

**Jefferson County High School
Course Syllabus**

A. Course: Bible History

B. Department: Social Studies

C. Course Description Students will study the Bible in its historical context by examining the events and people recorded within it. Some events to be studied include the exodus from Egypt, the conquest of the Promised Land, the rise and fall of the Kingdom of David, the Babylonian Exile and return from exile, the Temple, and events influencing the writings of the Law, the Prophets, the Gospels, Paul's Epistles, and Revelation. Attention is given to the Bible's intersection with contemporary American life and current conflicts in the Middle East. The approach of study is academic and secular.

D. Grade Term: Semester

E. Grading Scale:

<u>Range</u>	<u>Honors/ Regular</u>	<u>College-Level</u>	<u>A.P.</u>
93-100 A	4.0	4.5	5.0
85-92 B	3.0	3.5	4.0
75-84 C	2.0	2.5	3.0
70-74 D	1.0	1.5	2.0

F. Term Dates:

- a. 1st 9 Weeks August 5, 2016 – October 7, 2016
- b. 2nd 9 Weeks October 8, 2016 – December 16, 2016
- c. 3rd 9 Weeks January 5, 2017 – March 15, 2017
- d. 4th 9 Weeks March 16, 2017 – May 25, 2017

G. Textbook(s):

1. Holy Bible, New International Version
2. Ancient World History: patterns of interaction, Holt McDougal, 2012.

H. Other Required Reading:

- a. Weekly Bible readings and responses using a reading plan from BibleGateway.com.

I. Other Resources:

- a. Odysseyware
- b. biblegateway.com

J. Procedures for Parental Access to Instructional Materials

- a. Aspen Parent Portal

- b. Instructor’s Website
- c. Email Instructor
- d. Parent Teacher Conference
 - a. There are two designated conference dates during the school year. Parents who would like to request additional meetings may make appointments for conferences with the teachers (during their planning periods), counselors, or a principal by telephoning the school office.

K. Field Trips

- a. Any scheduled fieldtrip will have a definite educational purpose and will reflect careful planning. Signed permission forms will be obtained when an off campus trip is planned.

L. Unit Outline & Objectives (This course is an elective. There are no TN state standards.)

2016-17 Bible History	
On-Going Units	On-Going “I Can” Statements
Unit 1: Introduction to the Old Testament <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defined • How the OT developed • Canonization • Methods of scholarship • Archeology and the Bible • The Documentary Hypothesis • The geography: Fertile Crescent, Mesopotamia, prominent cities, and physical characteristics • The neighbors: nations and peoples of the ancient near east 	I can grasp the basics of how scholars approach the Bible as history, and some of the methods of its study. I can answer the questions, “what is the Old Testament?” and “how did it come to be?” I can locate prominent Biblical places and peoples.
Unit 2: The First Humans Human origins and creation stories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adam and Eve • The Great Flood 	I can explain the Israelite understanding of cosmology and creation and compare it to that of their neighbors.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Tower of Babel 	
<p>Unit 3: The First Hebrews</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of the Fertile Crescent and Mesopotamian civilizations • The Patriarchs • Covenants 	<p>I can explain the significance of the Patriarchs as the first Hebrews and founders of 3 faiths.</p> <p>I can analyze and explain the function and types of various Biblical covenants.</p>
<p>Unit 4: The Birth of a Nation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exodus • Ancient Egypt • The Law and the Wilderness 	<p>I can appreciate the Exodus as the supreme event in Israelite history.</p> <p>I can grasp an understanding of life in ancient Egypt and explain its influence in the world of the ancient Hebrews.</p>
<p>Unit 5: Israel conquers the Promised Land</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entering the Promised Land • Joshua and the Judges 	<p>I can explain the conquest of the Promised Land, the significance of Joshua, and the role of the Judges.</p>
<p>Unit 6: Israel becomes a Kingdom</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Samuel: priest, judge, prophet, and king maker • Saul: the first king • David: the great king • Solomon: the wise king and builder • The Phoenicians • A kingdom divided • Selected prophets of the period • The Northern Kingdom: Israel and its end • The Southern Kingdom: Judah and its end 	<p>I can grasp the basics about the Judges and Samuel-the last Judge.</p> <p>I can grasp the basics about Samuel and the kings Saul, David, and Solomon.</p> <p>I can recognize the influence of the Phoenicians on the Israelites and on our world today.</p> <p>I can explain the significance of the messages of the prophets Amos and Hosea.</p> <p>I can compare and contrast the kingdoms of Israel and Judah.</p>
<p>Unit 7: The Exile and Post-Exilic Period</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Babylonia • Lamentations and Hebrew poetry 	<p>I can appreciate the Babylonian Exile as the second most impactful event in Jewish history and the history of the Old Testament.</p> <p>I can explain the influence the Exile had on the world into which Jesus was born.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The rise and influence of Persia • The Return to Judah • Zerubbabel, Ezra, and Nehemiah • The second temple • Prophets of the period 	
<p>Unit 8: Background to the New Testament</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hellenism • Messianic thought • Jewish revolts against the Romans • What is the New Testament? • Language and literature • Forming the New testament Cannon 	<p>I can explain how the New Testament came to take its current form.</p> <p>I can grasp how Hellenism shaped the New Testament world.</p> <p>I can appreciate how the history and culture of classical Greece has a significant impact on the modern world.</p>
<p>Unit 9: The Gospels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age and authorship • Development of The Gospels • Content of the Gospels 	<p>I can explain the relationship between the Synoptic Gospels and the chronology of the development.</p> <p>I can understand how the 4 Gospels each tell a narrative of Jesus.</p>
<p>Unit 10: Life and Teachings of Jesus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus the poet • Rabbinic instruction of the time • Summary of teachings 	<p>I can recognize the different literary forms used by Jesus to impart his teachings.</p> <p>I can summarize the major themes of the teachings of Jesus.</p>
<p>Unit 11: The Rise of Christianity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roman society and culture • The needs of the early church 	<p>I can recognize the influence of Roman culture and politics on the writings of the New Testament and the early church.</p>
<p>Unit 12: Expansion of Christianity beyond Palestine</p>	<p>I can describe the influence of Paul on the early church.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paul the man• History of the early church: Acts• Paul's epistles and their themes• Letters to Corinth	I can understand the significance of women in the early Jesus movement and in the early church.
Unit 13: The General Letters <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hebrews• James• Peter• Jude• John	I can list the General Letters and briefly summarize the themes of each. I can relate the themes of "The Sermon on the Mount" from Matthew to the Letter of James.
Unit 14: The Revelation and Apocalyptic Writings	I can describe the purposes of apocalyptic literatures. I can describe the Roman political context of the time of Revelation, and relate it to the message of the book.

