

2010 UNITS.

DBN131.15 Introduction to the Bible

Content

An introduction to the Bible, both Old and New Testaments, with an emphasis on setting Biblical books in context, understanding the different forms of Biblical literature, detailing some key figures within the Biblical canon and examining ways in which the Bible remains relevant for today.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this unit, students will be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate an awareness of critical skills that will assist in reading and interpreting the Bible carefully.
- 2 Give an overview of the different types of Biblical literature.
- 3 Show an ability to explore the question of how the Bible is relevant for today.
- 4 Identify some key characters in the Old and New Testaments.
- 5 Outline a brief survey of both the Old and New Testaments.
- 6 Use tools for Biblical interpretation such as dictionaries, commentaries, and surveys.
- 7 Begin to develop the analytical skills necessary for theological reflection on Biblical texts.

Prerequisites

Nil.

Teaching methods

The unit will be taught via a combination of lectures and tutorials.

Assessment

One 750 word Old Testament exegetical exercise	25%
One 750 word New Testament exegetical exercise	25%
One 1,500 word thematic essay	50%

Offered

Online and at Whitley in Semester One 2010

Unit Value

15 points at Diploma level.

Faculty

David Horsey

Textbooks

- Achtemeier, Paul C., Joel B.Green and Marianne Meye Thompson, *Introducing the New Testament: Its Literature and Theology*. Grand Rapids: William B.Eerdmans, 2001.
- Coggins, R. and J.L. Houlden (eds.) *A Dictionary of Biblical Interpretation*. London: SCM, 1990
- Collins, J.J. *Introduction to the Hebrew Bible*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2004.
- Collins, R.F. *Introduction to the New Testament*. London: SCM Press, 1983.
- Drane, John. *Introducing the Old Testament*. Rev.ed. Oxford: Lion, 2000.
- Fee, Gordon D. and Douglas K.Stuart, *How to Read the Bible For All It's Worth*. 3rd edn. Grand Rapis: Zondervan, 2003.
- Hayes, J.H. and C.R.Holladay. *Biblical Exegesis: A Beginner's Handbook*. 2nd ed. Atlanta: John Knox, 1988.

An online version of this unit will also be taught. The teaching Methods and Assessment are as follows:

Teaching methods

Six online sessions, of mini lectures and introductions to reading assignments, encouraging the student to progress from reading to reacting, reflecting and writing with ongoing online reflections and short written assignments for each component.

Assessment

Five essays of 400 words each dealing with the reading assignments for that component (10% each)

Final thematic essay of 2,000 words (50%)