



Religious Studies 10

Dominican International School



Course Syllabus

School Year 2026–27

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COURSE DESCRIPTION: SACRED SCRIPTURES

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to our Sacred Scriptures course for this school year.

As we begin, I want you to understand that this course will be different from simply reading the Bible devotionally or looking for a verse that gives us an immediate answer to a personal concern. This year, we are going to take a deeper journey into the Scriptures **objectively, critically, historically, and exegetically**.

You may be asking, **"What does it mean to study the Bible objectively and exegetically?"** It means that we will learn to approach the biblical texts carefully and responsibly. We will not immediately impose our own ideas, assumptions, or experiences on a passage. Instead, we will ask: **What does the text actually say? What did it mean in its original context? Who wrote it? To whom was it written? What historical and cultural circumstances shaped it? What literary form or genre does it use? What message was the author communicating?**

These questions will help us move beyond simply asking, "What does this passage mean to me?" and teach us first to ask, "What did this passage mean within its original context?" That is the heart of exegesis—**drawing meaning out of the text** rather than simply reading our own meaning into it.

Throughout this school year, we will encounter ancient cultures, languages, historical events, literary traditions, different biblical genres, and the experiences of communities that lived thousands of years before us. Some passages may challenge your assumptions. Some may raise difficult questions. Others may deepen your appreciation for the wisdom and complexity of Scripture. Our goal is not to approach the Bible with the intention of proving what we already believe. Rather, **we will approach the Scriptures with humility, intellectual honesty, careful observation, and a willingness to learn.**

I encourage you, therefore, to come to this class with an open mind, a questioning spirit, and a respectful heart. Do not be afraid to ask difficult questions. Do not be afraid to discover something you did not know. Do not be afraid to reconsider an interpretation when the evidence leads you in another direction. And do not be afraid to wrestle with the Scriptures. Sometimes, the most meaningful learning happens when we take the time to sit with a difficult question rather than

rushing toward an easy answer.

Grade 10, this year we will not simply read the Bible. We will learn how to read it well. We will learn to pay attention to words, context, history, culture, literary form, authorship, audience, and interpretation. Most importantly, **we will develop the discipline to distinguish between what the text says, what the text meant, and how we might responsibly understand its significance today.**

My hope is that when this course comes to an end, you will not only know more about the Bible. I hope you will also become more thoughtful readers, more careful thinkers, and more responsible interpreters of sacred texts.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND CONTENTS:

WORD	<i>Communicate a clear understanding of God's Word Revealed in Sacred Scripture recognizing one's aspiration to find meaning in life and communicating how Catholic teachings help them in their search for true happiness and fulfillment.</i>
WITNESS	<i>Articulate and apply the elements involved in good moral decision-making that are relevant in their lives as seniors; intensify the D' TORCH values along with the core values of Dominicans in response to God's call to live a moral life; develop community service initiatives/projects as a response to God's invitation to serve others (Matthew 25:40)</i>
WORSHIP	<i>Establish relationship with God by active participation during a weekly Gospel reflection, classroom-based religious activities and school-wide celebration of the Holy Eucharist, rediscover the very meaning and significance of the Holy Mass as the highest form of worship and central action and aspect of our lives of faith and the primary way Catholics worship God as a community.</i>

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND DIFFERENT SEASONS OF THE CHURCH

- Advent
- Christmas
- Lent
- Holy Week
- Easter
- Ordinary Time
- Feasts and Memorials of Dominican Saints
- Feasts in Honor of Mother Mary

DOMINICAN PILLARS AND CORE VALUES

- Study.....Truth
- Prayer.....Joy
- Community.....Justice

- **Service/Preaching**.....Compassion

PARAGONS OF VALUES: DOMINICAN SAINTS AND BLESSED

Feasts/Memorials of Dominican Saints

August 02- Bl. Jane of Aza

- 08- St. Dominic de Guzmán
- 14- St. Dominic Ibañez
- 17- St. Hyacinth of Poland
- 18- Bl. Mannes de Guzman
- 23- Rose of Lima

