



ENG210-40 – BIBLE AS LITERATURE
College of Science and Arts
Spring 2010

Instructor Information

Instructor: Jeanie C. Crain, PhD, Professor
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Office Hours: MW 9:00am – 12:00noon, or by appointment

Course Identification

Course Number: ENG210-40
Course Name: Bible as Literature
Course Location: Online

Required Textbook

The Bible as Literature: An Introduction by Jeanie C. Crain (to be published in 2010 by Polity Press). You will be allowed pre-publication access to this text.

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

ENG210-40 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 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 in to the web site on each weekday. 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.**

Course Resources

Course Website(s)

- [WebCT](#) Course Site
- [Supplementary electronic text and study links](#) (not required)

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

Grades will be based on reading all chapters to *The Bible as Literature: An Introduction* by Jeanie C. Crain (to be published in 2010 by Polity Press). You will be asked to complete all questions and to submit in essay form two of the end of chapter exercises for each chapter.

Answer questions at end of each of seven chapters; groups will distribute these questions among members--a minimum of five pages, double-spaces, Times New Roman 12. Your answers may be used as support for <i>Reading the Bible as Literature: An Introduction</i> on an electronic web page. Please make sure you have carefully proofread these materials before submitting them to your professor. Please use your group discussions for this purpose as well as for discussion of the questions themselves.	A, B, C, D, F	7 grades
Complete two exercises in report format for each of seven chapters—a minimum of five pages, double-spaced, Times New Roman 12. These exercises may be used as support for <i>Reading the Bible as Literature: An Introduction</i> on an electronic web page.	A, B, C, D, F each	7 grades
Participate in group work demonstrating engaging and intellectually stimulating discussions of various subjects	A, B, C, D, F each cycle	1 grade

Late Assignments

Late work will not be accepted.

Course Policies

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*.

Collaboration

You will collaborate with your assigned group (5 members), sharing and discussing your work on required assignments. Collaboration means that you may divide the end of chapter questions among you so that all questions are answered. You are responsible for the answers to the questions assigned to you.

University Calendar

Spring 2010

Campus re-opens	January 4	Monday
Spring Registration/Orientation Program	January 12	Tuesday
Winter Session Ends	January 13	Wednesday
Walk-In Registration	January 14	Thursday
Martin Luther King Day Holiday	January 18	Monday
Classes Begin	January 19	Tuesday
President's Day Holiday	February 15	Monday
Spring Break (no classes)	March 14-21	

Mid-Term Grades Due	March 24	Wednesday
Last Day to Withdraw	April 2	Friday
Registration Begins for Summer/Fall	April 5	Monday
Last Day of Classes	May 3	Monday
Study Day	May 4	Tuesday
Final Exams	May 5-11	
Final Grades Due	May 13	Thursday
Commencement	May 15	Saturday

Course Schedule

<u>Week 1</u>	<i>Jan. 19-22</i>	Complete Reading for Preface and Chapter One.
<u>Week 2</u>	<i>Jan. 25-29</i>	Answers to all end of chapter questions due on Jan. 29. Complete at least two exercises in the form of a short report.
<u>Week 3</u>	<i>Feb. 1-5</i>	Complete Reading for Chapter Two.
<u>Week 4</u>	<i>Feb. 8-12</i>	Answers to all end of chapter questions due on Feb. 12. Complete at least two exercises in the form of a short report.
<u>Week 5</u>	<i>Feb. 15-19</i>	Complete Reading for Chapter Three.
<u>Week 6</u>	<i>Feb. 22-26</i>	Answers to all end of chapter questions due on Feb. 26. Complete at least two exercises in the form of a short report.
<u>Week 7</u>	<i>March 1-5</i>	Complete Reading for Chapter Four.
<u>Week 8</u>	<i>March 8-12</i>	Answers to all end of chapter questions due on March 12. Complete at least two exercises in the form of a short report.
	<i>Spring Break March 15-19</i>	
<u>Week 9</u>	<i>March 22-26</i>	Complete Reading for Chapter Five.
<u>Week 10</u>	<i>March 29- April 2</i>	Answers to all end of chapter questions due on April 2. Complete at least two exercises in the form of a short report.
<u>Week 11</u>	<i>April 5-9</i>	Complete Reading for Chapter Six.
<u>Week 11</u>	<i>April 12-16</i>	Answers to all end of chapter questions due on April 2. Complete at least two exercises in the form of a short report.
<u>Week 13</u>	<i>April 19-23</i>	<i>Complete Reading for Chapter Seven</i>
<u>Week 14</u>	<i>April 26-30</i>	Answers to all end of chapter questions due April 30. Complete at least two exercises in the form of a short report.
<u>Finals Week</u>	<i>May 5-11</i>	

Personal Notes