

SCS 100 - Overview of the Bible: Hebrew Scriptures

10 Hours

Required Material	Bible (NRSV) Reading the Bible Again for the First Time by Marcus J. Borg
Recommended Material	New Interpreter's Study Bible Don't Know Much About the Bible by Kenneth C. Nelson Re-Claiming the Bible for a Non-Religious World by John Shelby Spong
Instructor	Cris Perez, L.U.T., cris2perez@yahoo.com Cell phone: 832-866-7866

A. Course Description,

"Overview of the Hebrew Scriptures" introduces the history of the Hebrew Scriptures and provides a framework for study. Students will explore the history and development of the Hebrew Scriptures through stories, exploration of events, and discussion of the perspectives from which the books of the Law, the Prophets and the Writings were written.

B. The Instructor

Cris Perez has been a member of Unity of Houston for twenty years and served in the Unity Friends Program for five years as well as in the youth and Uniteen programs. In addition to teaching classes, she is a guest speaker for the Spanish services and for the Unity of the Woodlands.

C. Objectives

On completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Identify parts and origins of the Hebrew Scriptures.
- Compare time periods in the Hebrew Scriptures and explain their significance.
- Explain how the Hebrew Scriptures present the story of the evolution of the consciousness of humankind.

F. Course Requirements:

Students will be expected to

- Be present, and to participate actively in each class session's activities
- Complete each day's reading assignment
- Complete and return the questionnaire by **TBA**

G. Instructor's Commitment

I will come to class prepared to engage the class in the discussion. I will create a safe and encouraging environment for the students to grow and explore.

H. Class Schedule

Class 1	Introductions – getting acquainted with each other and class content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the Bible? • Ways of reading the Bible. Is “Hebrew Scriptures” or “Old Testament” the more correct name? • What did original Bible texts look like? • Who wrote the Bible? <p>Overview of the historical periods of the Hebrew Scriptures – the “big picture”</p>	<p>Borg: Chapters 1-3</p> <p>Handouts</p>
Class 2	Questions from last week or readings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Allegories of Genesis • The Patriarchs – Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob 	<p>Borg: Chapter 4 and Bible Chapters (handout provided)</p> <p>Genesis 11:26, 12:1-5, 16, 21:1-20, 25:20-26, 25:27-34, 32:22-31</p>
Class 2	Questions from last week or readings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From Bondage in Egypt to the Conquest of Canaan • From the Judges through the United Kingdom 	<p>Borg: Chapter 5</p> <p>Exodus 1:8-13, 3, 7:8:25, 12:1-28, Numbers 14, Joshua 1:1-19, Judges 4:1-23, 6:11-33, 11:29-40, 13, 14, 15, 16, 1 Samuel 1:11-17, 2:18-21, 3:1-21</p>
Class 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Kingdom divides • The Northern Kingdom is conquered • The Southern Kingdom is endangered • The Major prophets emerge • The Exile and the return to Jerusalem 	<p>Borg: Chapter 6</p> <p>1Kings 11:28-40, 12, 2 Kings 14:25-27, 11 Chronicles 36:22, Ezra 2</p>
Class 4	Questions from last week or from the readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Writing and The Wisdom Literature • Psalms, Proverbs • Ecclesiastes • Song of Solomon • Job, Ruth, Esther 	<p>Borg: Chapter 7</p> <p>We will read selections from each book as time allows.</p>