

MARS HILL COLLEGE

## **REL 201: THE BIBLE AS LITERATURE**

SPRING 2009

MON-WED-FRI 11:00–11:50 AM • CORNWELL 224

### **SYLLABUS**

Professor: Dr. Matthew C. Baldwin  
Department: Religion and Philosophy  
Telephone: 689-1184  
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Office: Cornwell Hall 219  
Office Hours: Meetings by Appointment are Preferred, please email beforehand  
Office Hours are MWF 8:00 – 9:00 am.

Course Website: <http://users.mhc.edu/facultystaff/mbaldwin/REL201>

### **I. COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The literary critic Northrop Frye has affectionately called the Bible a "sprawling" work of literature sitting "in the middle of our cultural heritage." Truly, regardless of one's faith-position on matters of Jewish or Christian religion, one cannot deny the overwhelming literary importance of the Bible, both historically and in the present age. We all inhabit historical, cultural, and religious worlds that have been deeply permeated and shaped by the narratives, images, figures, themes and claims of Biblical literature.

This course seeks to give students the tools they need to critically engage the full range of Biblical literatures. They will develop skills of critical reading, research, and writing which are relevant to Biblical literature in particular, religious studies in general, and also the entire range of disciplines in the human sciences which take "texts" as a starting point.

### **II. COURSE OUTCOMES**

The following outcomes are assessed primarily by the written mid-term and final-examinations, and by the completion of writing assignments in and out of class.

These full benefit of these outcomes will accrue to students who practice diligent reading of assigned materials, attentive attendance in the class sessions, note taking, study and memorization, and application of work to their assigned writings.

Students successfully completing this course will:

(a) *define and identify the contexts in which Biblical literature was originally composed and read.* The lectures and the textbooks present essential contextual information (historical, geographical, linguistic, cultural) necessary for grasping the social and religious history of the people who produced and first read the Biblical

literature, and necessary for understanding the history of the development of that literature as a religious canon used in Judaism and Christianity. Students will learn about the arts, cultures, languages, religions, economics, politics, empires, kingdoms, wars, and societies of the wider ancient Mediterranean and Mesopotamian worlds.

*(b) define, identify, assess and employ the critical methods employed by Biblical scholars for interpreting Biblical literature.* The lectures and the textbook present the modern historical and literary-critical methods of reading texts (text-criticism, source-criticism, form-criticism, redaction-criticism, tradition-criticism, and narrative-criticism, among others) and provide exemplary case studies drawn from the Biblical readings.

*(c) identify and interpret the various genres of, and the variety of themes, preoccupations, and concerns encountered in, Biblical literature.* Students will learn to identify the differing editors, authors, historical contexts and genres of Biblical literature, coming to appreciate how the texts differ amongst themselves. They will also learn to recognize and appreciate the central religious, historical, and thematic preoccupations of the various Biblical authors.

*(d) practice critical reading, annotation, reference, research, and writing.* In class writing assignments, homework assignments, informal and formal writing assignments, and a research-driven formal writing project will introduce students to the practice of critical scholarship on Biblical literature and will further their skills in the writing of academic papers.

*(e) prepare for further study in Religion and Philosophy.* This course provides introductory-level instruction designed to support the upper level Biblical Studies courses offered at Mars Hill College, and also to prepare students for more advanced work in History, Theology, and critical studies of religion. This course fulfills requirements for minors and majors in the Religion and Philosophy Department.

*(f) fulfill the GE 'Connector Course' Requirement for Literature.* Any MHC student may take this course in order to fulfill the GE distribution requirement in "Literature." See your MHC course catalog for details.

*(g) demonstrate an awareness of the historical, cultural and religious significance of biblical literature.* Through research and reflection, through dialogue and discussion, through examination of detail in scripture and in comparative, in secondary, and in other texts, students will develop awareness of the many ways that Biblical literature is and has been significant for human beings world-wide. This growing awareness will inform the scholarly activities (including discussion, writing, etc.) undertaken by the students of this course.

