OBJECTIVE

To introduce students to a historical and theological reading of the Old and New Testament

GOALS

Students will be familiar with such concepts as the formation of the canon of sacred scripture, inspiration, modern historical criticism, theological exegesis as means of bringing to light the full meaning of the Old and New Testaments

Required Text:
All assigned readings for the course will be taken from Sacred Scripture - the Jerusalem Bible and handouts.

New Jerusalem Bible

Additional Bibliography

If you are interested in a specific area, you will find additional information in the following books found in UST library.

Debelius, Martin and Werner Georg Kummel. Paul.

Dictionary of Biblical Theology.
Jeremias, Joachim. The Parables of Jesus.
Jerome Biblical Commentary.
Lussier, Rev. Ernest. Christ's Farewell Discourse.
Montague, George T. The Living Thought of St. Paul
Course Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes

It is hoped, that within this curriculum, the student will be able to

- Gain an understanding of the formation of the canon of sacred scripture,
- Basic scriptural concepts such as inspiration, modern historical criticism, theological exegesis as means of bringing to light a fuller meaning of the Scriptures

Specific learning skills include:

- a close and attentive reading of the scriptures
- the distinguishing among basic sources used for scriptural exegesis
- sufficient background reading to comprehend the issue at hand and ascertain a balanced approach in addressing a particular topic
- familiarity with various Church documents, specifically encyclicals and recent publicaitons of the NCCB
- research skills by way of documentation

These course objectives will enable the student to more readily achieve goals 3,4,5 and 6 of the Core Curriculum Goals.

Assignments, Examinations, Grading

There will be two major tests during the semester. Together they are worth 37.5% of the semester grade.

Unannounced quizzes will be given on the reading assignments for the day.

The written assignments consists of two five- six page typewritten assignments on topics given in class. These short papers are each worth 10% of the semester grade. Quizzes are worth 15% of the semester grade.

At the end of the course there will be a final comprehensive examination, worth 25% of the final grade. This examination will include both objective and essay questions.

Class Attendance and Extensions

Regular class attendance is necessary for success in the course. Class roll will be checked at each meeting. Students who miss more than three lectures, without the consent of the instructor, cannot participate fully, and their grades will be adjusted accordingly.

Make-up tests (which are always longer and more difficult) will be given only in the very rare case when doing them on the designated date is absolutely impossible. A doctor's notice or something comparable is in order when a test is missed. Prior arrangements must be made with the professor. There are no make ups for missed quizzes.

Due dates for written assignments are clearly designated here on the syllabus. Failure to turn in a written assignment on time will result in a lowering of grade for that assignment. Late assignments will be accepted only within a designated time period.

Books are noted on the syllabus in this fashion:

New Jerusalem Bible   NJB
(The reading of the particular scripture under study is presumed and therefore pages are not given. There may be some adjustment in the scripture passages given. )

Material listed for each day may overlap as it is I difficult to determine exactly what will be covered each day.
1. January 19, Thursday  
   Introduction, 
   Formation of the Canon of Sacred Scripture 
   Inspiration; Literary Forms 
   Catholic Interpretation of Scripture/Biblical Fundamentalism 
   *Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation* 
   The Book of Genesis 1-11, 22,25. 30, 37, 41,43

2. January 26, Thursday  
   The Book of Genesis 1-11, 22,25. 30, 37, 41,43 
   Exodus 1-3,11-12, 13-17, 19-20,32-34 
   [Topic for first report due]

3. February 2, Thursday  
   Exodus 1-3,11-12, 13-17, 19-20,32-34 
   Historical Books: 
   Judges 1 -5, 1 Samuel 8-11 
   2 Samuel 5-7, 2 Samuel 11-12 
   [Topic for first report due]

4. February 9, Thursday  
   Historical Books: 
   1 and 2 Kings 
   Nehemiah1-2, 8-9, Tobit, Judith Esther 
   Prophetic Books: Isaiah 6-7. 41,42,60 Jeremiah 1, 31, 36-45, Hosea

5. February 16, Thursday  
   Wisdom Books: 
   Job 1-3.22-23.38.42; Psalms 1,22,23, 81-89146-150 
   Song of Songs

6. February 23, Thursday  
   Wisdom Books: 
   Job 1-3.22-23.38.42; Psalms 1,22,23, 81-89146-150 
   Song of Songs

7. March 2 Thursday  
   Exam I 
   Overview of the Four Gospels 
   Synoptic Problem 
   Infancy Narrative: Matthew and Luke

8. March 9, Thursday  
   Luke’s Gospel 
   *First Report due* 
   *Topic for Second Report Due*

9. March 23, Thursday  
   John’s Gospel 
   *Last Day to turn in First Report* 
   *Topic for Second Report Due*

10. March 30, Thursday  
    Letters of John 
    Revelation 4-12, 20-21 
    Acts of the Apostles

11. April 6, Thursday  
    Acts of the Apostles
12. April 20, Thursday Letters of Paul: 1 Thessalonians
Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians
Second Paper Due

13. April 27, Thursday EXAM II Letters of Paul: 1 & 2 Corinthians, Romans
Pastoral Letters

14. May 4, Thursday Catholic Letters
Exam Preparation
Last Day for Accepting Second Paper

Final Exam: Thursday, May 11, 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Report I & II : Biblical Archaeology

Choose one or two articles from the list below. After reading the article connect its contents with specific passages in the Old or New Testament. As an example, if you are reading an article on excavations of Herod the Great’s temple, what do the Gospels tell us about Herod the Great. Summarize that content. Secondly, in regard to the article, what is its thesis? Summarize the article and provide its conclusion. How does the article enrich the content of the scriptures? Critique the article by way of fulfilling its thesis and clarity. Your article should include a title page, four pages of content and a bibliography. Documentation should follow the Chicago Manual of Style. Please turn in a copy of your article with report.

Articles are found in Biblical Archaeology Review, either in the basement of the library or in the reading room to the left as you walk in.

Thus your report should follow this order:

Title Page
Summary of information on focus of article from Old or New Testament
Article: Thesis, Summary of Article, Conclusion
How does article enrich information found in scripture?
Critique of Article
Bibliography
Copy of Article

List of Articles for Report I:

Old Testament


King Saul


King David


King Solomon


Moab


**List of Articles for Report II**

**Dead Sea/Qumran**


**New Testament**


**Herod the Great**


**Herod Antipas**


**Simon of Cyrene**


**John the Baptist**


Voros, Gyozo. Machaerus Where Salome Danced and John the Baptist was Beheaded.” *Biblical Archaeology Review* 38:5 (September/October, 2012): 30-41,68.

**Jesus**


**Mary of Magdala**
