

BIB-8010 - Exploring God's Word

Lifelong Learning Online Course Syllabus

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Target Audience: Students of God's Word
Course Access: ce-connect.fresno.edu

Course Description

If someone were to ask you why you believe the Bible is the revealed Word of God, what would you tell them? And if you were asked to put in the proper chronological order the following names: David, Moses, Isaac, Jeremiah, Daniel, Methuselah, and Caleb, how do you think you would do? Well, if you are like 99.5% of the Christian population, you would probably experience some anxiety and struggle in the process.

Many Christians know the New Testament fairly well, but for most, the Old Testament is a mystery. We all know the story of David and Goliath, Daniel in the Lion's den, Noah and the flood, and Jonah in the belly of the great fish. However, if we were asked to put the stories in their proper sequential order, we would most likely fall short of the challenge. Furthermore, though we are familiar with the Four Gospels and the Epistles, what about the Book of Acts? What's that all about?

After you have completed this course, you will be able to (1) Give a great defense for why you can trust your Bible (2) Think your way through the entire Old and New Testaments, and (3) Explain to others why we have the Book of Acts between the Gospels and Epistles.

No longer will you think in terms of individual stories in the Bible. After taking this course, you will be able to connect the dots and see the "whole" of God's Story from Genesis to Revelation.

In the second half of the course, you will learn how to study the Bible for yourself. You will learn the skills of observation, interpretation and application. You will understand what it means to develop a Biblical worldview, a personal quiet time with God, and strategies for winning the war against sin.

Required Texts and Course Materials

Note: Other than a Bible, there is no required textbook for this course. There is a leader's guide, which is provided free with the course. It can be downloaded from the course itself.

Online Resources: Relevant online resources that support the course content and encourage further investigation will be available throughout the course assignments. Active hyperlinks are

utilized throughout the course and will link to the appropriate information when clicked. These include videos, podcasts, worksheets, online activities, journal articles and other resources.

Moodle: Moodle is a web-based learning management system used to support flexible teaching and learning in both face-to-face and distance courses (e-learning).

<https://moodle.org> // <https://moodle.org/demo> // <https://docs.moodle.org>

Course Dates

Self-paced; students may enroll at any time and take up to one year, from the date of registration, to complete assignments.

Fresno Pacific University Student Learning Outcomes (FPU-SLO)

FPU-SLO 1	Student Learning Outcomes Oral Communication: Students will <i>exhibit</i> clear, engaging, and confident oral communication – in both individual and group settings – and will critically <i>evaluate</i> content and delivery components.
FPU-SLO 2	Written Communication: Students will <i>demonstrate</i> proficient written communication by <i>articulating</i> a clear focus, <i>synthesizing</i> arguments, and utilizing standard formats in order to <i>inform</i> and <i>persuade</i> others.
FPU-SLO 3	Content Knowledge: Students will <i>demonstrate</i> comprehension of content-specific knowledge and the ability to apply it in theoretical, personal, professional, or societal contexts.
FPU-SLO 4	Reflection: Students will <i>reflect</i> on their personal and professional growth and <i>provide evidence</i> of how such reflection is utilized to manage personal and vocational improvement.
FPU-SLO 5	Critical Thinking: Students will <i>apply</i> critical thinking competencies by <i>generating</i> probing questions, <i>recognizing</i> underlying assumptions, <i>interpreting</i> and <i>evaluating</i> relevant information, and <i>applying</i> their understandings to new situations.
FPU-SLO 6	Moral Reasoning: Students will <i>identify</i> and <i>apply</i> moral reasoning and ethical decision-making skills, and <i>articulate</i> the norms and principles underlying a Christian world-view.
FPU-SLO 7	Service: Students will <i>demonstrate</i> service and reconciliation as a way of leadership.
FPU-SLO 8	Cultural and Global Perspective: Students will <i>identify</i> personal, cultural, and global perspectives and will employ these perspectives to <i>evaluate</i> complex systems.
FPU-SLO 9	Quantitative Reasoning: Students will accurately <i>compute</i> calculations and symbolic operations and <i>explain</i> their use in a field of study.
FPU-SLO 10	Information Literacy: Students will <i>identify</i> information needed in order to fully understand a topic or task, <i>explain</i> how that information is organized, <i>identify</i> the best sources of information for a given enquiry, <i>locate</i> and critically <i>evaluate</i> sources, and accurately and effectively <i>share</i> that information.