September 18- St. John Macías

- 20- St. Francis Posadas
- 28- St. Lawrence Ruiz October
- 09- St. Louis Bertrand

November 03- St. Martin de Porres

- 15- St. Albert the Great
- 22- Bl. Cecilia

December 01- Bl. John Vercelli

- The Holy Family

January 07- St. Raymond of Peñafort

- 18- St. Margaret of Hungary

February 13- Bl. Jordan of Saxony

March 07- St. Thomas Aquinas

April 05- St. Vincent Ferrer; 06/29- St. Peter of Verona

- 20- St. Agnes of Montepulciano
- 29/30- St. Catherine of Siena
- 30- St. Pius V

May 10- St. Anthony of Florence

- 12- Bl. Imelda Lambertini
- 20- Bl. Columba of Rieti Others

June 09- Bl. Diana

July 17- Bl. Ceslaus

GRADING SYSTEM:

Part 1: Academic (50 %)	
Section A: Homework, Seatwork, Projects NOTE: Attendance will be included in the RS Grading System.	16.66%
Section B: Quizzes	16.67%
Section C: Major Quarterly Exam/PBL/PETA	16.67%

Part 2: Deportment/Behavior (50 %) STUDENT'S SELF-EVALUATION

Truthful	19 Points
Organized	19 Points
Reflective	19 Points
Courageous	19 Points
Helpful	19 Points
Total	95 points

Note: The highest possible grade students can obtain every quarter in Deportment is 95 points in conformity with the current grading system. Students are guided on how to self-evaluate their deportment truthfully and reflectively.

The Project D (Detention/Infraction) significantly affects students' Deportment Grade.

GUIDELINES REGARDING THE UTILIZATION OF AI AND GADGETS

Academic Dishonesty means employing a method or technique or engaging in conduct in an academic endeavor that contravenes the standards of ethical integrity expected at DIS.

Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to the following:

- Purposely incorporating the ideas, words, sentences, paragraphs, or parts thereof without appropriate acknowledgment and representing the product as one's own work; and
- Representing another's intellectual work like photographs, paintings, drawings, sculpture, or research as one's own, including failure to attribute content to an AI.
- Employing a tutor, making use of Artificial Intelligence without acknowledgement, getting a parent to write a paper or do an assignment, paying for an essay to be written by someone else and presented as the student's own work.
- Committing any act that a reasonable person would conclude, when informed of the evidence, to be a dishonest means of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work.

Note: Any act of academic dishonesty will result in an automatic zero on the entire assignment and deduction from the Deportment.

The Google Classroom code will be given to all students to access the Religious Studies learning guide and tasks.

- There will be NO Homework to be given during the weekend except during major exams or quizzes. It is to give students a chance to spend quality time with their family.

Gadget and Technology Guidelines

- **Cellphones Out of Sight:** Cellphones are strictly not allowed during class time. Cellphones must be surrendered to the prescribed authority in the school (Homeroom teacher and Discipline Officers, every day).

- **Laptops for Learning Only:** Laptops may only be used when explicitly instructed by your teacher for classwork or research.
- **No Social Media:** Accessing any social media platforms (Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat, YouTube, etc.) on any device is strictly prohibited while on school grounds.
- **Follow Digital Ethics:** Always practice responsible digital citizenship. Use school technology respectfully, stay on task, and follow all school internet rules.
- **Strict Usage Rules:** Gadget privileges are a responsibility. Unapproved use, unauthorized gaming, or browsing non-academic sites will result in device confiscation.

PRIMARY TEXTBOOKS AND ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

Aquinas, Thomas (1981). *Summa Theologica*. Trans. Fathers of the English Dominican Province. Notre Dame, IN: Christian Classics.

De Barra, Micheal and Joseph McCann (2013). *God's Word Revealed in Sacred Scriptures*. Veritas Publications.

