



BA MODULE DESCRIPTORS OVERVIEW – LEVEL 4

TH4803 – Hebrew Grammar

This module, by providing a study of the grammar of biblical Hebrew, enables those who take it to have the tools to be able to begin to access the Old Testament of the Bible in its original language.

Aims

1. To provide a knowledge of the foundational elements of the grammar of biblical Hebrew.
2. To enable students to begin to read and translate Hebrew narrative texts.

TH4804 – Greek Grammar

Knowledge of New Testament Greek will enable students to engage with primary texts and scholarly works not only in New Testament studies, but also of relevance to Old Testament, Historical Theology, Apologetics and Doctrine. In homiletics and applied Bible study, being able to engage with the NT text in Greek is a great advantage. This module serves as a foundation for further study of Greek.

Aims

1. To provide a foundational knowledge of the script, vocabulary, morphology and elementary syntax of Koine Greek, focussed on the NT corpus
2. To prepare students to read and translate elementary texts within the NT, including John's Gospel, and similar texts outside the NT.

TH4841 - Pentateuch

The Pentateuch is the foundation of both the Hebrew Scriptures and of the Christian Bible. It provides the source of all Biblical Theology, including every major theme in the Hebrew Scriptures. Issues concerning, for example, sources, authorship and composition of books; historicity, genre, are all introduced in the Pentateuch.

Aims

1. To make students familiar with the distinctives of each book of the Pentateuch.
2. To make students familiar with the Pentateuch as a coherent, unified corpus.
3. To introduce students to issues relating to the origin, structure, themes, and theology of the Pentateuch.
4. To introduce students to wider methodological approaches to narrative texts.

TH4842 – English Text – Old & New Testament

The Bible is the primary source document of Christianity. This module studies an Old Testament and a New Testament book, providing the interpretative skills needed to study the other parts of the Bible.

Aims

1. to develop exegetical skills through the study of a whole Old Testament book (Jonah) and a New Testament letter (Philippians) in English translation.
2. to acquire knowledge and understanding of the text in its original socio-historical context.
3. to examine key issues, themes and theological concepts in the books under consideration and draw implications for Christian practice and contemporary contexts.



TH4843 – From Pentecost to the Reformation

This module introduces students to the history of the church from the end of the New Testament period up to and including the Protestant Reformation of the 16th century. The module enables students to understand and evaluate this formative period in the history of the church.

Aims

To enable students to understand the intellectual, spiritual, and practical dimensions of the early, medieval, and Reformation church, and to help them to articulate their relevance for contemporary Christian theology, lifestyle, and ministry practice today.

TH4844 – Building Ministry Skills

The module lays the foundations for integrating theological study with personal preparation for Christian ministry, and building key practical skills for such work.

Aims

1. to introduce students to the process of spiritual and pastoral formation through self-understanding, theological reflection, and the exercise of spiritual disciplines, in preparation for ministry practice.
2. to enable students to integrate their own spiritual formation with the development of a theological approach to sermon preparation and delivery.
3. to develop an understanding of the biblical principles behind the content and goal of preaching, informing the practice of sermon preparation and preaching.

TH4845 - Foundations of Missional Practice

This module builds foundations for Christian missional practice in the contemporary church, enabling students to connect Biblical studies and the theory and practice of Christian mission.

Aims

The module aims to help students to understand the foundations for Christian Mission in the Old and New Testaments, and how these relate to the Mission of God of which the church is a part. Students will be enabled to relate this understanding to the missional identity of the church today, including its soteriology, ecclesiology, missions, evangelism, discipleship, and family life.

TH4846 – Foundations of Systematic Theology

The module sets foundations for understanding Christian doctrine and its development, integrating doctrine with biblical studies and church history.

