

# BBL100 Introduction to the Bible



**Pathways**

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For the Acadeum Course Sharing Consortium



*We're delighted to have you study at RMC! Please note the following policies:*

We try our best to ensure you get the most from the courses in which you are enrolled and welcome your feedback!

**Online Courtesy**

As beings created in the image of God, we all deserve to be treated with the utmost respect whether we are a facilitator or a student. Online courses give us the opportunity to encourage social interaction, relationship building and trust between participants which befits our status as image-bearers. Failure to show respect in course interchange, through emails, announcements, discussion forums or instant chat, whether in the form of racism, chauvinism or simple unkindness is ungracious and inappropriate for the health of Christian community. Where mutual respect exists, the possibility of learning is enhanced for all.

Therefore, please remember that there is a person behind every comment on the course website – when you respond, be gracious, give the benefit of the doubt and ask for clarification. Review your comments in the discussion forums for tone before submitting them – sarcasm and jokes often do not translate well in the online environment. Be sure your messages are clear – it is tempting to quickly write a response and submit it but this can lead to confusion if your thoughts are a bit jumbled – take time to polish your remarks. Remember that your comments, whether in emails or discussion forums can become public so act accordingly.

**RMC Grading Policy**

**GradeGradePoint**

A+	4.0	
A	4.0	A = Excellent - superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
A-	3.7	
B+	3.3	
B	3.0	B = Good - clearly above average performance with knowledge of the subject matter generally complete.
B-	2.7	
C+	2.3	
C	2.0	C = Satisfactory — basic understanding of subject matter.
C-	1.7	
D+	1.3	
D	1.0	D = Inferior work which falls below the expectations of the course but which is of passing quality.
D-	0.7	
F	0.0	F = Failure to meet the minimum standards required for a passing grade.
P	Pass	P = Represents satisfactory work. Given only in courses specially designated for Pass /Fail grading.
IN		Incomplete
VW		Voluntary Withdrawal from a course before the course withdrawal deadline.

**Grading Scale**

A+ 97-100	A 93-96	A- 89-92
B+ 85-88	B 80-84	B- 76-79
C+ 72-75	C 67-71	C- 60-66
D 55-59	F 0-54	

## Plagiarism & Academic Misconduct at Rocky Mountain College

### A. Plagiarism Defined

**Plagiarism** - involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Plagiarism exists when:

1. the work submitted was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting the work,
2. parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
3. the whole work is copied from another source, and/or
4. a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted.

Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence.

### B. Penalties

1. **Failing Grade** - a student may be given a failing grade in either the assignment or course in which that student is found guilty of plagiarism. Except in circumstances in which leniency is warranted, this penalty will be applied in conjunction with one or other of the other penalties mentioned below.
2. **Disciplinary Probation** - when a student is placed on disciplinary probation, he or she is entitled to proceed with their academic program. If the student is found guilty of a further academic offence the student will be suspended or expelled.
3. **Suspension** - suspension takes place when a student is denied continuance at the college for a specified period of time. A student who has been placed under suspension is eligible to reapply for admission after the end of that specified period of time. Suspension does not imply automatic readmission; a student must satisfy the dean of his/her eligibility for readmission.
4. **Expulsion** - a student who is expelled is dismissed permanently from the college with no right to apply for readmission.

### C. Penalties and Their Application

1. In cases in which the dean is satisfied that a student is guilty of a clear intention to deceive, the normal penalty will be either suspension or expulsion from the college.
2. In cases in which the dean is satisfied that an offence has been committed, but doubt is left as to the existence of a clear intention to deceive, the normal penalty will be disciplinary probation.
3. In cases where a student is found guilty of more than a single offence, the normal penalty will be expulsion from the college.

*Copies of the official policy regarding Plagiarism and other academic offenses can be found on the RMC website. If charged with plagiarism, it would be wise for a student to familiarize themselves with the RMC policy, "Plagiarism, Cheating & Academic Misconduct."*

This policy is based on the University of Calgary policy "Plagiarism, Cheating & Academic Misconduct - 1996-97" Copyright © 1998 University of Calgary

**BBL100 Introduction to the Bible**  
**Rocky Mountain College**  
**Credits: 3**

**Course Description**

An introduction to the Christian Bible that provides students with a knowledge of: the storyline or principal events in the Old and New Testaments (together with a timeline); distinctive features of the various literary genres within the Bible; the historical contexts of biblical events and writings; central theological themes; the historical formation of the Christian canon; and Christian views regarding the inspiration of the Bible.

