



CATHOLIC BIBLE | INSTITUTO BIBLICO
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ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES

Syllabus

New Testament Year & Practicum Year (2019-2020)

Co-sponsored by the Office of Religious Education, Archdiocese of Los Angeles &
the Center for Religion & Spirituality, Loyola Marymount University Extension

Catholic Bible Institute (CBI)

The Catholic Bible Institute is a **comprehensive, three-year Bible study program**: one year focuses on the Old Testament, one on the New Testament, and a third on biblical themes, along with practical skills for facilitating Bible-based programs in parishes.

The goal of the Catholic Bible Institute is **growth in missionary discipleship of Jesus Christ through the Bible**. CBI participants **study** the Word of God according to Catholic principles, **connect** the Word with life, and **pray** with the Word. CBI aims to form missionary disciples with a passion for the Word of God and the skills and confidence to pass on the Word.

CBI learning entails:

- Presentations from a wide range of Bible scholars and experts
- Small-group conversation
- Reading assignments from the Bible and Bible commentaries
- Writing assignments (short reflection papers and one longer synthesis paper)
- Small-group prayer with the Bible (*lectio divina*)
- Mentoring by a team of facilitators

The Practicum Year focuses on such topics as the Bible and evangelization, Catholic teaching on the Bible, the Bible and the liturgy, the Bible and the spiritual life, as well as hospitality and small-group facilitation skills. Practicum Year participants plan and facilitate a six-week, small-group Bible study in parishes.

Participants can opt for the Certification-Track to earn a Certificate in Bible Study Leadership from the Archdiocese of Los Angeles (and LMU Extension Semester Hours), or they can participate simply for their own learning in the Enrichment-Track.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the three-year Certification-Track program, you will:

1. Grow in knowledge and love of the Word of God
2. Understand the Catholic approach to the Bible
3. Integrate Bible study with life and prayer
4. Share the Word of God and your faith with greater confidence
5. Facilitate Bible-based parish programs

Certification

After successful completion of each year of the **Certification-Track** program, you will receive Loyola Marymount University Extension Semester Hours. After successful completion of the entire three-year

Certification-Track program, you will receive a Certificate in Bible Study Leadership from the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and be commissioned at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angeles. All the requirements of this syllabus apply to Certification-Track participants.

The **Enrichment-Track** is for those who choose not to complete all the requirements of this syllabus; Enrichment-Track participants attend sessions and complete reading assignments at their own discretion. You can switch from Certification-Track to Enrichment-Track at any time. You can switch from Enrichment-Track to Certification-Track by January 31 of your first year (after January 31 of your first year, you can no longer switch to Certification-Track). When transferring from Enrichment-Track to Certification-Track, you must complete all missing reading and writing assignments.

Required Texts

All years:

Senior, Donald and John J. Collins, editors. *The Catholic Study Bible: The New American Bible; Third Edition*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016 (the 2011 second edition is also approved). [Other study Bibles may be approved by request.]

Witherup, Ronald. *Biblical Fundamentalism: What Every Catholic Should Know*. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2001.

Old Testament Year:

Boadt, Larry. *Reading the Old Testament: An Introduction; Second Edition*. Revised and updated by Richard Clifford and Daniel Harrington. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 2012. [The 1984 first edition is also approved.]

New Testament Year:

Brown, Raymond E. *An Introduction to the New Testament*. New York: Doubleday, 1997.

Practicum Year:

Binz, Stephen J. *Scripture: God's Handbook for Evangelizing Catholics*. Huntington, IN: Our Sunday Visitor, 2014.

Dei Verbum (Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation).¹

Pope Benedict XVI. *Verbum Domini (Post-synodal Apostolic Exhortation on the Word of God in the Life of the Church)*.²

Pontifical Biblical Commission. *The Interpretation of the Bible in the Church*.³

¹ http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_const_19651118_dei-verbum_en.html

² http://w2.vatican.va/content/benedict-xvi/en/apost_exhortations/documents/hf_ben-xvi_exh_20100930_verbum-domini.html

³ http://www.catholic-resources.org/ChurchDocs/PBC_Interp-FullText.htm

Schedule (New Testament Year)

August 17, 2019: New participant orientation

September 7, 2019: New Testament introduction & Gospel of Mark (Fr. Patrick Mullen)

BIBLE: Mark

BROWN: Chapters 1-7

October 12, 2019: Gospel of Matthew (Dr. Michael Barber)

BIBLE: Matthew

BROWN: Chapter 8

WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE: one-page paper on Mark

November 9, 2019: Gospel of John (Fr. Felix Just, SJ)