### **III. REQUIRED AND GRADED WORK**

There are seven types of work which will affect your grade in this class. They may be classified as follows:

*(a) Complete Assigned Readings Found in the Syllabus.* Readings are assigned from Harris' *Understanding the Bible*, from Brisco's *Holman Bible Atlas*, and from the

*HarperCollins Study Bible NRSV.* These are supposed to be completed prior to the class-period or day for which they are assigned (no specific percentage of grade).

(b) *Attend, Engage with, and Participate in Class Sessions.* Please come to every class period ready to listen, taken notes, ask questions, and participate in class discussions (10% of final grade).

(c) *Add Test Questions Weekly to the Exam Question Wiki.* Every Week, every student is required to add two unique exam questions to the Exam Question Wiki on our course Moodle Site. One question will be of the “short answer” variety (i.e. definitions, descriptions, and other sorts of factual questions). One question will be of the “long answer” variety (i.e. questions for discussion and reflection). These questions will constitute a part of your study guide for the course, and will be used to generate the Mid-Term and Final-Examinations (5% of final grade).

(d) *Study for and Take Mid-Term and Final Examinations.* Two tests, a mid-term and a final examination, are required for all students. Tests cover information presented in the assigned readings and the lectures (total of 40% of final grade, i.e. 10% and 30% respectively).

(e) *Complete in-Class Writing and Technical Assignments.* Students will, from time to time, be asked to create in-class written items, based on specific assignments or in response to specific prompts. These in-class writing and technical assignments will be given without prior notice. They are not quizzes; rather, they are designed to teach particular methods of study, reading, and writing. These items will always be collected and recorded in the grade ledger. They will not be graded, but you will be given a per-item credit (10% of final grade).

(f) *For Homework, Occasionally Write Short but Formal Research-Driven Papers.* Students will produce a number of writing assignments. These will be announced in class and then must be turned in by the specified deadlines, usually within 2 class periods from the time of assignment. Guidelines for these assignments will always first be discussed in class and then will be distributed via moodle; these assignments will always be turned in via moodle (15% of final grade).

(g) *Write One Research-Driven Formal Term Paper.* You will be required to produce a formal, research-driven, final term paper, of approximately 10 pages in length, on a topic which you will choose from a number of specified topic areas, in a manner which will be specified by the assignment. The paper will conform to the standards and methods taught in the homework writing assignments. The detailed final term paper assignment will be discussed and distributed before Feb 27th, 2009, giving you approximately 9 weeks to complete the assignment; this assignment will be turned in via moodle (20% of final grade).

#### **IV. GRADES AND EVALUATION OF WORK**

All grades will be awarded on a 0-100 point scale, converting to a letter grade according to the following table:

<b>0-64/F</b>	<b>65-69/D</b>	<b>70-79/C</b>	<b>80-89/B</b>	<b>90-100/A</b>
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Each required component of the class contributes the following percentage of your grade (due dates are in parentheses):

Attendance and Participation (daily)	10%
Additions to the Exam Question Wiki (weekly by Saturday)	5%
Study for and Take Tests	40%
1. Mid-Term Examination (March 2nd):	10%
2. Final Exam (May 4th):	30%
In-Class Writings and Technical Assignments (occasional)	10%
Formal Research-Driven Homework Papers (occasional)	15%
Final Research-Driven Term Paper (April 29th)	20%
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Sub-total	100%

The sub-total grade for each student will be calculated according to the above formula. The final grade will be calculated by applying any necessary penalties for absences or academic dishonesty (as specified below) to the sub-total.

## V. COURSE POLICIES

(a) *Follow the MHC Honor System.* As a student at MHC you are bound by THE HONOR CODE, "We, the students of Mars Hill College, pledge ourselves to uphold integrity, honesty, and academic responsibility in and out of the classroom." You also must take THE HONOR PLEDGE: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received any academic aid or information that would violate the Honor Code of Mars Hill College." (See also your *Student Handbook* or the current course catalogue for further details about the honor system).

(b) *Plagiarism and Other Forms of Dishonesty.* Any assignment found to be plagiarized to any extent at all will get a score of zero. Any second instance of plagiarism will result in an automatic 'F' in the class. Other forms of academic dishonesty will be treated identically to plagiarism.