Aims

1. To give an understanding of evangelical systematic theology in its relation to scripture, the historical development of Christianity and ecclesiological practice.
2. To enhance an awareness of other Christian doctrinal systems and traditions, engaging with them appropriately through wide reading and evidence-based critical analysis.
3. To equip students with a strong theological understanding for application in Christian ministry, preaching, and Christian living.



BA MODULE DESCRIPTORS OVERVIEW – LEVEL 5

TH5802 - Gospel Studies

Jesus Christ is the central figure in Christianity as a world religion, so it is essential to study the ancient accounts of Jesus' life and public ministry preserved in the canonical Gospels, and the socio-historical world of which Jesus was part. This module relates to the Greek Reading I module in that the modules study the same key texts, in English and Greek respectively.

Aims

1. to describe current knowledge and discuss critical thought about the origin, nature and purpose of the canonical Gospels, as well as their socio-historical context.
2. to develop understanding of the portrayal of Jesus and his ministry in each of the four canonical Gospels.
3. to examine key issues, themes and theological concepts in the Gospels and draw implications for Christian practice and contemporary contexts.

TH5803 - Hebrew Reading I

This module builds on the knowledge and understanding of Hebrew grammar acquired in the Hebrew Grammar module. It enables the learner to further enhance knowledge and understanding of Hebrew grammar, and to acquire knowledge and understanding of aspects of Hebrew syntax, and discourse features. This is achieved by undertaking a study of two books of the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible, namely Jonah and Ruth.

Aims

1. To read and translate the narrative of Jonah and all of Ruth.
2. To study aspects of grammar, syntax, and discourse structure.
3. To make exegetical and theological comment on the text.

TH5805 - Hebrew Grammar

The key source text of Christianity is the Bible, whose first part is known to Christians as the Old Testament. This module, by providing, a study of the grammar of biblical Hebrew, enables those who take it to have the tools to be able to begin to access the Old Testament in its original language.

Aims

1. To provide a knowledge and understanding of the foundational elements of the grammar of biblical Hebrew.
2. To enable students to begin to read and translate Hebrew narrative texts



TH5806 - Greek Grammar

Knowledge of New Testament Greek will enable students to engage with primary texts and scholarly works not only in New Testament studies, but also of relevance to Old Testament, Historical Theology, Apologetics and Doctrine. In homiletics and all manner of applied Bible study, being able to engage with the NT text in Greek is a great advantage. This module serves as a foundation for further study of Greek.

Aims

1. To provide a foundational knowledge of the script, vocabulary, morphology and elementary syntax of Koine Greek, focussed on the NT corpus
2. To prepare students to read and translate elementary texts within the NT, including John's Gospel, and similar texts outside the NT.

TH5851 - Wisdom and Prophetic Literature

This module covers Biblical Hebrew poetry, the wisdom texts and the Prophetic Literature. The module explores the prophetic genre and its relationship to biblical theology, and the various Wisdom books, which are often very challenging for a Christian audience. The Psalms were primary in exegesis, hermeneutics, theology and worship for the first millennium and retain a centrality of place in most Christian traditions

Aims

1. To understand the distinctives of a selection of Wisdom and Prophetic books, including their canonical setting.
2. To understand and learn to interpret the genres of prophecy and Wisdom, including Biblical Hebrew poetry.
3. To understand the history of interpretation of the Book of Psalms, including recent approaches, and apply these exegetically and ministerially.

TH5852 - Systematic Theology I

Systematic theology is a holistic approach to understanding Christianity, comprising biblical, historical and theological perspectives in interaction with current philosophical and cultural developments. As such it provides an indispensable base for critical evaluation of all areas of theology. The area covered in this module (God, Humanity, and Christology) is particularly crucial to the whole of the theological spectrum.

Aims

1. To evaluate the biblical material on God, humanity, and Christology.
2. To encourage critical reflection on historical and contemporary interpretations of these doctrines.
3. To appreciate the foundational nature of these doctrines, interacting critically with past and present theologians.



