



ENG210-41, 03 – BIBLE AS LITERATURE
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Fall 2010

Instructor Information

Instructor:	Jeanie C. Crain, PhD, Professor
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Office Hours:	MWF 9:00am – 11:50, or by appointment

Course Identification

Course Number:	ENG210-41 online; 210-03 traditional, Hearnes Center 102, W 2:00-4:50
Course Name:	Bible as Literature
Course Location:	Online

Required Textbook

The Bible as Literature: An Introduction by Jeanie C. Crain (Polity Press). The book is available in the campus bookstore in both hard back and soft back form. You may also order the book from Wiley Publishers http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0745635083_descCd-reviews.html. You can also find it at Amazon http://www.amazon.com/Reading-Bible-Literature-Jeanie-Crain/dp/0745635083/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1276112384&sr=1-2

A supplemental web page contains tables for each of the seven chapters of the textbook:

<http://crain.english.missouriwestern.edu/ReadingBible/>

Bible—New Revised Standard Version (NRSV <http://www.godweb.org/nrsv.html>); the HarperCollins® Study Bible has extensive study notes that you will find helpful. You will have additional links to other sources available to you on the WebCT pages.

Course Description/Overview

ENG210-41, 03 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 students 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.

Course Environment

You will be using the WebCT Learning Environment (accessed from the Missouri Western Homepage under [WebCT](#))

Once you log in, you will find announcements, the syllabus, assignments, and required activities within this environment. You will be expected to log on to the web site on at least three academic days each week. Please see attendance policy. You will submit all required work in WebCT and participate in discussion groups.

For online classes, you are expected to have a personal computer and web access. The University has several labs available for your use. Lab info may be found at the following link:

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

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 Requirements:

You should familiarize yourself with the schedule of due dates. You are also encouraged to work independently and in advance of these dates whenever possible. **Late work will not be accepted.**

1. You will answer at least twelve questions for each of seven chapters in the textbook, choosing questions that most interest you without particular attention to the order in which they are listed. Ideally, the class as a whole will be addressing different questions but also covering most of them. You will receive two journal grades (a midterm and final grade). You should demonstrate in your answers that you have read the textbook and relevant biblical passages. Your answers must be grammatically correct. You may use brief, documented quotes from the text and the Bible. You are encouraged to think independently and beyond what the textbook covers.

You will complete these as journal entries in WebCT, logging in to WebCT on at least three academic days per week beginning with the first day of class. Please see attendance policy. As a general rule of thumb, you should expect to answer the twelve questions in the equivalent of three, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font or one page for every four questions. These should be submitted in the comment box rather than as attachments. Hint: you will satisfy time on task and log-in on three academic days by creating these entries within the WebCT journal itself.

2. You will complete two of the end-of-chapter exercises for each of seven chapter. Your response should be a carefully researched, organized, and original essay (four double-spaced pages, excluding the bibliography). As with the journal, you may use brief, documented quotes from the textbook and the Bible. Your essays must be organized to develop a clear thesis for each exercise, supporting body paragraphs, and a thoughtful conclusion. Submissions falling short of four full pages will receive no more than a C; submissions evidencing serious error (three or more sentence fragments, run-on sentences, or comma splices) will also receive a C. Overall, your essays should be grammatically correct. You are strongly advised to have someone in the Center for Academic Support read over these essays before submission <http://www.missouriwestern.edu/cas/>. All completed exercises will be published to the class as a whole in order that meaningful peer comparisons can be made.

Course Website(s)

- [WebCT](#) Course Site
- [Website supplementing textbook](#)

Grading Scheme

Grading System

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."		

Grading Policy

Answer at least twelve of the questions at the end of each of seven chapters; Your answers may be used as supplementary materials on an electronic web page. Please make sure you have carefully proofread these materials.	A, B, C, D, F	2 grades at Midterm and Final.
Complete two exercises in essay format for each of seven chapters—a minimum of five pages, double-spaced, Times New Roman 12. These exercises may be used as supplementary materials for <i>Reading the Bible as Literature: An Introduction</i> on an electronic web page.	A, B, C, D, F each	7 grades
Discretionary points (1-4) may be given to		

recognize excellent performance in answering the questions and completing the exercises. Excellent performance includes a growing understanding of what makes the Bible literature and how the use of literary principles enhances your understanding of its material.		
A final grade will be determined by adding together grade points (1-4) for nine assignments: two in the journal and seven exercises plus any discretionary points added and dividing these by nine.	A, B, C, D, F	

Course Policies

Attendance Policy for 100 & 200 Level Courses:

Instructors are required to monitor and track student attendance in

all 100 and 200 level courses. A student qualifies for an excused absence when acting as an official representative of the university, provided the student gives prior written verification from the faculty/staff supervisor of the event. Any additional excused absences are at the complete discretion of the instructor. Students exceeding the maximum number of unexcused absences (see chart below) will be administratively withdrawn from the course.

