Instead of emphasizing the Bible’s ancient character, this course will approach the Bible as also a uniquely modern document by charting its more recent history since the Renaissance, Reformation, and European Enlightenment. Rather than attending to the Bible itself or its interpretation, we will instead delve into its cultural significance, exploring the ways it has shaped the modern world. We will engage not only texts, but also elements of visual, material, and digital culture. We will ask questions such as, when and where did the Bible come from? How have modern people understood it? To what extent are these understandings in continuity with the past, and to what extent do they constitute a radical break? How has the Bible functioned as not only a “religious” document, but also a fraught social and political one? What is the Bible’s current state, and what is its future?