

Kolbe Academy

INTRODUCTION TO SACRED SCRIPTURE HIGH SCHOOL THEOLOGY

Introduction to the Bible, Fr. Laux
The Catechism of the Catholic Church

"The LORD thy God will raise up to thee a Prophet of thy nation and thy brethren like unto me: Him shalt thou hear." Deut 18:15

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SYLLABUS	1
COURSE DESCRIPTION:	1
COURSE TEXTS:	1
COURSE OBJECTIVES:	1
SCOPE AND SEQUENCE:	2
COURSE PLAN METHODOLOGY:	5
SEMESTER REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	6
COURSE PLAN	8
FIRST SEMESTER	8
SECOND SEMESTER	26
PAPER TOPIC ANSWER KEY	46
FIRST SEMESTER	46
SECOND SEMESTER	52
EXAMS	57
EXAM ANSWER KEYS	68

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COURSE TITLE: Introduction to Sacred Scripture

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to familiarize the student with the revealed word of God. It explains how we come to know Christ, the Word of God, better through both the Old and New Testaments. The course introduces the student to methods of reading and understanding God's Word and teaches the student the content and significance of the Old and New Testaments. The Bible History course offered in 7th & 8th Grade is a helpful pre-requisite to this course.

Please see course plan methodology if student is seeking the Kolbe Academy Core or Honors designation for this course.

COURSE TEXTS:

- BIBLE**  *The Holy Bible*. Revised Standard Version: Second Edition. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2006. Preferred
- CCC**  Liberia Editrice Vaticana and United States Catholic Conference. *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. New York: Doubleday, 1997.
- LAUX**  Laux, Fr. John, M.A. *Introduction to the Bible*. Rockford: Tan Books and Publishing, Inc, 1990.
- Study Guide**  Kolbe Academy Home School. *Introduction to the Bible Study Guide*. Napa: Kolbe Academy, 2005.
- Humani SG**  Kolbe Academy Home School. *Humani Generis Study Guide*. Napa: Kolbe Academy, 2000.

Church documents:

- ❖ *Providentissimus Deus* (Leo XIII)
- ❖ *Praeantia Scripturae- Motu Proprio* (St. Pius X)
- ❖ *Spiritus Paraclitus- On St. Jerome* (Benedict XV)
- ❖ *On the Historicity of the Gospels*, (from the CDF Pontifical Biblical Commission, 1964)
- ❖ *Divino Afflante Spiritu* (Pius XII)
- ❖ *Humani Generis* (Pius XII)
- ❖ *Dei Verbum* (Vatican II)

These documents can be read in the online library at www.ewtn.com.

Go to Library→Document Library→ Keyword and enter the title of the document.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This course will enable the student to:

- ❖ Understand and embrace the Church's teaching on Divine Revelation, in both Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition
- ❖ Understand the role of the Magisterium in preserving, defending, interpreting, and explaining the Word of God
- ❖ Become familiar with the Messianic prophecies and their fulfillment in Christ, and recognize the Church, in her four marks, prefigured in Israel

- ❖ Know how to read God's Word with understanding and begin to read it prayerfully and profitably
- ❖ Understand the historical and eternal significance of the Incarnation, public ministry, Crucifixion, and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ
- ❖ Trace the development of the Church from its founding by our Lord to the death of the last Apostle and the closing of public revelation, and to understand our Lord's provisions for the continuity of His Holy Church from then to now
- ❖ Find and explain the New Testament passages that teach the Real Presence of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, as well as the passages referring to the other six sacraments

SCOPE AND SEQUENCE:

The entire course expands upon and is guided by the *Catechism of The Catholic Church*.