(c) *Absence Penalties.* Attendance is required in this course; roll is taken daily. Even 'excused' absences are still absences. A generous reward is given for *perfect* and nearly perfect attendance (only one absence = +3 points; no absences at all = +6 points), whereas a significant penalty is given for unexcused absences. Your first two absences are "free" with no penalty. Subsequent *unexcused* absences will cost three percentage points per unexcused absence. This penalty is taken against the grade subtotal (see section IV, "evaluation," above). Absences can be excused only when they have resulted from documented medical emergencies, official travel as a representative of Mars Hill College, and NCAA compliant sports-related activities, and other similar cases. Speak to Baldwin outside of class or email or post a moodle question if you have any concerns about Absence Penalties.

(d) *Turning In Written Work Via Moodle.* All written course homework in REL 201 will be turned in via Moodle. Acceptable formats include: "Rich Text Format" (.rtf), "Microsoft Word 2007/2008 Format" (.docx), "Microsoft Word 97" (.doc), and "Portable Document Format" (.pdf). Unacceptable formats include, but are not limited to: Microsoft Works Format (.wps), and Word Perfect Format (.wpd). Documents created in these formats must be converted before being turned in. Your

word processor can produce at least one of the acceptable formats, and/or you can convert your document for free on-line or in another program. I can also read Power Point and Excel documents and certain Open Office formats.

(e) *Getting Help in This Course via Moodle.* If you need help with understanding any aspect of this course and its assignments, please post a question or query to the moodle forum entitled “HELP FORUM: Questions About REL 201” which is found at the top of the course moodle page. Doing this may benefit your fellow students, some of whom will no doubt share your concerns. You are requested to comply with this policy unless the sort of help you need concerns a *very personal matter that would be embarrassing to discuss publicly*. In that case, of course use email or speak to me in person. Otherwise, please post your queries about assignments, schedules, difficult to understand concepts, etc., on-line.

## VI. REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

There are three required textbooks assigned in this course.

You may purchase the textbooks from the MHC bookstore, or you may purchase them on-line. For your convenience, I have added links to Amazon for each of these books at:

<http://www.apocryphum.com/baldwin/REL201SUP/orders.html>

Harold W. Attridge and Wayne A. Meeks, *et al.* eds. *The HarperCollins Study Bible Fully Revised and Updated New Revised Standard Version* (Student Paperback Ed.; New York: HarperCollins, 2006) ISBN 13: 978-0-06-078684-7; ISBN 10: 0-06-078684-1. [[If it is all that you can obtain, you could use the previous edition instead: Meeks, ed. *HarperCollins Study Bible New Revised Standard Version* (Student Paperback Ed.; New York: HarperCollins, 1993) ISBN: 0-06-065527-5.]]

Harris, Stephen L. *Understanding the Bible* (seventh edition; Boston: McGraw Hill, 2006) ISBN: 0072965487.

Brisco, Thomas C. *Holman Bible Atlas: A Complete Guide to the Expansive Geography of Biblical History* (Broadman and Holman, 1999) ISBN: 1558197095.

## VII. OUTLINE OF CONTENT AND ASSIGNMENTS

The following syllabus of assignments is subject to revision at the sole discretion of the instructor as is deemed necessary for pedagogical reasons.

