

# Eastern Regional Conference: Ministry Training Institute (MTI)

## ME 105 – The History of the Bible

All classes will be held via Zoom

Fall Term 2020

September 1 through November 17 (Tuesday 6 – 9 p.m.)

**Pastor Ed Rosenberry, Instructor**

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Virtual Office Contact Hours: Anytime, as needed

### I. Course Goals and Objectives:

This course contributes to the achievement of the following personal and educational goals:

- Students demonstrate an understanding of how the Bible as we know it came to be.
- Students demonstrate a familiarity with non-canonical and extra-biblical writings.
- Students demonstrate a basic understanding of biblical interpretation and translation.
- Students demonstrate an understanding of biblical inspiration and higher criticism.
- Students demonstrate familiarity with ancient biblical manuscripts and historic printed copies.

### II. Course Methodology:

The course will be taught via a combination of lecture and discussion. Therefore, all students taking the class need to...

- Read the appropriate required materials as listed in this syllabus.
- Participate in class discussion.
- Attend class regularly unless excused for an acceptable reason. (See policy below for absenteeism.)

*NOTE: Anyone auditing the course is expected to engage as noted above but is not required to complete the papers and project listed below under Course Expectations.*

### III. Grading Scale

A	93-100	Outstanding	C+	77-79	Above average
A-	90-92	Superior	C	73-76	Average
B+	87-89	Very good	C-	70-72	Acceptable but below average
B	83-86	Good work	D, F	69↓	Not acceptable
B-	80-82	Satisfactory	I I		Incomplete (requirements not met)

*NOTE: A final grade of D, F or I will not meet the requirements for MTI course fulfillment.*

### IV. Course Expectations

To demonstrate achievement of the goals and objectives students taking the course for credit will...

- Prepare three papers:
  1. A 3-5 page paper that presents a practical plan for a local church to become more aware of the Bible, its content and history. **This paper is due on or before September 24.**
  2. A 3-5 page paper on the importance of the Bible in art, culture, history, law, philosophy, etc. **This paper is due on or before October 22.**
  3. A 3-5 page paper discussing one of the great Bibles: ASV/NASV, Dead Sea Scrolls, Eliot Indian Bible, ESV, Geneva, Gutenberg, KJV, Living Bible, NIB, RSV, Saur Bibles, Sinaiticus, Vulgate, etc. **This paper is due on or before November 19.**

Note: Students will share their insights from this paper with the class on November 19<sup>th</sup>.

- Visit The Museum of the Bible in Washington, DC. This is not an actual requirement to complete the class, but highly recommended for personal enrichment.

## V. Required Textbooks

The following resources may be bought directly online and should be obtained before class begins. Check the following web site (<https://www.vialibri.net>) for copies in the \$15 – 20 more or less range. The reading schedule is noted below. Please read Gragg, pp. 7 – 24 & 67 – 81 before the first class.

1. De Hamel, Christopher; *The Book. A History of the Bible* (London, New York: Phaidon Press Inc., 2001).
2. Gragg, Rod; *The Word – The History of the Bible* (Washington, DC: WND Books, 2018).
3. A personal **Bible** (Bring to class as it will be needed for reference.)

## VI. Schedule of Class Sessions: The class will follow the schedule below with flexibility as needed:

Wk/DATE	TOPICS & READING ASSIGNMENTS		
1. Sept. 1	Introduction, Biblical Background & Perspectives, and Theology		G 7-24, 67-81
2. Sept. 8	The Latin Bible	D 12-39,	G 82-99
3. Sept. 15	The Hebrew and Greek Bible	D 40-63,	G 25-66
4. Sept. 22	Bibles of the Middle Ages I		D 64-113
5. Sept. 29	Bibles of the Middle Ages II		D 114-165
6. October 6	Wycliff and Gutenberg	D – De Hamel	D 166-215
7. October 13	Bibles of the Reformation	G – Gragg	D 216-245, G 100-120
8. October 20	The Bible in English		G 121-179
9. October 27	The Bible in America		D 246-269, G 180-217
10. Nov. 3	Missionary Bibles		D 270-297
11. Nov. 10	Ancient and Contemporary Bibles		D 298-329, G 218-245
12. Nov. 17	Winebrenner and the Bible (Students share papers)		

## VII. Ministry Training Institute Policies:

- All work is due to the professor as stated in the syllabus schedule.
- Late work may be downgraded one letter grade per week when the lateness is not due to an excused absence or other extenuating circumstances. This same policy will also apply to scheduled examinations or tests. There will be no exceptions to the foregoing policy except by action of the MTI program director based on a written petition by the student and recommendation by the instructor.
- Acceptable utilization of laptop computers in the classroom during any class is for note-taking and directly-related course activities only. Unacceptable usage during class time includes e-mail, internet, games, messaging and other activities not directed related to the course. Violations may result in disciplinary action.
- Cell phones are an unnecessary distraction in the classroom. Students should place their phones on vibrate and should not make or receive calls during class unless there are extenuating circumstances, such as for an on-call medical professional, in which case the instructor should be notified prior to class. Violations may result in disciplinary action.
- If you are a student with a disability, it is your responsibility to notify your professor at least one week prior to the needed service so that reasonable accommodations can be made.

- Students are expected to participate in all class sessions. It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor prior to the class, if at all possible, of any intended absence. The instructor may, at their discretion, grant one excused absence but reserves the right to assign additional work to compensate for the absence. Absences in excess of one require the approval of the Director of the MTI and may result in the reduction of a letter grade. A single class absence due to the death of a spouse, parent or member of the student's immediate family shall automatically be considered excused and will simply require the student to make up any work that was due at that class.
- Students are expected to be on time for each class. Lateness, particularly habitual lateness, denigrates the learning experience and undermines the integrity of the learning cohort that is the class. If the instructor decides the reason for the lateness is not acceptable, a penalty in the class participation grade may be the result.

## **MISSION AND VISION**

MTI exists to equip Christ followers so that they can effectively serve God's kingdom.

The MTI is a biblically-based school maturing disciples of Jesus Christ who are impacting people, churches, and communities for Christ.

## **OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

- ❖ Adhering to biblical truth.
- ❖ Teaching, learning and applying sound theology.
- ❖ Advancing personal, Christian faith.
- ❖ Emphasizing the practical aspects of ministry.
- ❖ Developing skills in ministry practices
- ❖ Promoting the multiplication of disciples, servant-leaders and churches.