

BA1001W Introducing the Hebrew Bible (BA1701W – Online)

Offered: 2018: Semester 2 (Also offered online Semester 2 – as BA1701W)

This unit aims to introduce the student to the diversity of Old Testament traditions, traditions; develop a familiarity with exegetical tools and methods; explore selected theological themes – especially creation, covenant, law, leadership, suffering and ethnicity.

Upon successful completion of this unit, it is expected that students will be able to:

1. Describe the historical and social worlds of the Old Testament / Hebrew Bible.
2. Demonstrate a working familiarity with a range of exegetical approaches to the Hebrew Bible.
3. Effectively use the tools for biblical interpretation: dictionaries, commentaries, journals, monographs, along with primary sources.
4. Support theological applications of the Hebrew Bible to our current context.

Prerequisites: Nil

Class Time: Three hours per week

Assessment: One 1,500 word essay (40%)
One 1,500 word exegesis (40%)
1,000 words of online participation, critically responding to set readings (20%)

Faculty: Mark Brett

Recommended Reading:

* = set texts recommended for purchase

Arnold, B., *Introduction to the Old Testament*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014.

Birch, B. (et al), *A Theological Introduction to the Old Testament*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1999.

Carr, D.M., *An Introduction to the Old Testament: Sacred Texts and Imperial Contexts of the Hebrew Bible*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2010.

Childs, B.S., *Introduction to the Old Testament as Scripture*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1979.

Collins, J.J., *Introduction to the Hebrew Bible*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 2004.

Gorman, M.J., *Elements of Biblical Exegesis: A Basic Guide for Students and Ministers*. Peabody: Hendrickson, rev. edn, 2009.

Rogerson, J., *Atlas of the Bible*. London: Macdonald, 1985.

Smith-Christopher, D., *The Old Testament: Our Call to Faith & Justice*. Notre Dame: Ave Maria Press, 2005.

Stuart, D., *Old Testament Exegesis: A Handbook for Students and Pastors*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 4th edn 2009.