<p><b>1. Mon Jan 12th</b></p>	<p><b>Introduction Part I: The Syllabus</b> Handout: Syllabus</p>
<p><b>2. Wed Jan 14th</b></p>	<p><b>Introduction Part II: Context is Everything: Popular Culture and Ezekiel</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read: David L. Petersen, “Ezekiel: Introduction” in the <i>HarperCollins Study Bible</i>, fully revised &amp; updated edition, pages 1096–1098 (or pages 1222 to 1224 in the old edition).</li> </ul>
<p><b>3. Fri Jan 16th</b></p>	<p><b>Introduction Part III: What Is “The Bible”?</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, Chapter 1, “The Bible: An Overview,” pages 1–12 in the 7th edition.</li> </ul>
<p><b>4. Mon Jan 19th</b></p>	<p><b>Introduction Part IV: About Your Study Bible</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, “How the Bible Became Available in English Translation,” in Chapter 2, pages 22–25.</li> <li>• Wayne A. Meeks, “Introduction to the HarperCollins Study Bible,” in the <i>HarperCollins Study Bible</i>, pages xiii–xix</li> <li>• Bruce M. Metzger, “To the Reader,” in the <i>HarperCollins Study Bible</i>, pages xxi–xxv.</li> </ul>
<p><b>5 Wed Jan 21st</b></p>	<p><b>Introduction Part V: The Canon of the Bible</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, Chapter 2, “The Process of Formation,” pages 13–22.</li> <li>• <i>HarperCollins Study Bible</i>, front matter, pages xxvii–xxxiii.</li> </ul>

<p><b>6. Fri Jan 23rd</b></p>	<p><b>Introduction Part VI: Critical Study of the Bible</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, “Reading Analytically: The Bible and Modern Scholarship” and “The Bible Read from Different Social Perspectives,” in Chapter 2, pages 26–35.</li> <li>• Josh Barton, “Strategies for Reading Scripture,” in <i>HarperCollins Study Bible</i>, pages xxxix–xliii.</li> </ul>
<p><b>7. Mon Jan 26th</b></p>	<p><b>Creation: Cosmology and Cosmogony, Day I</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Bible: <b>Gen 1:1–2:4a</b>  Psa 18:1–15  104  Job 9:1–12  26  28  38  Amos 9:1–6  Prov 8:12–31</p>
<p><b>8. Wed Jan 28th</b></p>	<p><b>Creation: Cosmology and Cosmogony, Day II</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, “The Primeval History” and “The Yahwist Version of Creation” in Chapter 5, pages 104–107.</li> <li>• Bible:  Gen 2:4a—3:24</li> </ul>
<p><b>9. Fri Jan 30th</b></p>	<p><b>Creation: Cosmology and Cosmogony, Day III</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bible:  Gen 2:4–3:24</li> </ul>

<p><b>10. Mon Feb 2</b></p>	<p><b>Creation: Cosmology and Cosmogony, Day IV</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, Box 3.3 “Egyptian Myths Anticipating Biblical Concepts of Creation,” in Chapter 3, page 60.</li> <li>• Tikva Frymer Kensky and Giovanni Pettinato, “Enuma Elish” in <i>Encyclopedia of Religion</i> Vol. 4 (ed. Lindsay Jones; Detroit: MacMillan Reference USA, 2005) 2809–2812. Available on-line via GALE Virtual Reference Library, and/or in .pdf format and distributed via the course Moodle site.</li> <li>• Charles H. Long, “Cosmogony,” in <i>Encyclopedia of Religion</i> Vol. 3 (ed. Lindsay Jones; Detroit: MacMillan Reference USA, 2005) pages 1985–1991. Available on-line via GALE Virtual Reference Library, and/or in .pdf format and distributed via the course Moodle site.</li> </ul>
<p><b>11. Wed Feb 4th</b></p>	<p><b>Geography</b></p> <p>Study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brisco, “Chapter One: The Face of the Ancient Near East” and “Chapter Two: Natural Regions of Palestine,” pages 2–24.</li> <li>• Bible, Maps 1–18 (at the very back of your <i>Study Bible</i>)</li> <li>• Harris, “The Promised Land,” in Chapter 3, pages 65–67.</li> </ul>
<p><b>12. Fri Feb 6th</b></p>	<p><b>History</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, pages 37–39</li> <li>• Harris, Chapter 3, “The Ancient Near East,” pages 40–58.</li> </ul> <p>Very Quickly Skim and Glance at the Contents of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brisco, Chapters 4–13, pages 33–173</li> </ul>