A	DIVINE REVELATION IN GENERAL	CCC
1	The Divine Plan	50 - 53
2	Christ Jesus, Mediator and Fullness of all Revelation	65 - 67
3	The Apostolic Tradition, Sacred Tradition, and Sacred Scripture	74 - 83
4	The Magisterium as Interpreter of Divine Revelation	84 - 95
5	The Inspiration and Truth of Sacred Scripture	101 - 108
6	Reading the Scripture as God's Word	109 - 114
7	The Senses of Scripture	115 - 119
8	The Canon of Scripture	120
9	The New Testament and its Unity with the Old	124 - 130
10	Sacred Scripture in the Life of the Church	131 - 133
B	THE OLD TESTAMENT	121 - 123
1	Genesis 1: Creation	279 - 301 337 - 354
2	Adam and Eve and Original Sin	355 - 373
	a. Man created in the image of God	374 - 412
	b. The Fall and Original Sin	413 - 421
	c. Revelation at the beginning of human history	54 - 55
3	The covenant with Noah	56 - 58
4	God chooses Abraham	59 - 61 2570 - 2572
5	a. God forms His people Israel	62 - 64
	b. Prefiguring the Church	759 - 762
6	The Exodus and the revealing of God's Name and His Law	203 - 204 1961 - 1964
	a. The Ten Commandments	2056 - 2074
	b. Typologies: The Holy Eucharist in the manna; The Crucifixion and sacred images in the serpent on the pole; The authority of the Church in that of Moses; Elements of the Creed revealed and foreshadowed	1334
7	Joshua and the Judges; The conquests: Typology of the struggle against sin; Samson; Jephthah and the consequences of partial fidelity	

- 8 Great men of the Old Testament: Samuel, Saul, and David; Their infidelity and fidelity
- 9 The Temple of Solomon: prefigures Christ; The Exile and its allegorical function
- 10 The Prophets. Special focus upon messianic prophecies and the necessity for radical trust in God in all circumstances; Additional elements of the creed revealed and foreshadowed, here and in the Psalms and Wisdom literature
- 11 The Psalms and the Wisdom literature; Messianic prophecies; The value of these books in a strong prayer life
- 12 I and II Maccabees and the intertestamental period; the rise of the Roman Empire as a preparation for the Gospel; Martyrdom for the truth

C	NEW TESTAMENT	124 - 127
1	The Incarnation; Christology	456 - 483
2	The Annunciation, Visitation, Nativity, Presentation, and Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple; Their historical character and spiritual significance; The Blessed Virgin Mary as His Mother and ours	484 - 534
3	The public ministry of Our Lord: His teachings and actions; The Church's understanding of His sayings and parables, especially ones most important for Christian discipleship today and ones difficult to understand; The kind of life He calls us to live	535 - 570
4	The public ministry of Our Lord: His miracles, their historicity and purposes	
5	The Seven Sacraments: their establishment by Our Lord	
	a. Baptism	1223 - 1228
	b. Confirmation	1286 - 1289
	c. The Holy Eucharist	1337 - 1344
	d. Penance	1441 - 1442
	e. Anointing of the Sick	1506 - 1510
	f. Holy Orders	1544 - 1553
	g. Marriage	1612 - 1617
6	The Passion and Crucifixion; The Atoning Sacrifice	571 - 637
7	The Resurrection	638 - 658
8	The Ascension	659 - 667
9	The Acts of the Apostles: the Church, as Christ's Body continues His work; The primacy of St. Peter; The mission of St. Paul; The admission of the Gentiles, and the Church's universal mission	552 - 553 765, 816 862
10	The Epistles of St. Paul: Standards set for all time; Recurring problems; Recurring blessings	
11	The Catholic Epistles; Gnosticism; The revolt against lawful authority; The character of the first century Church	
12	The Revelation to St. John. Can it be understood? Avoiding hysteria and rationalism; The four last things	

RESOURCES:

Two primary tools for Scriptural study are Biblical commentaries and concordances.

1. **COMMENTARIES** are written by various authors on the Scriptures. Biblical commentaries are generally *not* Catholic doctrines; and Biblical commentators are not to be considered infallible guides to reading the Scriptures. Use the commentators as guides, but always measure their commentary against the express belief and teachings of the Church. The Fathers of the Church wrote many wonderful commentaries on every book of the Bible, they good sources to use for biblical commentary.
2. **CONCORDANCES** are helpful tools in Scriptural studies. A concordance lists words and phrases from the Bible, and indicates where that particular word or phrase occurs in the Bible. Concordances have been created for most translations of the Bible. You can use an online concordance for the New American Bible (the version read at Mass in the United States), available at www.vatican.va.

