



PIONEERS Co-Op

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Overview of The Bible as History (Grades 9-12)

Tutor: Ed Utz

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Required Text: *None*

Course Description: The Bible has played a central role in the development of Western civilization. This course will survey the basic historical periods in the English Bible. It will introduce students to the historical world of the ancient Near East including comparisons to Egyptian and Mesopotamian history. Emphasis will be placed on archeological, geographical and cultural features of the text. Students will also be introduced to the Maccabean period. The student will learn the skills of historical analysis through the examination of the Bible and demonstrate new skills in understanding the materials of history.

Two field trips will be offered. In the fall, we will visit the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology in Ann Arbor (University of Michigan). In the spring, we will visit the Oriental Institute in Chicago (University of Chicago).

***New for 2025 – This course will be offered in an on-line format ONLY if there is enough interest. (there will be no in-person option). Please note that students will be expected to participate in a once per week “live” on-line class via an on-line platform (Zoom, Teams etc.. per the discretion of the instructor) with homework assigned in between on-line meetings. The on-line meetings are tentatively scheduled to take place on Friday mornings; however, this could change based upon the availability of the instructor. Instructor will provide additional details regarding on-line platform, class times etc... with enough advanced notice to accommodate student schedules.**

Assignments: There are weekly reading assignments in both the Bible and the course text. A weekly quiz will demonstrate their understanding of the readings. Regular homework assignments on the course assignment sheet are intended to be completed each week. Homework will be managed through Canvas. It will be graded and returned electronically.

There are two major projects each semester. Descriptions and due dates are given on the course module page. Students will be asked to interact with the class material on a class blog on a weekly basis.

Finally, students will take an exam at the end of the first semester and one at the end of the year. The exam at the end of the year will cover material discussed during the second semester only. The exams should be administered by a parent and returned to the teacher online.

Evaluations: The final grade is determined on the following basis:

Class Participation/Blog	10%
Homework/Reading Assignments	30%
Projects	30%
Exams	30%

* Late papers will be received under the advice of the parent at one grade reduction.

Grading Scale

90-100%	=A
80-89%	=B
70-79%	=C
60-69%	=D
Less than 60%	=E