

ST. MARY'S ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE
Fall 2019

Thursday

6:00—8:30 p.m.

BS600 Orientation to Biblical Studies

Gary A. Staszak (Ph.D. Candidate)

Course Description:

This course will introduce students to academic tools and methods used to study the Bible, thus preparing them for future Bible courses and other theological study at the Ecumenical Institute. The course will focus on topics related to biblical study, including 1) the development and content of the biblical canon, 2) the transmission and growth of biblical literature, 3) methods and tools for biblical study, and 4) the exegetical process.

Course Requirements:

- **Reading:** Students should expect to read at most 900 pages of required reading and should come prepared to discuss readings in class.
- **Writing:**
 - Five short writing assignments (2-3 pages each; 30% of grade)
 - Final exegetical paper (about 10-12 pages; 30% of grade)
- **Other:**
 - Midterm exam (20% of grade)
 - Quizzes (10% of grade)
 - Class participation (10% of grade)

Required Texts:

1. Michael J. Gorman, ed. *Scripture and Its Interpretation: A Global, Ecumenical Introduction to the Bible* (Baker Academic, 2017), ISBN: 978-0801098390.
2. Michael J. Gorman, *Elements of Biblical Exegesis: A Basic Guide for Students and Ministers*, Revised and expanded edition (Baker Academic, 2009), ISBN: 9780801046407.
3. **Own at least one of the following study Bibles:**
 - a. The HarperCollins Study Bible (HarperOne, 2006), ISBN: 978-0060786847.
 - b. The New Interpreter's Study Bible (Abingdon Press, 2003), ISBN: 978-0687278329.
 - c. The Catholic Study Bible, 3rd edition (Oxford University Press, 2016), ISBN: 978-0190267230.
 - d. The New Oxford Annotated Bible, 5th edition (Oxford University Press, 2018), ISBN: 978-0190276072.

NOTE: *EI policy states that If a student already owns a different academic study Bible, he or she can petition the instructor for permission to use that Bible in class instead. The exemption is entirely at the prerogative of the course instructor granting that exemption.*