

Course I: The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture

Course I Purpose:

The purpose of this course is to give students a general knowledge and appreciation of the Sacred Scriptures. Through their study of the Bible they will come to encounter the living Word of God, Jesus Christ. In the course they will learn about the Bible, authored by God through Inspiration, and its value to people throughout the world. If they have not been taught this earlier, they will learn how to read the Bible and will become familiar with the major sections of the Bible and the books included in each section. The students will pay particular attention to the Gospels, where they may grow to know and love Jesus Christ more personally.

Doctrinal Elements of a Curriculum Framework for the Development of Catechetical Materials for Young People of High School Age - USCCB

Course I Essential Questions:

- How does the Catholic Tradition read, interpret, and apply Sacred Scripture in everyday life?
- How do I read, interpret, and apply Sacred Scripture in everyday life? How can Scripture awaken faith and relationship with Jesus Christ?

Course I Important Concepts/Terms:

Canon of Sacred Scripture	Inerrant
Covenant	Johannine tradition
Deposit of Faith	Magisterium
Deuterocanonical	Natural Revelation
Divine Inspiration	Old and New Testament
Divine Revelation	Ontological
Epistle	Paschal Mystery
Exegesis	Salvation History
Hermeneutic	Synoptic
Incarnation	

Course I Archdiocese of Seattle Standards:

1. Explain how God's creative love made each of us with a desire and capacity to respond to the gift of faith.
USCCB Framework: (I, A, 1) (CCC, nos. 27-30, 44-45, 1718)
2. Explain what it means to say that all humans desire a relationship with God, and how God desires a relationship with them.
USCCB Framework: (I, A, 2) (CCC, nos. 27-30, 44-45, 1718)
3. Differentiate the joy one receives from his or her relationship with God from the happiness that comes from other realities.
USCCB Framework: (I,A, 3) (CCC, nos. 27-30, 44-45, 1718)
4. Explain how we recognize God through both the physical world and the human person. (Natural Revelation)
USCCB Framework: (I,A, 1) (CCC, nos. 32-34)
5. Cite and explain Scripture references attesting to Natural Revelation, e.g. Genesis, Wisdom, Paul's Letter to the Romans.
USCCB Framework: (I,B, a) (CCC, no. 32)
6. Summarize and explain St. Thomas Aquinas' five ontological proofs for the existence of God.
USCCB Framework: (I,B,1,C,1)
7. Define Divine Revelation and give evidence of this from Sacred Scripture.
USCCB Framework: (I,B,2,a-b) (CCC, nos. 50-53, 68-69)
8. Explain how Jesus, the Incarnate Word of God, is the fullness of Divine Revelation.
USCCB Framework: (I,2,c) (CCC, nos. 65-67, 73, 100-104, 134, 423)
9. Explain how the relationship between Sacred Scripture and Apostolic Tradition compose the Deposit of Faith.
USCCB Framework: (I,B, 3, a-c) (CCC, nos. 105-135)
10. Identify the role of the Holy Spirit in the development of Sacred Scripture (Divine Inspiration).
USCCB Framework: (II, A, 2) (CCC, nos., 105-106, 136)
11. Describe how the context of the Biblical authors communicated and informed the writing of Sacred Scripture.
USCCB Framework: (II, A, 2) (CCC, nos., 105-106, 136)

12. Differentiate Biblical inerrancy within matters of morals and faith from a literal interpretation of the Bible.
USCCB Framework: (II, A, 4) (CCC, no. 107)
13. Articulate the stages of Biblical development, from oral tradition to the Canon of Scripture.
USCCB Framework: (II, B, 1-2) (CCC, nos. 105-106, 135-136)
14. Explain and provide examples of the relationship between Sacred Scripture and the Church.
USCCB Framework: (II, B, 3 a-d) (CCC, nos. 120-138)
15. Explain and provide examples of the relationship between Sacred Scripture and communal prayer.
USCCB Framework: (II, C, 1-3, a-c) (CCC, nos. 131-141, 1176-1177, 103, 1096, 1100, 1184, 1190, 1349)
16. Explain and provide examples of the relationship between Sacred Scripture and personal prayer.
USCCB Framework: (II, C, 3 d-e) (CCC, nos. 1172, 2708, 2653-2654)
17. Describe the Magisterium's role in articulating the Catholic interpretation of the Bible.
USCCB Framework: (III, B, 1-6) (CCC, nos. 109-114, 137)
18. Apply the four senses of Scripture to Biblical texts: literal, spiritual allegorical, moral, and anagogical, and identify the genres found within the Bible.
USCCB Framework: (III, C, 1-2) (CCC, nos. 115, 118-119)
19. Identify how there is no conflict between scientific fact and religious truth in Sacred Scripture.
USCCB Framework: (III, D, 1-2) (CCC, nos. 37, 159, 1960)
20. Differentiate the Catholic interpretation of Sacred Scripture from literalist or fundamentalist approaches.
USCCB Framework: (III, D, 3)
21. Describe how Biblical archaeology informs Catholic understanding of Scripture.
USCCB Framework: (III, E 1-2)
22. Identify the structure and organization of the Old and New Testaments, and explain the relationship between them.
USCCB Framework: (IV, A, 1 a) (CCC, nos. 121-123, 138)