<p><b>13. Mon Feb 9th</b></p>	<p><b>Torah I: Introduction to Torah</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, Chapter 5, “The Torah,” part I, pages 86–103.</li> <li>• David J. A. Clines, Introduction to Ezra and Nehemiah, in <i>HarperCollins Study Bible</i>, pages 646–648.</li> <li>• Bible, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ezra 7</li> <li>Neh 8</li> <li>Psa 119</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Michael E. Stone, Introduction to 2 Esdras, in <i>HarperCollins Study Bible</i> pages 1588–1589</li> <li>• Bible <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 Esdras 14:19–48 (pages 1622–1623 in the new ed)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Ronald Hendel, “Israelite Religion,” in <i>HarperCollins Study Bible</i> pages xlv–xlviii.</li> </ul>
<p><b>14. Wed Feb 11th</b></p>	<p><b>Torah II: Genesis I “The Mark of Cain”</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, Chapter 5, “The Torah,” part II, “Genesis,” pages 103–107.</li> <li>• Ronald Hendel, Introduction to Genesis, in <i>HarperCollins Study Bible</i>, pages 3–4</li> <li>• Bible, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gen 4:1—5:32</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Brisco, “Chapter Three: Life in Ancient Palestine,” pages 25–32.</li> </ul>
<p><b>15. Fri Feb 13th</b></p>	<p><b>Torah III: Genesis II “The Flood”</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, Chapter 5, “The Torah,” part II, “Genesis,” pages 107–108, and please re-read pages 89–96, especially box 5.1.</li> <li>• Harris, Chapter 3, box 3.1, page 52–53.</li> <li>• Bible, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gen 6:1—9:29</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Additional Required Reading Assignments and Handouts (print out and bring to class):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LINKS ARE ON MOODLE</li> </ul>

<p><b>16. Mon Feb 16th</b></p>	<p><b>Torah IV: Genesis III</b> <b>“The Tower of Babylon”</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bible Gen 11:1–9</li> <li>• Brisco, “Chapter Four: Before Abraham,” pages 33–40.</li> <li>• Harris, Chapter 3, figure 3.6, page 49.</li> </ul>
<p><b>17. Wed Feb 18th</b></p>	<p><b>Torah V: Genesis IV</b> <b>“The Abrahamic Covenant”</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, Chapter 5, “The Torah,” part II, “Genesis,” pages 108–117.</li> <li>• Bible, Gen 11:10–25:11</li> <li>• Brisco, “Chapter Five: The World of the Patriarchs,” pp. 41–51.</li> </ul>
<p><b>18. Fri Feb 20th</b></p>	<p><b>Torah VI: Genesis V</b> <b>“From Isaac to Jabob”</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bible, Gen 25:12–34 27:1—28:5 28:10–33:17 34:1—35:29 37:1—41:57 47:13–50:14</li> </ul>
<p><b>19. Mon Feb 23</b></p>	<p><b>Torah VII: Exodus I</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, Chapter 5, “The Torah,” part II, “Exodus,” pages 117–124.</li> <li>• Edward L. Greenstein, Introduction to Exodus, in <i>HarperCollins Study Bible</i> pages 83–84.</li> <li>• Bible, Ex 1:1–18:27</li> <li>• Brisco, “Chapter Six: The Egyptian Experience,” pages 52–62.</li> </ul> <p>Study Guide For Mid-Term Becomes Available Today on Moodle</p>

<p><b>20. Wed</b> <b>Feb 25</b></p>	<p><b>Torah VIII: Exodus II</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, Chapter 5, “The Torah,” Part II, “Exodus,” pages 124–130.</li> <li>• Bible, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ex 19:1—24:18</li> <li>25:10–22</li> <li>26:1—28:43</li> <li>30:22–38</li> <li>31:12—34:35</li> <li>39:32—40:38</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>21. Fri</b> <b>Feb 27</b></p>	<p><b>Mid-Term Q &amp; A / Writing Instruction Day</b></p> <p>Study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study Guide for Mid-Term (on Moodle)</li> <li>• Final Formal Research Paper Assignment (on Moodle)</li> <li>• Baldwin’s Guide to Homework Webpages (link via Moodle)</li> </ul> <p>Bring: Your Questions and your Thinking Cap.</p>
<p><b>22. Mon</b> <b>Mar 2</b></p>	<p><b>Mid-Term Examination</b></p>

