

**IDH2930: (Un)common Reading:
“Crazy Love and the Bible – A reading of the *Song of Solomon*.”**

Course Description:

This course will explore the most passionate and sometime erotic book in the bible, a parable about the love of God and the magnitude of the human spirit. The course will include a reading of the song, some phrases from the song in the original Hebrew, and some literary and musical adaptations and references to the *Song of Solomon*.

Assignments:

Writing Assignment: (25%)

What is your own reading of the *Song of Solomon*? How would you divide the poem, and what is the structure of the work according to your reading? What are some of the themes that you find in the text? What do you believe that they mean? Do you consider the text poetry of prose? And what are the most effective rhetorical devices that the author/poet uses?

Presentation: (25%)

Each student will be asked to present one reading assignment and suggest a theme for a class discussion to follow their presentation.

Participation: (50%)

Student participation is essential. Students will be asked to prepare questions and comments for each section of the reading.

Class Schedule:

Week 1: Introduction

**Week 2: The *Song of Song* and
Biblical poetry**

Week 3: Preface: (1:1–6)

**Week 4: Dialogue between the lovers
(1:7–2:7)**

Week 5: The lover's visit (2:8–17)

**Week 6: Advice to the daughters of
Zion (3:1–5).**

Week 7: A royal wedding (3:6–11)

Week 8: The lover's beauty (4:1–5:1)

**Week 9: More advice to the daughters
of Zion (5:2–6:4)**

**Week 10: Another lover's visit (6:5–
12)**

Week 11: Female beauty (6:13–8:4)

Week 12: Appendix (8:5–14)

Week 13: References and Adaptations

**Week 14: Conclusion – Writing
assignments due**