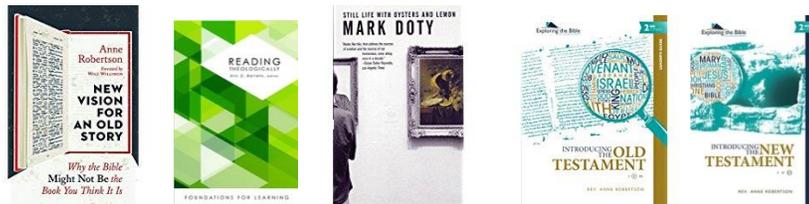


Returning to Sacred Texts and Finding Stories You Can Live In Frequently Asked Questions

When does this course meet? This course will take place asynchronously. This means that the work of this course will be done via the internet and on your own time. If there are planned online class sessions when the group will be together at one time, those will be scheduled with the group at a time that works for everyone.

Can I see a copy of the syllabus? The syllabus is in development. The course instructor, Dr. Pamela Shellberg would be happy to answer questions about the syllabus. You can reach her at pamela.shellberg@att.net

These are a few of the books that will be used in the course. The first two will be read by all, the others will be options for your own exploration.



Anne Robertson, *New Vision for an Old Story* (Eerdmans, 2018)

Eric Barreto, *Reading Theologically* (Fortress, 2014)

Anne Robertson, choice of books in the series, *Exploring the Bible: The Dickinson Series*
Includes: *What Is the Bible? Introducing the Old Testament, Introducing the New Testament* (Massachusetts Bible Society, 2014)

Mark Doty, *Still Life with Oysters and Lemon* (Beacon Press, 2002)

For a sense of the spirit of the course, two of Pam's blog postings in *Bearings*:

<https://www.thebtscenter.org/bearings/2017-january/facing-the-future-eyes-wide-shut/>
<https://www.thebtscenter.org/bearings/2014-october/scriptural-scordatura-playing-the-bible-a-little-off-key/>

Can I get seminary credit for this course? This is a question for your seminary. The Damascus Project is not an accredited, degree granting program. However, seminaries are often willing to

provide credit for learning experiences that take place in other aspects of life. The Wisconsin Conference Lay Academy has worked with seminaries in the past on providing credit for non-degree program learning. However, the first place to begin this conversation is with your seminary.

How much work will this course be/How much time will it take? The level of work for this course depends somewhat on you and on how much you decide to put into it. You will get more out of the course if you are able to spend more time. Between readings, viewing videos, participating in online posts and discussions, and your work on projects, you can plan to spend 5-7 hours per week for the 8 week series. One possible question to ask is, “what am I willing to say no to in order to make time to take this course?”

What do I get for taking this course? One of the core values of the Damascus Project is lifelong learning. We see learning as something that is valuable and worthwhile throughout our lives. We also believe that people of faith never stop growing and deepening in faith. The primary thing you will get out of this course is personal growth and development. Those who successfully complete the course will receive a certificate of completion. Those who are on a multiple path to ministry learning track will be equipped to demonstrate increased competency in the Marks/Outcomes upon which the course is based.