

**Course Title: Genesis**

Course: September 17 – November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
Thursdays 7:00-9:00pm (Eastern)

**Instructor**

**Rev. Matthew Rose**

[matthewrose@hrwchurch.org](mailto:matthewrose@hrwchurch.org)

2550 Hess Road, Appleton, 14008  
(716) 525-5316

**Course Description**

This course surveys the book of Genesis

**Required Resources**

This course will utilize the following texts:

- Genesis (we will be using the NIV, but refer to other translations as is helpful)
- Genesis: History, Fiction, or Neither: Three views on the Bible's earliest chapters (Counterpoints series with contributors Hoffmeier, Wenham, Sparks)
- The Epic of Eden: A Christian Entry into the Old Testament by Sandra L. Richter

**Additional Resources**

This course may refer to the following free resources

- Selected sermons
- Selected articles
- Selected videos

**Course Objectives**

This course is designed to provide the student with:

- A thorough grasp of the contents of the book of Genesis
- An understanding of major interpretive possibilities regarding the doctrine of creation
- An understanding of the major characters and covenants contained within the book
- An ability to relate the major themes of Genesis to the rest of scripture and the Christian life
- A readiness to use the book of Genesis to teach the word of God

**Class Assignments & Grading****READING/MEDIA (25%)**

- Read the entire book of Genesis before course begins (5%)
- Read Introduction and 1 of the 3 viewpoints in Counterpoints book prior to course (5%)
- Read selected chapters from The Epic of Eden (pages 47-165) by October 15<sup>th</sup> (5%)
- Read/Listen/View selected materials as assigned throughout course (5%)
- Read the entire book of Genesis as course concludes (5%)

**PARTICIPATION (20%)**

- Attend each week from start to finish of the Zoom session (10%)
- Participate in conversation on weekly basis (10%)

## ASSIGNMENTS (55%)

- Submit 1 page paper outlining what draws you to the book of Genesis and what you hope to get out of the course, due 1 week before course begins (5%)
- Submit a 100-200 word summary and a set of 5 questions you have or would like to explore for the assigned text of Genesis for that week, due each week 1 day prior to class (20%)
- Write a 3-5 week sermon series or bible study (no fewer than 5,000 words) built around an approved character, theme, or passage from the Book of Genesis. Subject must be approved no later than October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Document must be turned in no later than one week after the final class (30%)
- All assignments should be sent to [matthewrose@hrwchurch.org](mailto:matthewrose@hrwchurch.org)

## Course Policies

- No student shall miss more than one evening of class. In emergency situations, additional assignments may be given to make up for missed class time.
- No student shall plagiarize another source's content or utilize Artificial Intelligence for content creation. All work should be the product of the student's careful thought and best effort.

## Course Outline

This 10-week Zoom-based course is designed to take place in 2-hour increments (7pm-9pm) each week beginning September 17<sup>th</sup> and concluding November 19<sup>th</sup> (total 20 hours of class time):

|               |          |                            |               |
|---------------|----------|----------------------------|---------------|
| • Pre-Course  | Sept. 10 | Pre-course Work due        |               |
| • Week 1      | Sept. 17 | Introduction to Genesis    | Whole book    |
| • Week 2      | Sept. 24 | The Creation Accounts      | Genesis 1-2   |
| • Week 3      | Oct. 1   | The Fall                   | Genesis 3-4   |
| • Week 4      | Oct. 8   | The Flood & The Nations    | Genesis 5-11  |
| • Week 5      | Oct. 15  | Abraham, Isaac & Jacob (1) | Genesis 12-36 |
| • Week 6      | Oct. 22  | Abraham, Isaac & Jacob (2) | Genesis 12-36 |
| • Week 7      | Oct. 29  | Abraham, Isaac & Jacob (3) | Genesis 12-36 |
| • Week 8      | Nov. 5   | The Story of Joseph (1)    | Genesis 37-50 |
| • Week 9      | Nov. 12  | The Story of Joseph (2)    | Genesis 37-50 |
| • Week 10     | Nov. 19  | Genesis and Jesus          | Whole Bible   |
| • Post-Course | Nov. 26  | Post-course Work due       |               |

## Class Format

Below is a general outline of weekly class proceedings:

- General welcome and relationship building (5 minutes)
- Intro: Remarks on assignments and agenda (5 minutes)
- First teacher presentation (20-25 minutes)
- Class response and interaction to text/presentation (20-25 minutes)
- Brief Break (5 minutes)
- Second teacher presentation (20-25 minutes)
- Class response and interaction to text/presentation (20-25 minutes)
- Outro: Reminders and prayer (5 minutes)
- General dismissal with opportunity for additional conversation as needed