Class Meetings/Week	Max unexcused absences
1	1
2	3
3	5

Online courses, by nature, permit working anywhere, anytime, at your own pace. To meet attendance requirements, you must log in to WebCT at least three academic days (M-F) per week. Tracking will be used to verify your presence and the amount of time that you spent logged in to WebCT. From week one, you are expected to post answers to questions at the end of the chapter you're reading into the journal entries in the discussion area of Web CT. You should plan to post responses to questions on at least three days each week.

Disability: Should you have a disability that will affect your success in this course, you will need to contact Disability Services in Eder Hall, Room 203N (816.271.4330). You should also contact me personally to discuss class requirements.

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. You should be aware that WebCT will check all your submitted work for evidence of plagiarism. 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*, 26.)

Grade Appeal Process: (Student Handbook available online at <http://www.missouriwestern.edu/handbook/index.pdf>, page 26)

Classroom Behavior Guidelines (Student Handbook available online at <http://www.missouriwestern.edu/handbook/index.pdf>, (page 28)

University Calendar

Western Academic Calendar Fall 2010

Walk-In Registration	August 24 Tuesday
Griffon Edge	TBA
Classes Begin	August 30 Monday
Labor Day Holiday	September 6 Monday

Mid-term Grades Due	October 27 Wednesday
Last day to Withdraw	November 5 Friday
Registration Begins for Spring	November 8 Monday
Fall Break (no classes/campus closed)	November 21-28
Last Day of classes	December 10 Friday
Final Exams	December 11-17
Commencement	December 18 Saturday
Final Grades Due	December 21 Tuesday
Wintersession (with Saturday, 12/18)	December 18-January 14
Campus Closed	December 24-January 2
	☑ 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 with one Saturday (12/18/10), plus Final Exam day

Course Schedule (MWF); W class will have same deadlines as online class.

<i>Week 1</i> <i>Aug. 30, Sept. 1, 3</i>	Complete Reading for Preface and Chapter One.
<i>Week 2</i> <i>Labor Day Off, 8, 10</i>	<i>Exercises for Ch. 1 due September 10.</i>
<i>Week 3</i> <i>13, 15, 17</i>	Complete Reading for Chapter Two.
<i>Week 4</i> <i>20, 22, 24</i>	<i>Exercises for Ch. 2 due September 24.</i>
<i>Week 5</i> <i>27, 29, October 1</i>	Complete Reading for Chapter Three.
<i>Week 6</i> <i>4, 6, 8</i>	<i>Exercises for Ch. 3 due October 8.</i>
<i>Week 7</i> <i>11, 13, 15</i>	Complete Reading for Chapter Four.
<i>Week 8</i> <i>18, 20, 22</i>	<i>Exercises for Ch. 4 due October 22.</i>
<i>Week 9</i> <i>25, Midterm Grades 27, 29</i>	Complete Reading for Chapter Five.
<i>Week 10</i> <i>November 1, 3, 5</i>	<i>Exercises for Ch. 5 due November 5.</i>
<i>Week 11</i> <i>8, 10, 12</i>	Complete Reading for Chapter Six.
<i>Week 12</i> <i>15, 17, 19</i>	<i>Exercises for Ch. 6 due November 19.</i>
<i>Fall Break 21-28</i>	
<i>Week 13</i> <i>29, Dec. 1, 3</i>	Complete Reading for Chapter Seven.
<i>Week 14</i> <i>6, 8, Last Day of Classes 10</i> <i>Dec. 11-17 Final Exams (Traditional, section 05, W</i> <i>2-3:50, Dec. 15)</i>	<i>Exercises for Ch. 7 due December 10.</i>

Personal Notes