

Religious Quest TH16208 (Fall 2014)
Essay: Comparative Readings of Gen 1-3

Our questions thus far have been: How do the texts we've been reading understand, use and interpret the bible to depict God, Adam, Eve, the serpent and/or the devil/Satan and other elements from Genesis? What is sin according to each text and what are its consequences?

For this assignment, you will pick one of the following topics to explore and analyze how different texts treat the topic.

God
Adam
Eve
serpent and/or the devil/Satan
Sin and its consequences
free will

Successful essays will have a **clearly defined thesis** and will employ a **close reading of the text**, using **outside sources** for background research and to analyze particular words and lines, when needed. You'll then use this close reading (including citing specific lines!) to explore the **broader implications** of how women, men, gender, and sin, etc. are depicted.

Selecting a topic: Look through your reading responses for a question, observation or issue that peaks your interest. Formulate your interest into a question that you can research for your paper.

You can choose any primary texts that we read in Unit 1, but you must draw on at least one Jewish and one Christian text. Ask if you aren't sure if the texts you want to work with fit this criteria.

Proposals (including your question, primary texts and a bibliography of 3 secondary sources) is due in class on Feb. 10.

Papers are 5 pages, Times New Romans, double spaced. Please use footnotes and bibliography for citations. A citation guide is in the handout folder on Google Drive.

The paper is due via email by 6pm on Sunday Feb. 24.