

Holy Family Academy
Ad Veritatem Per Fidem Et Rationem
Grade 9

Instructor: Mr. Forrester

Course Title: Sacred Scripture—Old Covenant

Course Description:

“God who creates and conserves all things by his Word, provides constant evidence of himself in created realities. Furthermore, wishing to open up the way to heavenly salvation he manifested himself to our first parents from the very beginning” (*Dei Verbum*, paragraph 3). In this course we will follow the thread of salvation history, the greatest story ever told. It is the greatest story not only because it is loaded with adventures, battles, and victory over impossible odds; kings, seers, warriors, and heroes; gripping narrative, poetry, romance, and scandal; but also because it is, in a very real way, our own story as children of God, and if children, then heirs of God himself (Romans 8:16-17). There is no story more worthy of study than that of salvation history culminating and reaching its perfection in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We study this sacred text to come to know this person who is the Word; “Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ” (St. Jerome). This course is the first of two Scripture courses and will focus on the Old Testament.

Course Objectives:

1. Follow the narrative thread from Adam and Eve to Jesus
2. Become familiar with the senses of Scripture
3. Be familiar with the principles of exegesis

Course Texts:

- The Holy Bible (acceptable translations include the New American Bible, The Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition, Douay Rheims, and the Vulgate)
- *On Christian Doctrine*, by St. Augustine (provided)

Course Supplies:

-Bible of an approved translation
-Paper
-Pen
-Pencil

Grading:

- Class Participation: 10%
- Homework: 35%
- Tests: 35%*
- Exam: 20%

*Semester Projects will be counted as a test grade

Scope and Sequence:

The course will traverse 10 of 12 epochs through essential narrative books accompanied by other supplementary books.

PERIOD	NARRATIVE BOOK(S)	SUPPLEMENTARY BOOK(S)
Early World	Genesis (1-11)	
Patriarchs	Genesis (12-50)	
Egypt and Exodus	Exodus	
Desert Wanderings	Numbers	
Conquest and Judges	Joshua, Judges	Ruth
Royal Kingdom	I & II Samuel, I Kings (1-11)	Sirach
Divided Kingdom	I Kings (12-22), II Kings (1-18)	Hosea
Exile	II Kings (19-25)	Daniel, Ezekiel, Judith, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Tobit
Return	Ezra, Nehemiah	Zechariah, Esther
Maccabean Revolt	I Maccabees	
Messianic Fulfillment	Luke	Matthew, Mark, John
The Church	Acts	

Class Participation:

Class participation will be graded according to four tasks that can and should be done each class. 1) Be on time to class, 2) Bring all appropriate materials for class, 3) Have your homework (even if you didn't finish, have it out and that will count), 4) Be attentive in class, and make it a personal goal to say at least one thing each class (even if it's just a question about what page we're on, or asking someone to repeat themselves).

Homework:

Homework will consist of keeping up with the reading assignments (average 2 chapters a night), and completing an ongoing Bible Log summarizing the books read.

Late/Make-up Work:

If you are absent when an assignment is handed in, then you have as many school days as you were absent to turn in the work for full credit. Work will be considered late after those days have expired. Late work will receive a grade no greater than 80% unless I'm in a bad mood, then good luck getting any credit at all.

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No homework or test grade is necessarily final until the semester ends. Students have the standing option to make corrections on homework OR tests to improve their grade.

Extra Assistance:

I am committed to the success of every student in this class, so I am available to collaborate with each student in the development of individual plans to overcome particular obstacles. Please see me outside of class, or email me at mforrester@holyfamilyacademy.org.

The instructor reserves the right to change or modify this course and the syllabus subject to appropriate and timely notice to the students enrolled in this class