Continuing Education Program Student Learning Outcomes

CE 1	Demonstrate proficient written communication by articulating a clear focus, synthesizing arguments, and utilizing standard formats in order to inform and persuade others, and present information applicable to targeted use.
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CE 2	Demonstrate comprehension of content-specific knowledge and the ability to apply it in theoretical, personal, professional, or societal contexts.
CE 3	Reflect on their personal and professional growth and provide evidence of how such reflection is utilized to manage personal and professional improvement.
CE 4	Apply critical thinking competencies by generating probing questions, recognizing underlying assumptions, interpreting and evaluating relevant information, and applying their understandings to the professional setting.
CE 5	Reflect on values that inspire high standards of professional and ethical behavior as they pursue excellence in applying new learning to their chosen field.
CE 6	Identify information needed in order to fully understand a topic or task, organize that information, identify the best sources of information for a given enquiry, locate and critically evaluate sources, and accurately and effectively share that information.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) for This Course

Student Learning Outcomes for This Course By the end of this course student will be able to:	Continuing Education Program Student Learning Outcomes Addressed*
1. Identify several evidences for the authenticity of the Bible.	CE 3, 5
2. Describe three flows of thought that are found throughout the Old and New Testaments.	CE 4, 6
3. Summarize the major events of the Old and New Testament in chronological order.	CE 5
4. Provide an overview of the four gospel accounts of Jesus' ministry.	CE 3, 6
5. Describe the organization of the books of the Old and New Testaments.	CE 5, 6
6. Recognize the flow of three major themes throughout the Old and New Testaments	CE 2, 4
7. Develop a personal quiet time with God.	CE 2, 3, 5

* Please refer to the section on **Continuing Education Program Student Learning Outcomes**

Topics, Assignments, and Activities

Module Title	Module Assignments and Activities
Welcome Section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction video • Course Syllabus • Introduce Yourself Forum
Lesson 1 – The Trustworthiness of the Bible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson 1 Overview • Review the Leader's Guide for Lesson 1 • Watch Evidence #1 Biblical Manuscripts • Watch Evidence #2 Archaeology • Watch Evidence #3 Fulfilled Prophecy & Statistics • Quiz #1: Trustworthiness of the Bible
Lesson 2 – The Unifying Themes of the Bible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson 2 Overview • Review Leader's Guide for Lesson 2 • Watch Theme 1: The Scarlet Stream of Sin

Module Title	Module Assignments and Activities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch Theme 2: The Crimson Tide of Blood • Watch Theme 3: The River of Life – Jesus Christ • Quiz #2: The Three Flows of Thought
Lesson 3 – An Overview of the Old Testament	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson 3 Overview • Review Leader’s Guide for Lesson 3 • Watch Part 1: Introduction to the Old Testament • Watch Part 2: The Story of Mankind • Watch Part 3: The Settlement of Israel • Watch Part 4: The Kingdom & Exile Periods of Israel • Watch Part 5: The Triumphal Return of Israel • Quiz #3: The Old Testament
Lesson 4 – An Overview of the New Testament	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson 4 Overview • Review Leader’s Guide for Lesson 4 • Watch Part 1: An Overview of the Gospels • Watch Part 2: An Overview of Jesus’ Ministry • Watch Part 3: The Story about Jesus & His Church • Quiz #4: The New Testament
Lesson 5 – Skills of Observation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson 5 Overview • Review Leader’s Guide for Lesson 5 • Watch Video 1: Why Study the Bible? • Watch Video 2: Requirements for Personal Bible Study • Watch Video 3: Inductive & Deductive Bible Study • Watch Video 4 Observation Skills with God’s Word • Quiz #5 on Observation Skills
Lesson 6 – Exploring Deeper into God’s Word	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson 6 Overview • Review Leader’s Guide for Lesson 6 • Watch Video 5: Interpretation Strategies • Watch Video 6: Context & Cross-References • Watch Video 7: Understanding the Culture • Watch Video 8: Finding Applications • Quiz #6 on Interpretation Skills
Lesson 7 – Developing a Biblical Worldview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson 7 Overview • Review Leader’s Guide for Lesson 7 • Watch Video 9: Introduction to Worldview • Watch Video 10: Biblical Worldview • Watch Video 11: Incorrect Worldviews in the Church • Watch Video 12: How to Develop a Biblical Worldview • Quiz #7 on Interpretation Skills
Lesson 8 – Meeting with God	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson 8 Overview • Review Leader’s Guide for Lesson 8 • Watch Video 13: Why Develop a Quiet Time • Watch Video 14: Meeting with God • Watch Video 15: Resources for Your Quiet Time • Watch Video 16: Using the ACTS Acronym • My Walk with God Plan
Lesson 9 – Winning the War	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson 9 Overview • Review Leader’s Guide for Lesson 9