<p><b>23. Wed Mar 4</b></p>	<p><b>Torah IX: Numbers</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, Chapter 5, “The Torah, Part II, “Numbers,” pages 133–136.</li> <li>• Jo Ann Hackett, Introduction to Numbers, in <i>HarperCollins Study Bible</i>, pages 194–196.</li> <li>• Bible, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Num 3:5–13</li> <li>3:40–51</li> <li>5:11—6:27</li> <li>9:1–23</li> <li>11:1—14:45</li> <li>16:1–50</li> <li>19:1—20:13</li> <li>21:1–9</li> <li>22:1—25:18</li> <li>31:1–54</li> <li>35:9–34</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Brisco, “Chapter Seven: The Exodus,” pages 63–74.</li> </ul>
<p><b>24. Fri Mar 6th</b></p>	<p><b>Nevi'im I: Joshua and Judges</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eric M. Meyers, “The Bible and Archaeology,” in <i>HarperCollins Study Bible</i> pages lvii–lxi.</li> <li>• Harris, “Archaeology and the Bible,” pages 144–146.</li> <li>• Harris, Chapter 6, “The Prophets (Nevi'im) I” pages 146–163.</li> <li>• Robert G. Boling and Richard D. Nelson, Introduction to Joshua, in <i>HaperCollins Study Bible</i> pages 310–311.</li> <li>• Robert G. Boling and Richard D. Nelson, Introduction to Judges, in <i>HarperCollins Study Bible</i> pages 346–347.</li> <li>• Brisco, “Chapter Eight: Conquest and Settlement,” pages 75–93,</li> <li>• Bible, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deut 20:1–20</li> <li>Josh 2—8</li> <li>11:16–23</li> <li>22:7—24:33</li> <li>Judg 1–5</li> <li>9</li> <li>11:1—12:7</li> <li>13—16</li> <li>19—21</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<p><b>25. Mon Mar 9th</b></p>	<p><b>Nevi'im II: Samuel</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, Chapter 6, "The Prophets (Nevi'im) I" pages 164–173.</li> <li>• P. Kyle McCarter Jr., Introduction to Samuel, in <i>HarperCollins Study Bible</i> pages 389–391.</li> <li>• Brisco, "Chapter Eight: Conquest and Settlement," pages 94–101.</li> <li>• Bible, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Sam 2:1—4:1</li> <li>7:3—8:22</li> <li>10:17—13:15</li> <li>15:10—21:15</li> <li>26:1—29:11</li> <li>31:1–13</li> <li>2 Sam 1:1—7:29</li> <li>11:1—20:26</li> <li>22:1—23:7</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>26. Wed Mar 11th</b></p>	<p><b>Nevi'im III: I Kings</b> <b>"From Solomon to the Divided Kingdom"</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, Chapter 6, "The Prophets (Nevi'im) I" pages 173–181</li> <li>• Robert R. Wilson, Introduction to Kings, in <i>HarperCollins Study Bible</i> pages 474–476.</li> <li>• Brisco, "Chapter Nine: The Kingdom of David and Solomon," pages 102–114.</li> <li>• Bible, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Kgs 1:1—13:34</li> <li>16:29–33</li> <li>18:1—19:21</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<p><b>27. Fri</b> <b>Mar 13th</b></p>	<p><b>Nevi'im IV: II Kings</b> <b>“From the Divided Kingdom to Judah Alone”</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, Chapter 6, “The Prophets (Nevi'im) I” pages 181–189</li> <li>• Harris, Chapter 3, “The Ancient Near East,” pages 58–62</li> <li>• Brisco, “Chapter Ten: The Kingdoms of Israel and Judah,” and “Chapter Eleven: Judah Alone Among International Powers,” pages 115–149.</li> <li>• Bible, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 Kgs 2:1—6:7</li> <li>9:1—10:36</li> <li>15:17—21:26</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>SPRING BREAK</b></p>	
<p><b>28. Mon</b> <b>Mar 23rd</b></p>	<p><b>Nevi'im V: II Kings, continued</b> <b>“The Reign of Josiah”</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brisco, “Chapter Eleven: Judah Alone Among International Powers,” pages 150–154.</li> <li>• Bible, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 Kgs 22:1—23:30</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**29. Wed  
Mar 25th**

**Torah X: Leviticus and Deuteronomy  
“The Law in Israel’s Monarchic Period”**

Read:

- Harris, Chapter 5: “The Torah,” part II, pages 130–133 and 136–143.

