Department:

English

Course Description:

This course provides a survey of the Old Testament as a literary work. The course will emphasize literary characteristics and the cultural and historical contexts of various books of the Old Testament and Apocrypha.

Course Competencies:

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Use principles of modern literary criticism to analyze passages in the Old Testament.
2. Identify major characters, narrators, story lines, themes, and historical contexts of the books of the Pentateuch.
3. Describe the historical contexts of selected books of the Old Testament.
4. Use principles of psychological or feminist criticism to analyze the texts of Ruth and Esther.
5. Use principles of modern literary criticism and elements of poetry to analyze Psalms, Proverbs, and the Song of Solomon.
6. Present and explain a selected reading from an Old Testament text.
7. Identify literary allusions from the Old Testament.
8. Write and revise papers with page format and source documentation.

Course Content:

A. The Making of the Bible
B. The Pentateuch
C. Josephus and the Bible as History
D. Women of the Old Testament
E. Poetry in the Old Testament
F. The Bible as Cultural Icon

Learning Assessments:

Course competencies will be assessed by use of class participation, commentaries or response papers, a research paper, quizzes, exams, and a final exam.

Instructional Materials:

King James version of the English Bible.
Handbook of Literary Criticism.
Supplemental material selected by the instructor.
Guidelines for Requesting Accommodations Based on Documented Disability or Medical Condition

It is the intention of Highland Community College to work toward full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to make instructional programs accessible to all people, and to provide reasonable accommodations according to the law.

Students should understand that it is their responsibility to self-identify their need(s) for accommodation and that they must provide current, comprehensive diagnosis of a specific disability or medical condition from a qualified professional in order to receive services. Documentation must include specific recommendations for accommodation(s). Documentation should be provided in a timely manner prior to or early in the semester so that the requested accommodation can be considered and, if warranted, arranged.

In order to begin the process all students must complete the “Disabilities Self-Identification Form” at this link: https://highlandcc.edu/pages/disability-services.

This form can also be accessed at the Highland Community College homepage under Students Services/Student Resources/Disability Service or by contacting the Disabilities Coordinator.