Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College
COURSE OUTLINE FORM

Updated 11/25/14

Please return this form to the college vice president of academic affairs and the chairperson of the Academic Affairs and Standards Council (AASC)

1. Prepared by: _____

2. Date submitted: _____

3. Date approved: ___04/08/11___   Date revised ___04/22/15___

4. Department/discipline: ___Philosophy_____

5. Department(s) endorsement(s): _____
(Signatures of the person(s) providing the endorsement are required.)

6. Course Title: ___Understanding the Bible as Literature, History and Philosophy_____
Abbreviated course title (25 characters or less): _____

7. Course Designator: __PHIL_____   8. Course Level: 1010

9. Number of Credits: Lecture ____3____   Lab _____

10. Control Number (on site)___25_____   Control Number (online)_____

11. Catalog/Course description:

> This course is a systematic study of the literature of the Bible within its historical, cultural, and philosophical context. The influence of the Bible throughout history and specifically in today's society will also be explored. (Meets MnTC goal area 6).

12. Course prerequisite(s) or co-requisite(s): Accuplacer scores/ Other courses
Prerequisite(s):
Co-requisite:

13. **Course Materials** (Recommended course materials and resources. List all that apply, e.g. textbooks, workbooks, study guides, lab manuals, videos, guest lecturers).

Any translation of the Bible with Apocrypha
A textbook like *Understanding the Bible*, 7th Ed. Stephen L. Harris. New York: McGraw Hill. 2007

14. **Course Content** (Provide an outline of major topics covered in course)

Overview of the Bible
Formation of the Bible
The Literature of the Old Testament
    Environment and history of the Hebrew People
    The Torah
    The Prophets
    The Writings (Wisdom Literature)
The writings of the Apocrypha
The Literature of the New Testament
    Overview of the environment and history of the early Christian church

The Gospels
The Pauline Letters
The Epistles
The Book of Revelation
The influence of the literature of the Bible throughout history.
The influence of the literature of the Bible in today's society.

15. **Learning Goals, Outcomes, and Assessment**
    At FDLTCC we have 4 Competencies Across the Curriculum (CAC) areas. They are as
    follows:

    A. Information Literacy (the ability to use print and/or non-print tools effectively for the
       discovery, acquisition, and evaluation of information)
    B. Ability to Communicate (the ability to listen, read, comprehend, and/or deliver
       information in a variety of formats.)
    C. Problem Solving (the ability to conceptualize, apply, analyze, synthesize, and/or evaluate
       information to formulate and solve problems.)
    D. Culture (knowledge of Anishinaabe traditions and culture, knowledge of one's own
       traditions and culture, knowledge of others' traditions and cultures, culture of work,
       culture of academic disciplines and/or respect for global diversity.)

Course Learning Outcomes will fulfill the identified competencies.

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Evaluate the credibility and applicability of print and non-print sources (A, C)
2. Define and apply terminology relevant to understanding the Bible in literary, historical,
   and philosophical terms. (B, C)
3. Articulate in a respectful and meaningful manner a personal response to human values
   (historically, culturally, and socially) presented in the Bible. (A, B, D)
4. Illustrate the influences of Biblical values on politics, society, the environment,
   culture, and religion throughout history. (B, C, D)
5. Summarize the influence of the Bible on a selected literary or aesthetic work (B,C)

16. **Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC):** If this course fulfills an MnTC goal area, state
the goal area and list the goals and outcomes below:

See www.mntransfer.org

Goal Area(s): 6

Goal 6: Humanities and Fine Arts
    a) The focus of this course is on how the Bible provides a basis for understanding the
       'scope and variety' of the Bible's influence on western society in the arts and humanities.
    b) The student will acquire an understanding of how the Bible can be considered to be an
       "expression of individual and human values within an historical and social context." The
       course will look at the historical and social roots of the Bible and how the Bible influenced
       the path of history and society throughout Europe and the Western world.

c) The student will have the opportunity to respond critically to works in the arts and humanities that were influenced by the literature of the Bible.

e.) The student will have the opportunity to provide a personal response to the works in the arts and humanities that were influenced by the literature of the Bible.

- As a historical document studying the information in the Bible may provide the student with a greater awareness of the historical background surrounding the Middle East.
- Students will be reading the material that formed the basis for the Jewish understanding of Israel as being the 'land that God promised them.'
- They will learn about the various social rules and taboos that became part of both Jewish society and by association Christian society.
- These teachings influenced the laws that were created in the Western world throughout the first and second millennium.
- The stories in the Bible provided a vehicle for teaching social as well as religious values and were used as the basis for works of art, literature, drama, music, and opera.
- Sometimes these works retained the original format of the story, sometimes only parts of the story, or general concepts presented in the story were kept.
- Many of these concepts also formed the basis for theological and philosophical writings. Later philosophical works were often written as a reaction to or rebuttal of previous works. Understanding the relationship of these works to the Bible expands our understanding of these reactions or rebuttals.
- To have a thorough understanding of Western literature, art, and music it is helpful to acquaint oneself with a book that was extremely influential in determining people's values and the various ways in which those values were expressed.