BIBLE: John

BROWN: Chapter 11

WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE: one-page paper on Matthew

December 7, 2019: Gospel of Luke (Fr. Slawomir Szredka)

BIBLE: Luke

BROWN: Chapter 9

WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE: one-page paper on John

January 11, 2020: Acts of the Apostles (Sr. Laurie Brink, OP)

BIBLE: Acts of the Apostles

BROWN: Chapter 10

WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE: one-page paper on Luke

February 1, 2020: Pauline letters (Dr. Eugenia Constantinou)

BIBLE: Romans, 1 & 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Philippians, 1 Thessalonians, Philemon

BROWN: Chapters 15-24

WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE: one-page paper on Acts of the Apostles

March 7, 2020: Deutero-Pauline letters (Fr. William Burton, OFM)

BIBLE: Colossians, Ephesians, 2 Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus

BROWN: Chapters 25-31

WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE: one-page paper on Romans

April 4, 2020: Hebrews, Catholic letters, & Johannine letters (Dr. Bill Shaules)

BIBLE: Hebrews, 1 & 2 Peter, James, 1, 2 & 3 John, Jude

BROWN: Chapters 12-14, 32-36

WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE: longer synthesis paper

May 2, 2020: Revelation (Kay Murdy)

BIBLE: Revelation

BROWN: Chapter 37

WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE: one-page paper on Hebrews

June 13, 2020: New Testament theologies & Apocrypha (Fr. Felix Just, SJ)
BROWN: Appendix II
WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE: one-page paper on Revelation

Schedule (Practicum Year)

September 7, 2019

October 12, 2019

November 9, 2019

December 7, 2019

January 11, 2020

February 1, 2020

March 7, 2020

Sessions

CBI sessions occur **one Saturday a month from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** (check-in starts at 8:30 a.m.) at **Incarnation Church** (121 W. Glenoaks Blvd. Glendale, CA 91202).

Electronic devices must be in silent mode or turned-off during sessions. Please refrain from using devices during small-group conversation time.

Attendance

To be considered in attendance, you must arrive on time and remain for the entire session. You may be absent from **no more than two sessions per year** in the Old and New Testament years to obtain credit. In the Practicum Year, you may be absent from **no more than one session per year** to obtain credit. Please contact your Group Mentor in advance to inform him or her of your absence. You are responsible for completing all reading and writing assignments even when you are absent.

Please inform the Program Coordinator of any special accommodations you require during the first session. Participants with documented physical, learning and/or psychological disabilities may request specialized assistance to achieve maximum independence through LMU Disability Support Services (DSS) prior to enrolling in an LMU Extension course. You must provide documentation for your disability from an appropriate licensed professional. Contact DDS at (310) 338-4535; more information is available at <http://academics.lmu.edu/dss/>.

Readings Assignment

You must complete all reading assignments before coming to each session. For each book of the Bible, read the biblical text itself *and* the introduction(s) in your Study Bible. Chapters in Brown are long and detailed; you are *not* expected to read every single word; for each chapter, carefully read the “General Analysis of the Message” and “Background” sections, but only briefly skim the “Issues and Problems for Reflection” sections and others in between.

Writing Assignments: One-page Reflection Papers (Short Papers)

Section	Questions	Focus	Scope
History	<i>Who</i> probably wrote the book? <i>Who</i> probably was the intended audience? <i>When</i> was the book probably written? <i>Where</i> was it probably written? <i>What</i> is its literary style or genre?	the ancient world (circumstances of the author and the original audience)	the whole book(s)
Message	<i>Why</i> was the book probably written? (What probably was the author’s purpose in writing?). <i>What</i> is the message the author probably intended for the original audience? (What did the author probably want the original audience to know or do?).		
Personal	<i>What</i> does this biblical text say to me personally? <i>How</i> have I applied, or how can I apply its message to my own life? (What is the teaching to know? The promise to believe? The example to follow? The call to mission?). <i>Use “I/me” language and be specific.</i>	the world today (circumstances of your life, the Church, and society)	the specific chapter(s) assigned
Communal	What does this biblical text say to the Church or the world at large? What can we do for good of the Church and the transformation of society? <i>Use “we/us” language and be specific.</i>		

After completing the assigned readings for the month, write a one-page reflection paper covering the four sections above. Write **four paragraphs of approximately equal length** (one for each section) and label each section: History, Message, Personal, and Communal.

In the top right corner of the page, include a header with your name, the name of your CBI small group, the topic, and the date.

Use **parenthetical citations** to acknowledge ideas derived from reference sources. For example: (Boadt, 214), where “Boadt” is the author’s last name, and “214” is the page number. If you use a different source, use this same formula and add the name of the book or article after the name of the author.

