

BIBLE DEPARTMENT (CONT'D)

All seniors are required to take a semester of Apologetics and a semester of either Comparative Religions or Contemporary Issues (space is limited in this course).

Bible 12: Apologetics Semester 12
“Isn’t the Bible mostly fiction?” “Doesn’t science explain everything?” “Why didn’t God design a better world?” “Why does a good God allow innocent people to suffer?” These are a few of the objections students encounter in the modern world. This course is designed to give students the tools to engage challenges to the Christian faith with biblically informed answers that make sense to non-believers. Using the book, *I Don’t Have Enough Faith to be an Atheist*, this course prepares students to “give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have” (1 Peter 3:15) in a way that is respectful, faithful, and intelligent.

Bible 12: Comparative Religions Semester 12
This course is a survey of the seven major religions of the world: Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Daoism, and Confucianism. Students learn the major beliefs and practices of each religion and how each has developed over the course of time. By seeing how each faith answers the most important questions of existence: “Why are we here?” “What is our purpose?” “Where are we going?” etc., students are equipped to converse about and share their own faith with others in a way that is informed and respectful. Students also reflect on their own spiritual journey and have the opportunity to research a modern religious movement of their choice.

Bible 12: Contemporary Issues Semester 12
The Church is in the midst of a radical transformation, and many people, within the Church and outside the Church, are questioning the traditional teachings and values of Christianity. This course will examine some of the contemporary issues that are facing Christians in the 21st century. They will discuss how to appropriately address these issues from a biblical worldview. Through a series of readings, discussions, and written responses, the students will reflect upon issues such as reproductive rights, gender issues, marriage and divorce, addictions, the role of religion in politics, and entertainment, among others.

Prerequisite: Consideration for this class includes an application and possibly an interview.