

Introduction to the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament



RLST/JWST 1900-001 Fall 2016

Time: T/Th 9:30am-10:45am

Room: HLMS 199

Whether you have read the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament before and want to learn more or whether you have always wanted to read the Bible, this course is for you!

The Hebrew Bible/ Old Testament may be ancient, but it is still very relevant for the modern world; the Bible is foundational for the study of religion, literature, history, and politics.

We will read sections of all of the books of the Hebrew Bible and ask: what kinds of literature are represented? How do we know how to interpret the Bible?

Is the Bible history, and what do we mean by history? What does archaeology contribute to our understanding of the Bible? All of these questions are complicated since the Bible consists of ancient collections of writings and yet is often interpreted through the lens of modern assumptions.

The complexities and rich history make studying the Bible, so widely discussed in modern media and politics, all the more fascinating!