TH5853 - From the Puritans to the Evangelical Revival

The module builds on prior study at Level 4 in the Reformation period, and links study to the Level 6 module 'Church in the Modern World' to ensure full coverage of the history of Christianity across the BA programme. The module enables students to understand and evaluate a key period in the history of Reformed evangelicalism, which is the theological tradition of Union School of Theology.

Aims

To enable students to understand the intellectual, spiritual and practical dimensions of Puritanism and the Evangelical Revival, and to help them to articulate their relevance for contemporary Christian theology, lifestyle, and ministry practice.

TH5854 Ministry Placement I

The module enables students to deploy their theological training in a current Christian ministry context, gain experience in a ministry situation developing skills for future ministry practice, and receive support during the placement experience and feedback to enhance learning.

Aims

To enable students to deploy their theological understanding and pastoral ministry skills in the context of Christian ministry practice through undertaking a supervised placement of about three-weeks' duration in an appropriate ministry context.

TH5855 - Preaching and Communication

Preaching and Communication continues to build on the foundations laid in Building Ministry Skills. Graduates of the BA programme will be involved in various lay and vocational ministry settings that will require the ability to communicate biblical content effectively to others. This module integrates learning from other areas of study: biblical studies, systematic theology, pastoral theology, etc., and enable effective preaching and communication to others.

Aims

1. To develop an understanding of how preaching changes lives.
2. To build greater skill in preparation of clear, engaging and relevant messages from biblical texts of various genres.
3. To develop an applied understanding of the various schools of thought in the field of homiletical studies.
4. To develop skill in public speaking, and gain experience of preaching with feedback.



TH5856 - Independent Study

The Independent Study module provides students with an opportunity to explore a topic of their own choice. Students may wish to investigate further, in a particular way, a topic in a module which they have been studying. As a result, topics may reflect any of the three major strands of the programme, that is, biblical studies, theological and historical studies, as well as ministerial and missional practice. The Independent Study module, in its broadest sense, encourages the development of skills necessary for independent learning and research and the level 6 dissertation module.

Aims

1. To provide students with the opportunity and responsibility for undertaking an investigative project on their own.
2. To encourage understanding of, and competence in, research methodology.

TH5857 - Greek Reading I

This module builds on the Greek Grammar module, developing four major skills which are integral to the constant exegetical work of a Christian Minister:

1. Building familiarity with the Syntax of Koine Greek.
2. Developing reading fluency and speed through longer passages and a variety of authors.
3. Developing exegetical skills through a close analysis of texts in conversation with the scholarly literature.
4. Integration of Greek language study with other aspects of New Testament Studies

BA MODULE DESCRIPTORS OVERVIEW – LEVEL 6

TH6802 - Pauline Studies

Paul is a key figure in early Christianity. His influence on the thought and practice of the early Church, rooted in the life and teachings of Jesus, continues to be highly significant for Christianity in the 21st century. This module also relates to the Greek Reading II module in that both modules study the same key texts in English and Greek, respectively.

Aims

1. To describe current knowledge and discuss critical thought of the person and ministry of the apostle Paul and the methods scholars have used to interpret him.
2. To consider the Jewish and Graeco-Roman worlds in which Paul operated and his relationship to Judaism.
3. To analyze the main themes in Pauline theology.
4. To understand the occasion and theology of each Pauline letter and draw implications for Christian practice and contemporary contexts.



TH6804 - The Church in the Modern world

The module builds on learners' previous studies of the history and development of Christianity in modules on the Early Church and the Reformation and Puritanism to the Evangelical Revival. It enables students to evaluate the impact of the events in the period on the contemporary church.

Aims

To prepare learners for various forms of Christian ministry practice by applying historical skills to the study of global Christianity within its wider social, political and intellectual context from the late eighteenth century to the end of the twentieth century. This will enable learners to understand and interpret the context for in which current ministry takes place.

