

BA8001W Introducing the Hebrew Bible (BA8701W – Online)

Offered: **2018: Semester 2** *(Also offered online Semester 2 – as BA8701W)*

This unit aims to introduce students to the diversity of Old Testament 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.
5. Undertake postgraduate-level research into the Hebrew Bible, and demonstrate this by writing an exegetical paper using appropriate methods and skills.

Prerequisites: Nil

Class Time: Three hours per week

Assessment:	One 2,500 word essay	(45%)
	One 2,500 word exegesis	(45%)
	1,000 words of online participation, critically responding to set readings	(10%)

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.