P.L.E. Thomas Aquinas, "The Five Ways" Philosophy of Religion. <https://philosophy.lander.edu/intro/aquinas.shtml>

St. Katharine of Siena Parish. POPE FRANCIS' APOSTOLIC LETTER ON THE LITURGY, <https://www.stkatharineofsiena.org/2022/07/16/pope-francis-apostolic-letter-on-the-liturgy/>

Ascension Presents. (2019, August 22). *Why Catholics Use Scripture and Tradition* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mTBud-9Vizo>

Catholic Productions. (2020, January 21). *Jesus Public Ministry Begins (Part 1)* [Video]. YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A_wJiuoFB2A

DailyWire+. (2018, December 17). *What Is the Catholic View of Salvation?* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EevRrWyBIIY>

Jesus.net. (2017, March 12). *Jesus Walks on Water | The Life of Jesus | #15* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vPnfcnBSReY>

National Geographic. (2018, December 22). *The History of the Bible, Animated | National Geographic* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2AuDhWiO2D4>

St. Paul Center. (2023, May 12). *FREE SAMPLE! Introduction to "Full of Grace" Course* [Video]. YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_z3bp3a8UE

The Thomistic Institute. (2020, September 29). *The Eucharist (Aquinas 101)* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mD0PwPDGfZA>

First Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week & Date	Topics / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 Aug 10 - 14	A. Orientation Agenda: Religious Studies as a Subject of Life • Google Classroom: Setup, notifications, and material access • Course Overview: Objectives, core content, references, and requirements • Grading System: Evaluation criteria (refer to syllabus) • Values and Character: RS Transformative Stamp and TORCH department standards • Classroom Expectations: Rules, responsibilities, and accountability B. Orientation and Classroom Management Plan • Community Building and Engagement • Student Welcome: Celebrating the gift of students' presence and participation • Classroom Culture: Group dynamics C. Expectations and Values • Classroom Norms: RS Collective Agreement in the light of the D'TORCH Values D. DIS: Home of the D'TORCH! • Vision-Mission and Philosophy • Basic Prayers (<i>Our Father, Hall Mary, Glory Be, Angelus, and Dominican Blessings</i>) • The Fundamentals of the Holy Mass • Common Mass Songs • Class Saint: The Practice of the Dominican Pillar Thursday: <i>Opening Mass of the Holy Spirit 8:00</i>
Week 2 Aug 17 - 21	Topics: CHAPTER 1 (1) God's Desire for us: Our Desire for God (2) Wants vs Needs vs Desires Students' Engagement: Watch: <i>Jesus Walks on Water The Life of Jesus #15</i>,  <i>Jesus Walks on Water The Life of Jesus #15</i> Pedagogy: Socratic Method (<i>Question and Answer</i>) Assessment: (1) Journal Writing

	(2) Activity
Week 3 Aug 24 - 28	Topics: CHAPTER 1 (3) Where do we find meaning in life (4) Human Life is Special Students' Engagement: Watch: From Fertilization to Child Birth, Educational Content ,From Fertilization To Childbirth 3d medical anim... Pedagogy: Socratic Method (Question and Answer) Assessment: (1) Summative Test
Week 4 Aug 31 - Sep 4	Topics: CHAPTER 1 (5) Human Beings share in God's Divine Life (6) How Do we recognize our desire for God Students' Engagement: Watch: Three Offices of Jesus, Is Jesus a Prophet, Priest, or King? Examining the Threefold Office of... Pedagogy: Socratic Method (Question and Answer) Assessment: (1) Journal Writing (2) Seatwork
Week 5 Sep 7 - 11	Topics: CHAPTER 2 (7) God reaches out to us in many ways Students' Engagement: Watch: What Is the Catholic View of Salvation? What Is The Catholic View Of Salvation? Pedagogy: Socratic Method (Question and Answer) Assessment: (1) Activity (2) Summative Test
Week 6 Sep 14 - 18	Special Topic: Biblical and Historical Accounts of the Holy Rosary (1) Biblical Supports of the Rosary (2) Historical Accounts of the Rosary (3) Significance of the Rosary Students' Engagement: Watch: Is the Rosary Biblical? Is the Rosary Biblical? Is the Rosary idolatry? Where is Hail Mary in th...