TH6811 - Hebrew Reading I

This module builds on the knowledge and understanding of Hebrew grammar acquired in the Hebrew Grammar module. It enables the learner to further enhance knowledge and understanding of Hebrew grammar, and to acquire knowledge and understanding of aspects of Hebrew syntax, discourse features as well as textual criticism. This is achieved by undertaking a study of two books of the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible, namely Jonah and Ruth.

Aims

1. To read and translate the entire text of Jonah and Ruth.
2. To study aspects of grammar, syntax, and discourse structure.
3. To make exegetical and theological comment on the text.
4. To examine textual variants in the book of Ruth.

TH6812 - Greek Reading I

This module builds on the Greek Grammar module, developing four major skills which are integral to the constant exegetical work of a Christian Minister:

1. Building familiarity with the Syntax of Koine Greek.
2. Developing reading fluency and speed through longer passages and a variety of authors.
3. Developing exegetical skills through a close analysis of texts in conversation with the scholarly literature.
4. Integration of Greek language study with other aspects of New Testament Studies

TH6813 - Hebrew Reading II

This module builds on the knowledge and understanding of Hebrew text acquired in Hebrew Reading I. By focusing on the psalms, the module enables learners to engage with the distinctive features of Hebrew poetic material. In addition, learners will be introduced to textual criticism.

Aims

1. To read and translate selected psalms.
2. To study aspects of grammar and syntax.
3. To consider some distinctive indicators of Hebrew poetry and some textual variants.
4. To make exegetical and theological comment on the text.



TH6835 Dissertation

The Dissertation module provides students with an opportunity to explore a topic of their own choice, subject to approval. Students may wish to investigate further a topic in a module which they have been studying. As a result, topics may reflect any of the three major strands of the programme, that is, biblical studies, theological and historical studies, as well as ministerial and missional practice. The Dissertation module seeks to enhance the skills necessary for independent learning and research.

Aims

1. To provide students with the opportunity and responsibility for undertaking an investigative project on their own.
2. To enable students to develop a research project, making competent use of appropriate methods of study.

TH6851 Systematic Theology II

Systematic theology is a holistic approach to understanding Christianity, comprising Biblical, historical and theological perspectives in interaction with current philosophical and cultural developments. As such it provides an indispensable base for critical evaluation of all areas of theology. The area covered in this module (Redemption, Eschatology) is crucial to the whole of the theological spectrum.

Aims

1. To evaluate the Biblical material on Redemption and Eschatology.
2. To encourage critical reflection on historical and contemporary interpretations of these doctrines.
3. To appreciate the foundational nature of these doctrines, interacting critically with past and present theologians.

TH6852 - Ministry Placement II

The module enables students to deepen their understanding and experience of theological training for Christian work through taking an extended placement in an appropriate ministry context, building on skills and experience gained in Ministry Placement I, and requiring students to integrate theological material with Christian ministry practice. This builds skills for students in preparation for future vocational Christian ministry, including those in cross-cultural mission.

TH6853 - Pastoral Theology and Ministry

Many students at Union are preparing for Christian pastoral ministry. The module builds on previous studies in the Building Ministry Skills module as well as the Ministry Placement modules to help students to gain a biblical and theological basis for the exercise of pastoral ministry, and the skills and understanding necessary for responses to a range of pastoral issues.

Aims

1. To enable students to understand the biblical and theological basis for pastoral care by exploring a range of classic and contemporary texts on pastoral theology and care.
2. To equip students with knowledge and systematic understanding of the nature and purpose of pastoral care in contemporary ministry, including variety of approaches and in response to major life-issues encountered in pastoral ministry.



TH6854 Greek Reading II

This module develops the kind of reading fluency that will allow Greek to be of use during everyday ministry, and to be used with sufficient regularity that one can keep growing in fluency and grasp of the language.

The module builds on Greek Reading I, picking up where that module left off by increasing the rate of reading, and increasing the difficulty and stylistic variety of the biblical and extra-biblical texts.