



**ENG210-40 – Approaches to Literature  
Reading the Bible as Literature  
College of Science and Arts  
Spring 2012**

**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.devotions.net/bible/00bible.htm>); the *HarperCollins® Study Bible* or *The New Interpreter's Study Bible* both have 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.

**Moodle 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 Moodle.

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 unaccredited 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

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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)

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

## Course Requirements

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Approximately every two weeks, you will read and complete writing assignments for one chapter in *Reading the Bible as Literature: An Introduction*. This requires reading carefully, taking comprehensive notes and adding these to Course Notes in Moodle, answering ten assigned end-of-chapter reflective questions and completing two exercises submitted as one attachment under Assignments. Assigned at the beginning of the reading period, questions and exercises must be posted in Moodle on the due date at the end of the second week.



<b>Grammar and Mechanics</b>	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> .
<b>Course Notes</b>	2 letter grades at Midterm and Finals	Success in any course requires careful reading and note-taking. You are encouraged to read the chapter while at your computer so that you can build a set of chapter notes. These should reflect clear mastery of content.

### *Grading Scheme*

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Grade points/credit</b>	<b>Rating</b>
<b>A</b>	90% & above	4.00	Excellent
<b>B</b>	80% – 89%	3.00	Good
<b>C</b>	70% – 79%	2.00	Average
<b>D</b>	60% – 69	1.00	Below Average
<b>F</b>	59% and below	0.00	Failure
<b>I</b>	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**

JANUARY '12						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**2**      **New Year's Day (Observed)**

**16**     **M.L. King Jr. Day no classes**

20 Presidents Day	<b>FEBRUARY '12</b>						
	<b>S</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>Th</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>S</b>
				1	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29			
<b>MARCH '12</b>							11 Daylight Saving Time begins
<b>S</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>Th</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>S</b>	
				1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
March 11-18 Spring Break	<b>APRIL '12</b>						
April 30 Last Day of Classes	<b>S</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>Th</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>S</b>
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30					
	<b>MAY '12</b>						
<b>S</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>Th</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>S</b>	
		1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	31			

Campus re-opens	Jan. 2	Monday
Spring Registration/Orientation Program	Jan. 10	Tuesday
Walk-In Registration	Jan. 12	Thursday
Wintersession Ends	Jan. 13	Friday
Martin Luther King Day Holiday (no classes/campus closed)	Jan. 16	Monday
Classes Begin	Jan. 17	Tuesday
President's Day Holiday (no classes/campus closed)	Feb. 20	Monday
Spring Break (no classes)	Mar. 11-18	
Mid-term Grades Due	Mar. 21	Wednesday
Last Day to Withdraw	Mar. 30	Friday
Registration Begins for Summer/Fall	Apr. 2	Monday
Last Day of Classes	Apr. 30	Monday

Study Day	May 1	Tuesday
Final Exams	May 2-8	
Final Grades Due	May 10	Thursday
Commencement	May 12	Saturday

### Course Schedule

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Week One      Jan. 18, 20

Assignment: Read Preface and Chapter 1

Week Two      Jan. 23, 25, 27

**Complete Assignment posting for Preface and Chapter 1 by 12:00 midnight Jan. 30**

Week Three    Jan. 30, Feb. 1 and 3

Assignment: Read Chapter 2.

Week Four    Feb. 6, 8, 10

**Complete Assignment posting for Chapter 2 by 12:00 midnight Feb. 12**

Week Five    Feb. 13, 15, 17

Assignment: Read Chapter 3.

Week Six Feb. 20, 22, 24

**Complete Assignment posting for Chapter 3 by 12:00 midnight Feb. 26.**

Week Seven Feb. 27, 29, and March 2

Assignment: Read Chapter 4.

Week Eight March 5, 7, 9

**Complete Assignment posting for Chapter 4 by 12:00 midnight March 11**

**Spring Break March 11-18**

Week Nine March 19, 21, 23

Assignment: Read Chapter 5.

Week Ten March 26, 28, 30

**Complete Assignment posting for Chapter 5 by 12:00 midnight April 1**

Week Eleven April 2, 4, 6

Assignment: Read Chapter 6.

Week Twelve April 9, 11, 13

**Complete Assignment posting for Chapter 6 by 12:00 midnight April 15.**

Week Thirteen April 16, 18, 20

Assignment: Read Chapter 7.

Week Fourteen April 23, 25, 27

**Complete Assignment posting for Chapter 7 by 12:00 midnight April 29**

**Last Day Class April 30**

Week Fifteen Final Examination May 2-8

**Final grades will be posted May 10** Your final grade for the course will be an average of the seven grades received for chapter work and the two grades received for notes in your Moodle blog at mid-term and Finals. (*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*).