The student should have recourse to orthodox Catholic sources such as:

- www.vatican.va and www.ewtn.com libraries. (**Note the addresses carefully!**)
- The Navarre Bible Commentaries. Publishing info and Dates vary. (See Scepter Publishers)
- Scott Hahn books - Orthodox and easy to read
 - *A Father Who Keeps His Promises*. Ann Arbor: Servant Publications, 1998.
 - *The Lamb's Supper: The Mass as Heaven on Earth*. New York: Double Day, 1999.
 - *Scripture Matters: Essays on Reading the Bible from the Heart of the Church*. Steubenville, Ohio: Emmaus Road, 2003.
 - *Understanding "Our Father": Biblical Reflections on the Lord's Prayer*. Steubenville, Ohio: Emmaus Road, 2002.
- *The Catholic Encyclopedia*. Ed. C. G. Herbermann, et al. New York: Robert Appleton Company, 1911. (and to a limited extent *The New Catholic Encyclopedia*. Washington D.C.: Catholic University of America, 1967 - 1995.)
- Butler, Fr. Alban, *Lives of the Saints*. Rockford, Ill.: Tan Books and Publishing, 1995.
- Orchard, Bernard, *A Catholic Commentary on Holy Scripture*. Catholic University of America: Edinburgh: Catholic University of America, 1954. (but not *The Jerome Biblical Commentary*)
 - To find solutions to problems such as "the brothers of Jesus"
 - The conflict between the genealogies of St. Matthew and St. Luke, etc.
- Dupuis, Jacques and Neuner, J., *The Christian Faith in the Doctrinal Documents of the Catholic Church*. New Revised Edition. Eds. New York: Alba House, 1983.
- Hardon, Fr. John A. *The Catholic Catechism*. New York: Doubleday, 1981.
- Hardon, Fr. John A. *The Question and Answer Catholic Catechism*. New York: Double Day, 1981.
 - *Old Testament Questions* 59-91, 92-193, 492-837, 902-946, and 1117-1118
 - *New Testament Questions* 194-329, 638-875, 947-1019, 1062-1103, and 1534-1553
- Duggan, G.H., *Beyond Reasonable Doubt: Essays in Catholic Apologetics*. Boston: Pauline Books and Media, 1987.
 - Chapters IV-VI for the apologetic section, as well as for study of the claims of our Lord and His Resurrection
 - Chapters VII and VIII for the establishment of the Church and the papal primacy

COURSE PLAN METHODOLOGY:

- 📖 We recommend starting each week by reading over the course plan for the week, next reading Fr. Laux and CCC readings, next any additional readings, and finishing up with the Bible readings after having the direction and introduction to those readings from the other sources.
- 📖 Students should know those points listed in the ➡ **Key Points** section. Discuss these points with your student to make sure he has a firm grasp of each.
- 📖 The reading is devotional as well as academic. As the main point of this course is to introduce the student to the Old and New Testament it would be beneficial to read from the Bible as much as possible.
- 📖 It is a good practice to give weekly quizzes based on midterm and semester exam questions that pertain to information studied that week. In that way, the information being studied will be reflected upon and reinforced immediately, better preparing the student for the exams. This quiz could be given using 4 – 6 questions from the study guide questions assigned that week.
- 📖 Midterm and semester exams are closed book exams, designed to be taken within a two-hour period. Parents are welcome to give the student detailed study guidelines (based on the test) during the review week, but it is not recommended that a student be allowed to see the test or exact questions and/or answers in advance.
- 📖 Note-taking skills, organizational abilities, and oral and written recapitulation should be developed throughout the course.
- 📖 Please refer to page 6 of the syllabus for a description of requirements for Kolbe Core (K) and Honors (H) coursework.

DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS:

Summa Cum Laude students must complete the entire Kolbe Academy proposed curriculum as written. **Summa** students must fulfill the requirements for the Kolbe Core (K) or Kolbe Honors (H) course as outlined in this Theology course plan. In 9th grade, **Summa** students must pursue the (H) designation in at least one of the following courses: Theology, Literature, or History. In 10th grade, **Summa** students must pursue the (H) designation in at least two of the following courses: Theology, English, Literature, or History. In 11th grade, **Summa** students must pursue the (H) designation in at least three of the following courses: Theology, English, Literature, or History. In 12th grade, **Summa** students must pursue the (H) designation in all of the following courses: Theology, English, Literature, and History. **Magna Cum Laude** and **Standard** diploma candidates may choose to pursue the (H) or (K) designation, but are not required to do so. If the student is not pursuing either of these designations, the parent has the option of altering the course plan as desired. **Magna Cum Laude** students must include 4 years of Theology in high school. **Standard** diploma students must include 3 years of Theology in high school.