All papers must be **typed, single-spaced (double-spaced between sections)**, on a standard 8 ½” x 11” page, using **12-point** Times New Roman, Cambria, or Calibri font, with one-inch margins all around (top, bottom, left, and right).

Papers are due by the beginning of each session via **MOODLE**. Papers will be evaluated and returned the following month. Late papers will be marked down. Papers not meeting the standards above may be returned for re-writing. No credit will be given for failure to complete the assignments.

Longer Synthesis Paper

You will write one longer synthesis paper (see separate handout for detailed instructions).

Evaluation Scale

Each year, Certification-Track participants will have a grade recorded with Loyola Marymount University Extension.

In determining your course grade, the requirements are weighted as follows:

Old & New Testament years:

- Participation 20%
- One-page reflection papers 60%
- Longer synthesis paper 20%

Practicum Year:

- Participation 30%
- Practicum project 70%

The following grades are used to report the quality of participant work at LMU Extension:

- A – Superior
- B – Satisfactorily demonstrated potential for professional achievement
- C – Passed the course but did not do work indicative of potential for professional achievement
- F – Failure

LMU Extension Semester Hours

Certification-Track participants are enrolled in three courses with Loyola Marymount University Extension (one for each year) as follows:

- Catholic Bible Institute I (two semesters; 5 LMU Extension semester hours)
- Catholic Bible Institute II (two semesters; 5 LMU Extension semester hours)
- Catholic Bible Institute III (one semester; 2.5 LMU Extension semester hours)

You must meet attendance requirements and complete all writing assignments (with a grade of “C” or better) before enrolling in the following year.

Enrichment-Track participants are not enrolled in LMU Extension courses.

Certificate in Bible Study Leadership

A minimum grade of B- each year of the program is required to receive a Certificate in Bible Study Leadership from the Archdiocese of Los Angeles (the minimum grade required to receive a certificate is higher than the minimum grade for LMU Extension Semester Hours).

Pre-Requisite

A letter of recommendation from your pastor (or pastoral leader) is required for admission to the Certification-Track program.

Tuition

Tuition for the Old and New Testament years is \$380 per year (not including textbooks). Tuition for the Practicum Year is \$190 (not including textbooks). Tuition is due for each year prior to the first session. Payments can be made in installments.

You may withdraw from the program at any time and receive a refund of tuition paid for that year (less a fee of \$100) if you notify the Program Director in writing prior to the third session. There will be no refund of fees paid for withdrawals after the third session.

Audio Recordings

You are not permitted to record (audio or video) CBI sessions. Only the CBI Team is authorized to record presentations; these presentations will be available for purchase online.

Participant Appeals

To appeal a program decision:

1. State your case in writing (e-mail) to your Group Mentor and the Program Director, as soon as possible.
2. Make an appointment to meet with your Group Mentor and the Program Director (combined), to state your case in person, as soon as possible.
3. The Program Director will inform you of the outcome via email (you may choose to meet with the Program Director upon receipt of the written outcome for further explanation of the decision).

LMU Academic Honesty Policy

Loyola Marymount University Extension is dedicated to academic excellence, participant-centered education, and the Jesuit and Marymount traditions. As such, LMU expects all members of its community to act with honesty and integrity at all times, especially in their academic work. Academic honesty respects the intellectual and creative work of others, flows from dedication to and pride in performing your own best work, and is essential for true learning to take place. Examples of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to, the following: all acts of cheating on assignments or examinations (or facilitating other participants' cheating); plagiarism; fabrication of data, including the use of false citations; improper use of non-print media; unauthorized access to computer accounts or files or other privileged information; and improper use of Internet sites and resources. Academic dishonesty may result in any of the following actions: (1) require assignment or exam to be resubmitted, (2) reduce the grade on the assignment, project or exam, (3) fail the participant on the assignment or exam, (4) fail the participant in the course. A detailed outline of the university honor code and process is available online.

LMU Library Policy

The Loyola Marymount University Library is available for use by Certification-Track participants. Should you like to have borrowing privileges or access after 8 p.m., an LMU Library Card may be purchased for an annual fee of \$300.00 (check, Visa, or Master Card only). The LMU Library Card is valid for one calendar year from the date of issue, granting you:

- Access to the library from 8 a.m. to 2 a.m.
- A maximum number of ten checkouts at any one time
- A check-out period of three weeks, with two renewals (nine weeks total)
- requests for basement retrievals
- in-house use of journals, reference materials, and media

To obtain an LMU Library Card, please go to the Circulation Desk of the William H. Hannon Library during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 7:45 p.m.