**Textbooks**

1. John H. Walton, Mark L. Strauss, and Ted Cooper, Jr., editors. *The Essential Bible Companion: Key Insights for Reading God's Word*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2006. ISBN 978-0310266629
2. Philip S. Johnston. *The IVP Introduction to the Bible*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2006. ISBN 978-0830828289

**Objectives**

By the end of this course students will be able to:

1. Explain how the Bible came about through the processes of inspiration, canonization, transmission and translation.
2. Explain the historical events covered by the Bible.
3. Explain the contents of the books of the Bible including their genre.
4. Identify the Bible's overarching themes and theology.

<i>Module</i>	<i>Time Expectations</i>	<i>Assignment Due</i>	<i>Discussion</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>5.0 hours</i>		<i>Getting to Know You</i>
<i>2</i>	<i>6.0 hours</i>	<i>Mod 1 Review Questions</i>	<i>Value of the Old Testament</i>
<i>3</i>	<i>11.5 hours</i>	<i>Mod 2 Review Questions; Bible Essay</i>	<i>Errors in the Bible?</i>
<i>4</i>	<i>5.0 hours</i>	<i>Mod 3 Review Questions</i>	<i>Dating the Exodus</i>
<i>5</i>	<i>6.0 hours</i>	<i>Mod 4 Review Questions</i>	<i>The Problem of Evil</i>
<i>6</i>	<i>4.5 hours</i>	<i>Mod 5 Review Questions</i>	<i>Context and Interpretation</i>

7	11.5 hours	Mod 6 Review Questions; Bible Timeline	The Bible's Message
8	9.5 hours	Mod 7 Review Questions; Overview of the Bible Video	

## Requirements and Grading

1. Submit responses to each lesson's review questions. Include the question in the word document that you submit, along with your answers. Please include a title page. 10%
2. Post thoughtful responses in the discussion forums. You must fully answer the question assigned, giving examples to support your answer. Your initial post must be at least 150 words. You must also interact with others who post by asking questions or giving additional information. Do not simply agree with what another person says. Once a question is asked of you, you have one week to respond. Marks will be deducted for not replying to questions put to you. 15%
3. Write a 1200 word paper on how we received the Bible in its current English form. 25%

Your paper must include these topics:

- inspiration (communication from God to man)
- canonization (how manuscripts were selected for the Bible)
- transmission (how manuscripts were passed on)
- translation (how we arrived at modern English versions).

Suggested essay divisions:

100 words - Introduction

250 words - each for sections 1-4 as noted above

100 words - Conclusion

Your paper should be written in Times New Roman or similar, 12 point font, double spaced, with no extra space between paragraphs. Include a title page. A bibliography is not required.

4. Create a Bible history timeline. 25%

Your timeline must include the following:

- when each book of the Bible was written
- major Bible characters and events
- major non-Biblical characters and events from other nations such as Egypt, Assyria, Babylonia, Greece and Rome.

You may submit electronic files (Word doc, Excel etc.) or a scanned handwritten copy (it must be clean and neat). Creative touches such as a colour scheme, varied fonts etc. add visual interest and will contribute to your grade. 25%

5. Create a video (max. 7 minutes) in which you share an overview of the Bible. 25%

This should not duplicate information from the timeline – you are not telling the events of the Bible in detail, rather you are explaining what the Bible is and what it contains. You can use notes in your presentation. It must include explanations of:

- Bible meta-narrative (the overarching story of the Bible)
- Old and New Testaments – what is a “testament” and why is one “old” and the other is “new”?
- These major types of literature: Pentateuch, Historical Books, Wisdom Books, Prophetic Books, the Gospels, the Letters and Apocalyptic literature.

Strive to create a video that could be shown to others – steady camera work, appropriate background, props, editing techniques, clear articulation etc. will contribute to your grade. 25%