KOLBE CORE (K) AND HONORS (H) COURSES:

- ❖ Students pursuing the **Kolbe Core (K)** designation must do all of the readings **except** those listed as HONORS. **Kolbe Core students need to complete 4 of the 14 weekly papers each semester;** they should have discussions or write informal essays in response to the rest of the weekly paper topics as these are major themes and will appear in some way on the final exam.
- ❖ Students pursuing the **Kolbe Honors (H)** designation must do all of the readings. The readings listed as HONORS are done in addition to the rest of the assignments, not in lieu of them. **Honors students need to complete 8 of the 14 weekly papers each semester;** they should have discussions or write informal essays in response to the rest of the weekly paper topics as these are major themes and will appear in some way on the final exam.
- ❖ For students who are not seeking either the Kolbe Core (K) or Honors (H) designation for this course, parents may alter the course as they so desire.

SEMESTER REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

Designation*	No Designation	K	H
Course Title	Intro to Sacred Scripture	Intro to Sacred Scripture	Intro to Sacred Scripture
Semester 1	Any TWO samples of written and graded work from Semester 1.	1. Complete Midterm 1 Exam 2. Complete Semester 1 Exam	1. Complete Midterm 1 Exam 2. Complete Semester 1 Exam 3. EIGHT Paper Topic Essays
Semester 2	Any TWO samples of written and graded work from Semester 2.	1. Complete Midterm 2 Exam 2. Complete Semester 2 Exam	1. Complete Midterm 2 Exam 2. Complete Semester 2 Exam 3. EIGHT Paper Topic Essays

*Designation refers to designation type on transcript. K designates a Kolbe Academy Core course. H designates a Kolbe Academy Honors course.

The Kolbe academic advisor will verify that the required work was completed successfully and award the Kolbe Core (K) or Honors (H) designation. The Kolbe academic advisor has the final decision in

awarding the designation for the course. **If no designation on the transcript is desired, parents may alter the lesson plan in any way they choose, and any two written samples of work is acceptable to receive credit for the course each semester.** If you have any questions regarding what is required for the (K) or (H) designations or diploma type status, please contact the academic advisory department at 707-255-6499 ext. 5 or by email at advisors@kolbe.org.

◆◆◆ FIRST SEMESTER ◆◆◆

WEEK 1		
CCC	50 – 53 101 – 108 120	Revelation of God Sacred Scripture The Canon of Scripture
LAUX	1 – 14	Holy Scripture: Definition and Division through Oldest Manuscripts
HONORS	<i>Providentissimus Deus</i> (Leo XIII) <i>Praestantia Scripturae</i> (Pope Pius X)	*Note esp. Section 1 st and Last 2 Sections
Study Guide	Part I: Questions 1 - 14	
Paper Topic	What does it mean when we say that the Bible is an inspired book?	
<p>↪ Key Points CCC: Know the two sources of Divine Revelation (Scripture and Tradition), Inspiration of Scripture, types of books in the Bible (historical, doctrinal, prophetic), and the Canon of Sacred Scripture.</p> <p>LAUX states that there are 45 books in the Old Testament. However, in more recent translations of the Bible, the book of Lamentations is separated from Jeremiah, making the number 46 as stated in the CCC. Discuss the differences between the Catholic and Protestant Canons, and know which books were excluded from the Protestant Bible [Tobias, Judith, Wisdom, Ecclesiastics, Baruch, 1 and 2 Maccabees, Esther 10:4 - 16; 14, and Daniel 3:24 - 29; 13:14, Hebrews, James, Jude, and Apocalypse (Revelation)]. Later, Protestants re-adopted the New Testament books into their canon, so presently both the Catholic and Protestant New Testament canons are the same. Also, discuss how Scripture is Holy in content, purpose, and origin.</p> <p>HONORS: <i>Providentissimus Deus</i> is a key document for Scriptural studies. Due to the language, it can be challenging, but it should be read and discussed. Key Points to discuss from this document are: Inspiration of Sacred Scripture, how the inerrancy of Scripture is not limited to faith and morals, the authority and mission of the Church to interpret Scripture, how to study Scripture, and the need for diligent Scriptural studies.</p> <p><i>Praestantia Scripturae:</i> Very brief reiteration of some points of the previous letter; admonishes those who interpret Scripture for their own ends rather than in union with Tradition.</p>		
<div>Notes</div>		

