

COS 121 – BIBLE I

INTRODUCTION

COURSE DESCRIPTION *(Goals & Objectives)*

This course introduces biblical interpretation. Attention is given to the inspiration, formation, and function of the canon and to the development of a methodology of interpretation consistent with the nature of scripture. The importance of the Bible as a witness to the life and faith of ancient Israel and earliest Christianity will be emphasized.

Students will be able to:

1. Articulate the place of scripture in the life of the congregation and the role of the pastor in interpretation.
 2. Understand the inspiration and formation of the canon and its authority within the community of faith.
 3. Understand and apply historical, literary, and theological approaches to various types of literature in scripture using Genesis, Hosea and Amos, Mark, and Philippians.
 4. Develop a method of exegesis consistent with the nature and authority of the Bible.
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TEXTBOOKS

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- Gordon Fee & Douglas Stuart: ***How to Read the Bible for All It's Worth***
- John Hayes & Carl Holladay: ***Biblical Exegesis: A Beginner's Handbook***
- Bernhard Anderson: ***The Unfolding Drama of the Bible***

REFERENCE:

- ***The Interpreters One-Volume Commentary***
- ***Harper Collins Bible Dictionary***
- ***NRSV – New Interpreter's Study Bible****

TEXTBOOK SELECTION FOR COURSE OF STUDY

Goal: Two basic texts (**required**) per class. Individual faculty may add another.

Reference books are **required** and are to help a student build their own library.

Assignments assure the use of the reference books; they are not classroom texts.

Supplemental texts are valuable, but **optional** texts if a student wants to pursue an area of ministry.

*Students will have the book from a previous class or Licensing School