing assignments for one chapter in *Reading the Bible as Literature: An Introduction*. This requires answering ten assigned end-of-chapter reflective questions and completing two exercises. Assigned at the beginning of the reading period, questions and exercises must be posted in WebCT on the due date at the end of the second week.

Grammar and Mechanics	10	Written work has been carefully edited with attention to grammatical and effective sentences, punctuation, and mechanics. You are advised to consult a Handbook such as the one found in the <i>The St. Martin's Guide to Writing</i> .
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Grading Scheme

Letter Grade	Percentage	Grade points/credit	Rating
A	90% & above	4.00	Excellent
B	80% - 89%	3.00	Good
C	70% -79%	2.00	Average
D	60% - 69	1.00	Below Average
F	59% and below	0.00	Failure
I	An incomplete grade may be given when accident, illness, death in the immediate family, or other documented circumstances beyond your control prevent you from completing some course requirements. An incomplete grade will be considered only when you have satisfied the majority of course requirements. An incomplete grade must be removed within six weeks after the first day of the next term (fall, spring, summer) of the semester in which it was received; otherwise, the grade will be recorded as "F."		

University Fall Schedule

Fall 2011		
Walk-In Registration	August 23	Tuesday
Griffon Edge	August 25-27	
Classes Begin	August 29	Monday
Labor Day Holiday	September 5	Monday
Family Day	September 10	Saturday
Homecoming	October 22	Saturday
Mid-term Grades Due	October 26	Wednesday
Last day to Withdraw	November 4	Friday
Registration Begins for Spring	November 7	Monday
Fall Break (no classes/campus closed)	November 20-27	
Last Day of classes	December 9	Friday
Final Exams	December 10-16	
Commencement	December 17	Saturday
Final Grades Due	December 20	
Wintersession	December 19-January 13	
Campus Closed	December 24-January 1	

- Number of class days - M=13, T=14, W=14, Th=14, F=14, Sa=13
- 6 Final Exam days
- Wintersession (transcribed in Spring) - 14 class days, plus Final Exam day

August 2011							September 2011							October 2011							November 2011							December 2011											
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					
31		1	2	3	4	5	6	35				1	2	3	39						1	44		1	2	3	4	5	48				1	2	3				
32	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	36	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	40	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	45	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	49	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
33	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	37	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	41	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	46	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	50	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
34	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	38	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	42	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	47	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	51	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
35	28	29	30	31				39	25	26	27	28	29	30	43	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	48	27	28	29	30				52	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
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Course Schedule

Week One August 29, 31, and September 2.

Assignment: Read Preface and Chapter 1

Week Two Labor Day holiday, September 5; 7, and 9

Complete Journal posting for Preface and Chapter 1 by 4:00 p.m. September 9.

Week Three September 12, 14, 16

Assignment: Read Chapter 2.

Week Four September 19, 21, 23

Complete Journal posting for Chapter 2 by 4:00 p.m. September 23.

Week Five September 26, 28, 30

Assignment: Read Chapter 3.

Week Six October 3, 5, 7

Complete Journal posting for Chapter 3 by 4:00 p.m. October 7.

Week Seven October 10, 12, 14

Assignment: Read Chapter 4.

Week Eight October 17, 19, 21

Complete Journal posting for Chapter 4 by 4:00 p.m. October 21.

Week Nine October 24, 26, 28

Assignment: Read Chapter 5.

Week Ten October 31, November 2, 4

Complete Journal posting for Chapter 5 by 4:00 p.m. November 4.

Week Eleven November 7, 9, **11**

Assignment: Read Chapter 6.

Week Twelve November 14, 16, **18**

Complete Journal posting for Chapter 6 by 4:00 p.m. November 18.

Week Thirteen November 28, 30, December 2

Assignment: Read Chapter 7.

Week Fourteen December 5, 7, 9 (December 9, last day of classes)

Complete Journal posting for Chapter 7 by 4:00 p.m. December 9.

Week Fifteen Final Examination December 10-16

Final grades will be posted December 20. Your final grade for the course will be an average of the seven grades received for chapter work (*A=4 points; B= 3; C=2; D= 1, and F=0*) and three process cycles (*A=4 points; B= 3; C=2; D= 1, and F=0*).