Module Title	Module Assignments and Activities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch Video 17: Introduction to Winning the War • Watch Video 18: Dealing with Our Sinful Nature • Watch Video 19: Beating the World System • Watch Video 20: Defeating the Enemy • Lesson 9 Quiz • Final Reflection Forum • Course Evaluation • Request a Certificate
Course Wrap-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Reflection Forum • Course Evaluation • Course Completion Checklist • Request a Certificate

Instructor/Student Contact Information

This course does not provide contact with the instructor. Lesson Quizzes are included in the course for students to process the information learned but are required only for those students requesting a Certificate of Completion.

Services for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities are eligible for reasonable accommodations in their academic work in all classes. In order to receive assistance, the student with a disability must provide the Academic Support Center with documentation, which describes the specific disability. The documentation must be from a qualified professional in the area of the disability (i.e. psychologist, physician or educational diagnostician). Students with disabilities should contact the Academic Support Center to discuss academic and other needs as soon as they are diagnosed with a disability. Once documentation is on file, arrangements for reasonable accommodations can be made. For more information and for downloadable forms, please go to <https://www.fresno.edu/students/academic-support/services-students-disabilities>.

Technology Requirements

To successfully complete the course requirements, course participants will need Internet access, can send and receive email, know how to manage simple files in a word processing program, and have a basic understanding of the Internet. Please remember that the instructor is not able to offer technical support. If you need technical support, please contact your Internet Service Provider.

Moodle: This course will be delivered totally online. Moodle is a learning management system that provides students access to online resources, documents, graded assignments, quizzes, discussion forums, etc. Moodle is easy to learn and has a friendly user interface. To learn more about Moodle, go to https://docs.moodle.org/33/en/Student_FAQ. There are also some student tutorials on the Center for Online Learning website at Fresno Pacific University - <https://col.fresno.edu/student>.

Moodle Site Login and Passwords: Students will need to have internet access to log onto <https://ce-connect.fresno.edu>. The username and password numbers for Moodle access will be sent to you by the university using the email address you submitted at the time of registration. The instructor will then contact you with a welcome communication. If you need help with your username and password recovery, please contact the Continuing Education office at (800) 372-

5505 or (559) 453-2000 during regular office hours - Mon-Fri 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. or email them at prof.dev@fresno.edu.

Getting Help with Moodle: If you need help with Moodle, please contact the Center for Online Learning (COL), by telephone or the website. Help by phone (559) 453-3460 is available Mon-Thurs 8:00 am to 8:00 pm and on Fridays from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, or by filling out a "Request Services" form at <https://col.fresno.edu/contact/request-services>. Please identify that you are with the "School = Continuing Education".

Requesting a Certificate of Completion

When all work for the course has been completed, students will need to logon to the Continuing Education website (<https://ce.fresno.edu/my-account>) and "Request Certificate of Completion". Please allow at least two weeks for the certificate to be sent. For more information, see the Continuing Education Policies and Procedures at <https://ce.fresno.edu/ce-policies-and-procedures>.

University Policies and Procedures

Students are responsible for becoming familiar with the information presented in the Academic Catalog and for knowing and observing all policies and procedures related to their participation in the university community. A summary of university policies may be found on the university website at <https://www.fresno.edu/students/registrars-office/academic-catalogs>.