23. Differentiate Catholic from non-Catholic Bibles based on their inclusion of the deuterocanonical texts.
USCCB Framework: (IV, A, 1 b) (CCC, nos. 121-123, 138)
24. Examine how God's covenant with humanity through Salvation History is progressive.
USCCB Framework: (IV, A, 2) (CCC, nos. 121-123)
25. Identify and describe the four major sections of the Old Testament: Pentateuch/Torah, Historical Books, Wisdom Books, and Prophetic Books.
USCCB Framework: (IV, A, 3)
26. Identify and describe the different sections of the New Testament: Gospels, the Acts of the Apostles, the Epistles or Letters, and the Book of Revelation.
USCCB Framework: (IV, b, 1-2) (CCC, nos. 120, 124-127)
27. Articulate the factors of the formation of each Gospel: historical context, author, intended audience, and the author's particular image of Jesus.
USCCB Framework: (V, A-B) (CCC, nos. 125-126, 139)
28. Describe how the Gospels occupy the central place in Scripture.
USCCB Framework: (V, A, 1-3)
29. Describe why Matthew, Mark, and Luke are called the Synoptic Gospels.
USCCB Framework: (V, C, 1-3, D, 1-3) (CCC, nos. 512-667)
30. Compare and contrast the Synoptic Gospels with the Gospel of John.
USCCB Framework: (V, D, 103) (CCC, nos. 241, 291, 547-550)
31. Differentiate the Synoptic Gospels telling of a particular story.
USCCB Framework: (V, C, 4) (CCC, nos. 512-667)
32. Identify three unique contributions of the Gospel of John for understanding Jesus Christ.
USCCB Framework: (V, D) (CCC, nos. 241, 291, 547-550)

Course I Guiding Questions

What are our human longings? What do we hunger for? What is the source of human longing for God?

How does God reveal Himself to humanity and why is this important to understand? How do we come to know the divine?

How has God revealed Himself to the Church?

How do you personally come to know God?

How did God reveal Himself to (your school's namesake/religious order/founder)?

How is divine revelation transmitted?

What is Divine Inspiration and why is this foundational to how Catholics interpret Scripture?

How did the Bible develop from oral tradition, to the canon of Scripture, to the Bible used in Catholicism today?

How do Catholic teachings on the relationship between faith and reason determine how Catholics interpret and apply Scripture in daily life?

How is the Bible structured and how does it convey Salvation History from Genesis to Revelation?

Why are the Gospels so important for the Church and an individual's life of faith?

How is the Torah important for the Church and an individual's life of faith? The Prophets? The Psalms? Paul's Letters? Other Scriptures?

Note:

Essential questions promote deep and enduring understanding. They cannot be answered in one sentence. Even though they are written simplistically, they are complex enough to be broken down into smaller, guiding questions.

Guiding questions are more detailed questions that support the essential questions of the course.

Challenge Questions

“This element is designed to give catechetical instruction for high-school age young people an apologetical component. Publishers and teachers or catechists are to strive to provide for a catechetical instruction and formation that is imbued with an apologetical approach. Challenges that appear under one particular theme can also apply to other themes in the framework, and such application is encouraged.” Introduction to The Bishops’ Framework

Answers to each of the following questions with references to the Catechism are found in the last section of each course in the Framework. It should be noted, however, that each question has also been addressed within the coursework of the standards.

- A. Is it true that Catholics do not use or read the Bible?
- B. Isn’t the Bible just another piece of literature?
- C. Is the Bible always literally true?
- D. Isn’t the Bible about the past? Why do people today think it applies to them?
- E. Why do Catholics maintain beliefs and practices that are not in the Bible?
- F. Why do some people try to change what the Church teaches about Jesus Christ?