

Homer and the Hebrew Bible

Session I: The Odyssey and Genesis

Readings:

- Homer, *Odyssey*, trans. Robert Fagles (New York: Viking Press, 1996), Book 4, lines 1-539.
- Genesis 28:10-17.
- Genesis 32:23-33.
- [“Should Jews Read Homer?”](#) *Mosaic*.

Session II: Sex in Greek and Hebraic Literary Traditions

Readings:

- Homer, *Iliad*, trans. Robert Fagles (New York: Penguin, 1990), Book 6, lines 461-555.
- Homer, *Odyssey*, Book 1, lines 1-24; Book 5, lines 165-247; Book 10, lines 277-385.
- Genesis 2:18-25; 3:1-6; 4:1-26; 6:1-4.
- “Sex and the Ancient City,” *Mosaic*.

Session III: Noah vs. Odysseus: Greek and Hebraic Heroes

Readings:

- Herodotus, *The Persian Wars*, trans. G. C. Macaulay (New York: MacMillan, 1890), 1.4, 1.7-12.
- Genesis 9:1-27.
- Homer, *Odyssey*, Book 5, lines 345-390; Book 6, lines 1-365.
- [“Noah and Odysseus: Exposed!”](#) *Mosaic*.

Session IV: The Role of the Common Man in Greek and Hebraic Literature

Readings:

- Homer, *Odyssey*, Book 9, lines 44-630
- Genesis 11:1-9
- I Samuel 17
- “Homeric and Biblical Nobodies,” *Mosaic*.

Session V: Can Heroism Be Found in the Mundane?

Readings:

- Homer, *Odyssey*. Book 19, lines 297-567; Book 24, lines 241-602
- Genesis 12, 16, 19-21.
- [“Not Everything Is a Charging Boar,”](#) *Mosaic*.

Session VI: The Nature of the World and Emotion

Readings:

- Homer, *Odyssey*. Book 1, lines 96-373; Book 4, lines 134-324
- Genesis 25, 27-29
- ["The Molten Flow of Primordial Chaos, Agitating the Chests of Men—or Not,"](#) *Mosaic*.