WEEK 2		
CCC	74 – 95 109 – 119 121 - 123	Transmission of Divine Revelation The Holy Spirit, Interpreter of Scripture The Old Testament
LAUX	14 – 30	Most Important Versions through Historical Credibility of Old Testament
HONORS	Divino Afflante Spiritu (Pius XII)	
Study Guide	Part I: Questions 15 - 17, Part II, Chapter I: Questions: 1 - 6	
Paper Topic	Why does the Catholic Church reject the Protestant belief in Sola Scriptura “Only Scripture”? Discuss the two ways that Divine Revelation is transmitted, and the authority of the Church to interpret and safeguard the interpretation of Holy Scripture.	
<p>➔ Key Points CCC and <i>Divino Afflante Spiritus</i>: D.A.S. is another key Church document for Scriptural studies. Discuss the two ways that Divine Revelation is transmitted, the Holy Spirit as the Interpreter of Scripture, the authority of the Church to interpret and safeguard the interpretation of Holy Scripture, and how the Old Testament prepares for and prefigures Christ.</p> <p>LAUX: Know the importance and history of the Greek Septuagint and the Latin Vulgate.</p> <p>Be able to distinguish Sacred Tradition from regular Church traditions. Church traditions, or “little t” traditions as we sometimes call them, refer to rubrics, customs, and practices that arise in various times and places within the Church. They can be very praise-worthy customs but are not matters of doctrinal faith. These “little t” traditions can be added, changed, or done away with according to the mind of the Church. Examples would include such practices as the use of red vestments for feast days of martyrs, receiving Holy Communion kneeling and standing, the custom of praying the Rosary, its various mysteries, or the age required for reception of the Sacraments.</p> <p>These customs are not matters of doctrinal truth that have been passed down to us by the Apostles, but are customs and standards put in place by bishops and Popes at particular times and places for the good and edification of the people. If the Pope or bishop has mandated obedience to one of these customs, it is binding in conscience so long as the mandate is in effect. However, the Church <i>can</i> change these. Breaking such a tradition, if it has been mandated, is a matter of disobedience against proper authority.</p> <p>On the other hand, Sacred Tradition, or “big T” Tradition as we can distinguish it, refers to that which was Divinely revealed. The Church holds that the Sacred Deposit of Faith through Divine Revelation was complete with the death of the last Apostle St. John around 70 A.D. God entrusted His Divine Revelation to the Church through both Sacred Scripture and Sacred Oral Tradition. The Sacred Deposit of Faith was passed on to us through the Old Testament and by Christ and His Apostles. Those things that God revealed through Sacred Tradition or Scripture cannot be changed. Therefore, to break with Sacred Tradition is not only a matter of disobedience but also of heresy. Examples of Sacred Tradition would include tenets of the faith, such as Christ’s Resurrection, the fact that Jesus is both true God and true man, Mary’s perpetual virginity, Mary’s Assumption, and the fact that the Eucharist is truly the Body and Blood of Jesus. Sacred Tradition cannot be changed, but it can be more deeply understood and defined; this process is called the development of doctrine. This does not mean development in the sense of creating something new. (See also CCC 74 – 95)</p>		
Notes		

WEEK 3		
CCC	279 – 301 337 - 349 355 – 384	Creation and the Creator The Visible World Man, Adam and Eve
BIBLE	Genesis 1 – 2	
Church Doc.	Humani Generis, Pope Pius XII;	
Humani SG	Questions 1 - 16	
Paper Topic	Re-read paragraphs 340, 357 and 358 of the CCC and utilize these in your paper. According to Divine Revelation, for what purpose did God create man?	
<p>➔ Key Points CCC: This is a beautiful reading to reflect upon. Discuss God as the Creator, man’s relation to his Creator, and man’s place in the cosmos and the world. <i>Paragraph 340</i> from the CCC states, “God wills the interdependence of creatures.” God did not create man to be alone, but to live in communion with other persons, creatures, and indeed the whole of creation. This is key to understanding Catholic belief in regard to man and society; moreover, it reflects something of God in the Blessed Trinity. (See CCC 249- 267)</p> <p>Later in the year, it would be very beneficial to revisit the subject while studying Plato and his ideal society. Comparisons can be made of the relationships between God and man, and man and community.</p> <p>Humani Generis: The Church has thus far not made any definitive statement as to whether or not evolution of the human <i>body</i> is true. It does allow speculation on various areas of evolution at this time, however some elements of the various theories have been condemned. Know what is open to speculation and what has been condemned, and why. What other philosophical errors are condemned in this encyclical?</p>		
<div>Notes</div>		