World Religions Tip Sheet

➔ When writing about scriptures, the normal convention for indicating titles does not usually apply.

➔ For general usage, the following terms are neither placed inside quotation marks nor italicized (but they are capitalized):
  ➢ Bible
  ➢ Talmud
  ➢ Koran
  ➢ Exodus (books or letters of the Bible)
  ➢ New Testament / Old Testament
  ➢ Upanishads
  ➢ Gospels (capitalization optional)

➔ However, if you use the name or title of an individual publication, the title should be italicized:
  ➢ The Open Bible
  ➢ The Talmud of the Land of Israel: A Preliminary Translation and Explanation
  ➢ The Upanishads: A Selection for the Modern Reader

➔ In the text of your paper, the first time you cite from any scripture, you must provide the corresponding element that comes first in your works cited entry. For all subsequent citations from the same text, you only have to provide the division properties.
  ➢ For Bible entries this means book, chapter, and verse.
  ➢ Use common abbreviation for books when available.

EXAMPLE: First Parenthetical Citation
In Rowling’s *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*, Dobby, the humble house elf, points out that “Harry Potter risks his own life for his friend!” (179), clearly alluding to the biblical parallel, “Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends” (*NIV Archaeological Study Bible, John 15:13*).

EXAMPLE: Subsequent Parenthetical Citations
Tom’s diary helps to juxtapose Tom and Harry, illustrating that both are choosing their path in life: “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matt. 6:21).

EXAMPLE: Matching Works Cited Entry