

## **Religion and the First Amendment First Day Assignment**

**Fall 2024**

**Professor Charles Collier**

Several items have been posted to the “Files” section of your Canvas page.

Oklahoma has recently issued a Memorandum and Instructional Guidelines concerning the teaching of the Bible in its schools.

For our first class, assume that the Oklahoma Guidelines are being challenged in court. Those whose last names begin with “K” or earlier in the alphabet should come to class with arguments against the Oklahoma Guidelines (and sit on the right side of the classroom, as you face the front); those whose last names begin with “L” or later in the alphabet should come to class with arguments in favor of the Oklahoma Guidelines (and sit on the left side of the classroom).

Some additional materials have also been provided: the General Introduction to a well known “Literary Guide to the Bible”; and two short Supreme Court cases. You should read these too, and consider how they might relate to the Oklahoma Guidelines.