	Pedagogy: Socratic Method (<i>Question and Answer</i>) Assessment: (1) Activity (2) Summative Test
Week 7 Sep 21 - 25	Review of the Topics for the Quarterly Examination: (1) CHAPTER 1: (1) God's Desire for us: Our Desire for God (2) Wants vs Needs vs Desires (3) Where do we find meaning in life (4) Human Life is Special (5) Human Beings share in God's Divine Life (6) How Do we recognize our desire for God (2) CHAPTER 2: (7) God reaches out to us in many ways (3) SPECIAL TOPIC: (1) Biblical and Historical Accounts of the Holy Rosary Assessment: (1) Visit to the Peace Pole (2) One-on-one Conference (Department) (3) Checking of Notes and Bible Reflections Wednesday: Pre-Exam Days Thursday: Pre-Exam Days Friday: Moon Festival ~ Public Holiday
Week 8 Sep 28 - Oct 2	1ST QUARTERLY EXAMINATION (Paper and Pen) Monday Confucius' Birthday ~ Public Holiday Wednesday Thursday Major Exams Day 1 Friday Major Exams Day 2
Week 9 Oct 5 - 9	NO CLASS Monday Record Day ~ Student Holiday T-W-Th Teachers Conference ~ Student Holiday Friday Double 10 Day ~ Public Holiday

Second Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week & Date	Topics / Projects / Assessments
	PRELIMINARIES
Week 1 (10) Oct 12 - 16	• Rechecking of 1st Quarter Exam • Consultation of Grades • Subject Course Orientation for 2nd Quarter • Marian Activities Announcement • Other Matters/ Announcement
Week 2 (11) Oct 19 - 23	Special Topic: Biblical and Historical Accounts of the Holy Rosary (cont.) (1) Significance of the Rosary Students' Engagement: <i>Watch:</i> The Rosary is a Spiritual Weapon,  The Rosary is a Spiritual Weapon w/ Bishop Scott McCaig Pedagogy: Socratic Method (<i>Question and Answer</i>) Assessment: Activity
Week 3 (12) Oct 26 - 30	MARIAN ACTIVITIES (Making)
	Monday Retrocession Day ~ Public Holiday
Week 4 (13) Nov 2 - 6	Topics: CHAPTER 2 (1) Is it reasonable to believe in God? (2) We can begin to know God through human reasoning Students' Engagement: <i>Watch:</i> John Lennox on God's Existence,  Professor John Lennox God DOES exist Pedagogy: Socratic Method (<i>Question and Answer</i>) Assessment: (1) Seatwork (2) Journal Writing
Week 5 (14) Nov 9 - 13	Topics: CHAPTER 2 (3) Consider other arguments for God's existence

	Students' Engagement: <i>Watch:</i> Atheistic arguments for God's existence,  An atheist explains the most convincing argument for God Alex O'Co... Pedagogy: Socratic Method (<i>Question and Answer</i>) Assessment: (1) Activity (2) Summative Test
Week 6 (15) <i>Nov 16 - 20</i>	PBL (Project-Based Learning)/PETA (Performance Task)
Week 7 (16) <i>Nov 23 - 27</i>	PBL (Project-Based Learning)/PETA (Performance Task) Wednesday: <i>Pre-Exam Days</i> Thursday: <i>Pre-Exam Days</i> Friday: <i>Grade 12 Exams</i>
Week 8 (17) <i>Nov 30 - Dec 4</i>	PBL (Project-Based Learning)/PETA (Performance Task) Monday <i>Grade 12 Exams</i> Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 9 (18) <i>Dec 7 - Dec 11</i>	Monday <i>TBD</i> Tuesday <i>Foundation Day Mass 9:00, Cutting of the Cake Ceremony, Christmas Fair (Whole day)</i> Wednesday: <i>TBD</i> Thursday: <i>Major Final Exams half day</i> Friday: <i>Major Final Exams half day</i>
<i>Dec 14 to Jan 1: Christmas Break</i>	

"Ripple by Ripple, Charity in Action: A Year to Seven Decades"