



CHRISTIAN HERITAGE COLLEGE

JA402

BIBLICAL STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

This sample unit outline is provided by CHC for prospective and current students to assist with unit selection.

Elements of this outline which may change with subsequent offerings of the unit include Content, Required Texts, Recommended Readings and details of the Assessment Tasks.

Students who are currently enrolled in this unit should obtain the outline for the relevant semester from the unit lecturer.

Unit code	JA402	
Unit name	Biblical Studies in the Old Testament	
Associated higher education awards	Graduate Certificate in Ministry Graduate Diploma in Ministry	
Duration	One semester	
Level	AQF Level 8	
Unit coordinator	Dr Sam Hey	
Core/elective	Core	
Weighting	Unit credit points: 10cp	Total course credit points: Graduate Certificate in Ministry 40cp Graduate Diploma in Ministry 80cp
Student workload	Face-to-face on-site	External
	Timetabled hours: 39	Directed study hours: 39
	Readings and study hours: 51	Readings and study hours: 51
	Assignment preparation hours: 60	Assignment preparation hours: 60
	Total hours per unit: 150	Total hours per unit: 150
Students requiring additional English language support are expected to undertake an additional one hour per week		
Delivery mode	Face to Face on site External	
Pre-requisites/ co-requisites/ restrictions	Prerequisites: Nil Co-requisites: Nil Restrictions: Nil	
Rationale	<p>Many doctrinal, ethical and practical aspects of Christian theology, history and practice originate in the Old Testament, making it important for ministry students to be familiar with the text and the ways it is interpreted.</p> <p>This unit provides an opportunity to develop approaches and critical skills in handling biblical evidence and evaluating the contexts of biblical exegesis in ways that can be applied to ministry. It considers interpretation strategies and draws guidelines and inspiration from the Old Testament for application to personal faith, ministry and mission today. It also develops a critical awareness of changing understandings of biblical texts through history and in contemporary contexts. The unit aims to develop a sound basis upon which further study may be developed. This unit gives the student an opportunity to develop knowledge of the Old Testament and skills in reading, interpreting and applying biblical texts in the light of their historical and cultural settings.</p>	
Prescribed text(s)	Merrill, EH, Rooker, MF & Grisanti, MA 2011, <i>The World and the Word: An Introduction to the Old Testament</i> , B&H, Nashville, TN. <i>The Holy Bible</i> , Recommended Version: New King James (NKJV).	

Recommended readings	<p>Arnold, BT 2014, <i>Introduction to the Old Testament</i>, Cambridge University Press, New York, NY.</p> <p>Beale, GK 2012, <i>Handbook on the New Testament use of the Old Testament: Exegesis and Interpretation</i>, Baker Academic, Grand Rapids, MI.</p> <p>Brueggemann, W & Linafelt, T 2012, <i>An Introduction to the Old Testament: The Canon and Christian Imagination</i>, 2nd edn, Westminster John Knox Press, Louisville, KY.</p> <p>Cockerill, GL 2014, <i>Christian Faith in the Old Testament: The Bible of the Apostles</i>, Thomas Nelson, Nashville, TN.</p> <p>Drane, J 2011, <i>Introducing the Old Testament</i>, 3rd edn, Lion Books, Oxford, UK.</p> <p>Fee, DG & Stuart, D 2014, <i>How to Read the Bible for all its Worth</i>, 4th edn, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, MI.</p> <p>Goldingay, J 2006, <i>Old Testament Theology, Israel's Gospel</i>, vol 1, InterVarsity Press, Downers Grove, IL.</p> <p>Goldingay, J 2003, <i>Old Testament Theology, Israel's Faith</i>, vol 2, InterVarsity Press, Downers Grove, IL.</p> <p>Hill, AE & Walton, JH 2014, <i>Old Testament Today: A Journey from Ancient Context to Contemporary Relevance</i>, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, MI.</p> <p>Hill, AE & Walton, JH 2009, <i>A Survey of the Old Testament</i>, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, MI.</p> <p>LaSor, WS, Hubbard, DA & Bush, FW 2012, <i>Old Testament Survey: The Message, Form and Background of the Old Testament</i>, 2nd edn, Eerdmans Publishing, Grand Rapids, MI.</p> <p>Moberly, RW 2013, <i>Old Testament Theology: Reading the Hebrew Bible as Christian Scripture</i>, Baker Academic, Ada, MI.</p> <p>Wright, C 2011, <i>Old Testament Ethics for the People of God</i>, Intervarsity Press, Downers Grove, IL.</p>
Specialist resources requirements	<p>Nil</p>
Content	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction to the formation, composition and interpretation of the Old Testament 2. God, creation, humanity and mission 3. Origin and hopes of Israel, covenant Torah, priesthood and sacrifices 4. National hope and failure – Old Testament narratives in Joshua and Judges 5. The rise and fall of the monarchy and resulting future hopes 6. The Psalms and Wisdom Literature 7. The prophetic hope of Isaiah 8. The prophetic tragedy and loss in Jeremiah and Lamentations 9. The prophetic hope of restoration in Ezekiel and Daniel 10. The messages of minor prophets 11. The return under Ezra and Nehemiah 12. Future hope and coming of the Messiah 13. Application of the Old Testament to contemporary contexts

Learning outcomes	<p>On completion of this unit, students should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify and discuss the origin, composition and inspiration of the Old Testament; 2. Critically examine the books of the Old Testament and their historical and cultural settings; 3. Define major theological themes in the Old Testament and critically evaluate their significance for contemporary Christian theology and ministry; 4. Outline and critically evaluate various approaches to the interpretation and study of Old Testament texts; 5. Identify methods and skills of interpretation used by biblical scholars and various approaches to the interpretation and study of Old Testament texts; 6. Relate Old Testament texts and themes to contemporary situations; and 7. Communicate at an appropriate tertiary standard with special attention to correct grammar, punctuation, spelling, vocabulary, usage, sentence structure, logical relations, style, referencing and presentation.
Assessment tasks	<p>Task 1: Thematic Analysis</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 2,500 words</p> <p>Weighting: 40%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 1-4,6,7</p> <p>Assessed: Week 8</p> <p>Task 2: Evaluative Essay</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 3,500 words</p> <p>Weighting: 60%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 3-7</p> <p>Assessed: Week 13</p>
Unit summary	<p>This core unit contributes to establishing foundational knowledge and skills in order to provide a framework for the student's theological, personal and ministry formation and practice through a knowledge of the Old Testament.</p>