- Jacob Milgrom, Introduction to Leviticus, in *HarperCollins Study Bible*, pages 150–151.

- S. Dean McBride Jr., Introduction to Deuteronomy, , in *HarperCollins Study Bible*, pages 256–257

- Bible,

Lev 9:1—11:47

15:1—21:24

23:1–44

25:1—26:46

Deut 4:44—8:20

10:12—14:21

17:14–20

18:9—22

22:1—25:19

30:11–20

31:9–13

31:30—34:12

Additional Reading Assignment:

- On Moodle

<p><b>30. Fri Mar 27th</b></p>	<p><b>Nevi'im VI: Fall of Judah, Exile, and Return</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brisco, "Chapter Eleven: Judah Alone Amid International Powers," and "Chapter Twelve: The Exile," and "Chapter Thirteen: The Persian Period," pages 154–173.</li> <li>• Leo G. Purdue and Robert R. Wilson, Introduction to Jeremiah, in <i>HarperCollins Study Bible</i> pages 998–1000.</li> <li>• Harris, Photo Essay: Nebuchadnezzar's Babylon, pages 230-231.</li> </ul> <p>•Bible,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">2 Kgs 23:30—25:30</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Jer 7:1—8:3 12:1–13 19:1—34:7 39:1—43:13 50:1—52:34</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">2 Chr 36:15–23</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Ezra 1:1–11</p>
<p><b>31. Mon Mar 30th</b></p>	<p><b>Nevi'im VII: Prophetic Literature I</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, Chapter 7, "The Prophets (Nevi'im) II: Individual Spokespersons For God," pages 190–214</li> <li>• J. J. M. Roberts, Introduction to Isaiah, in <i>HarperCollins Study Bible</i> pages 912–914.</li> <li>• James Luther Mayes and Stephen L. Cook, Introduction to Hosea, in <i>HarperCollins Study Bible</i> pages 1193–1195.</li> <li>• Gene M. Tucker and J. Andrew Dearman, Introduction to Amos, in <i>HarperCollins Study Bible</i>, pages 1216–1218.</li> </ul> <p>• Bible,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Amos 2—5</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Hos 1—3</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Isa 1—2 6—9</p>

