

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary**

Course Prefix and Number: ENG 295

Credits: 3

Course Title: Topics in English - The Bible as Literature II

Course Description (including lecture hours, lab hours, total contacts)

Introduces students to the New Testament as a literary text and includes the reading of selected narratives, with particular emphasis on the four gospels. This course has been designated as a "writing intensive" course according to standards developed by the English Department. Prerequisite: ENG 112. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

ENG 295 develops skills in critical literacy, provides opportunities for self-expression, and promotes understanding of the role of the New Testament in influencing later literatures. As a writing intensive course, ENG 295 will provide specific instruction in writing, especially literary analysis, substantial written and oral feedback on formal writing, with the opportunity to revise at least one formal paper.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites (*Entry-level competencies **required** for enrollment*)
ENG 111 and ENG 112.

Course Objectives

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

- a. Summarize, analyze, and synthesize texts of the New Testament.
- b. Understand the King James translation of the New Testament within the canon of British Literature.
- c. Understand the historical context for and literary types found in the New Testament.
- d. Apply critical strategies to the reading of the New Testament.
- d. Write 25-40 pages of informal writing in response to the reading of selected New Testament texts.
- e. Write 15-20 pages of formal writing in an effort to analyze and synthesize texts of the New Testament.

Major Topics to be Included

- a. Analytical/critical study of selected books of the New Testament with an emphasis on the four gospels.
- b. Understanding of the King James translation of the New Testament as part of British Literature.
- c. Introduction to New Testament history and archeology in order to understand the New Testament in its proper historical and cultural context.
- d. Introduction to the role of the New Testament in Christian church history.
- e. Introduction to the canon of New Testament texts, the narrative tradition, including analysis of themes, symbols, and characters.
- f. Introduction to the application of literary interpretation to biblical texts

Effective Date of Course Content Summary (Month, Date Year): February 13, 2009