<p><b>32. Wed Apr 1st</b></p>	<p><b>Nevi'im VIII: Prophetic Literature II</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, Chapter 7, "The Prophets (Nevi'im) II: Individual Spokespersons For God," pages 215–229</li> <li>W. Sibley Towner, Introduction to Malachi, in <i>HarperCollins Study Bible</i> pages 1284–1285.</li> <li>• Bible, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ezek 1:1—5:17</li> <li>16</li> <li>23</li> <li>27:1—28:26</li> <li>37—39</li> <li>Isa 40:1—45:7</li> <li>55:1–13</li> <li>58:1—62:12</li> <li>Mal 3:1—4:6</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>33. Fri Apr 3rd</b></p>	<p><b>Kethuvim: The Writings</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, Chapter 8, "The Writings (Kethuvim): Books of Poetry, Wisdom, Short fiction, Apocalyptic Visions, and Sacred History," pages 232–283.</li> <li>• The following <i>HarperCollins</i> Introductions: Psa (Miller), Lam (Lemke/O'Connor), Prov (Camp/Fontaine), Eccl (Van Leeuwn/Richards), and Job (Crenshaw).</li> <li>• Bible, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Psa 22</li> <li>44</li> <li>89</li> <li>110</li> <li>Lam 5</li> <li>Prov 8</li> <li>Eccl 1</li> <li>3:1–4:8</li> <li>7:15–9:12</li> <li>Job 14</li> <li>19</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<p><b>34. Mon Apr 6th</b></p>	<p><b>The Intertestamental Period</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, Chapter 3, “The Ancient Near East,” pages 63–65.</li> <li>• Harris, Chapter 10, “Between the Two Testaments,” pages 308–338.</li> <li>• David E. Aune, “The Greco-Roman Context of the New Testament,” in <i>HarperCollins Study Bible</i>, pages xlix–lvi</li> <li>• Brisco, “Chapter Fourteen: The Hellenistic Period,” and “Chapter Fifteen: Rome’s Emergence as a World Power,” and “Chapter Sixteen: The Romans, Palestine, and Herod the Great,” and “Chapter Seventeen: The World of Jesus,” pages 174–215.</li> <li>• Bible, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Macc 1:1—3:9</li> <li>Dan 7—12</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>35. Wed Apr 8th</b></p>	<p><b>The New Testament: Some Writings of the Early Jesus Movement</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, Photo Essay, pages 339–342</li> <li>• Jürgen Zangenberg, “Archaeology and the New Testament,” in <i>HarperCollins Study Bible</i>, pages lxii–lxvi.</li> <li>• Harris, Chapter 11, “Books of the New Testament,” pages 343–360.</li> <li>• “A Table of Parallel Passages in the Four Gospels,” in <i>HarperCollins Study Bible</i> pages 1653–1663.</li> </ul>
<p><b>36. Mon Apr 13th</b></p>	<p><b>Gospels: Stories of the Crucified and Risen Messiah</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, Chapter 12, “The Gospels: Four Portraits of Jesus,” pages 360–428.</li> <li>• Brisco, “Chapter Eighteen: The Life and Ministry of Jesus,” pages 216–235.</li> <li>• Bible, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Matt Read entire Gospel.</li> <li>1 Cor 1–3</li> <li>11—15</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>OPTIONAL READING:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Harris, Chapter 13, “The Continuing Quest for the Historical Jesus,” pages 429–447.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<p><b>37. Fri Apr 17th</b></p>	<p><b>Acts: A History of Early Christian Mission</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, Chapter 14, “An Account of Christian Origins and the Pauline Letters,” Part I, pages 448–463.</li> <li>• Bible, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acts 1—8</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>38. Mon Apr 20th</b></p>	<p><b>Paul: The Apostle to the Gentiles</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, Chapter 14, “An Account of Christian Origins and the Pauline Letters,” Part II, pages 464–504.</li> <li>• Bible, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acts 9—end</li> <li>1 Thess (entire letter)</li> <li>Gal 1—2</li> <li>2 Cor 10—13</li> <li>Rom 8—16</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>39. Wed Apr 22nd</b></p>	<p><b>Other Christian Writings</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, Chapter 15, “General Epistles and a Vision of End Time,” Part I, pages 505–515</li> <li>• Bible, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>James (entire letter)</li> <li>Jude (entire letter)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>40. Fri Apr 24th</b></p>	<p><b>An Early Christian Apocalypse (i.e. Revelation)</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harris, Chapter 15, “General Epistles and a Vision of End Time,” Part I, pages 516–524.</li> <li>• Bible, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rev 12—13</li> <li>16—22</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Final Exam Study Guide Becomes Available on Moodle Today</p>

<p><b>41. Mon Apr 27th</b></p>	<p><b>How to Read the Bible and Why</b></p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Harris, Chapter 16, “Interpreting the Judeo-Christian Bible in a Changed World,” pages 525–533.</li></ul>
<p><b>42. Wed Apr 29th</b></p>	<p><b>Final Exam Q &amp; A / Evaluations</b></p> <p>Study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Final Exam Study Guide (on Moodle)</li></ul> <p>Bring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Questions, Comments</li></ul> <p><b>FINAL PAPERS ARE DUE VIA MOODLE TODAY.</b></p>
<p><b>8:00 am, Monday, May 4th</b></p> <p><b>FINAL EXAMINATION</b></p>	