

BA Module Descriptors Level 4

HB41 Hebrew 1: Grammar

This module introduces students to the language of Biblical Hebrew, the language in which the vast majority of the Hebrew Bible was written. It provides a grounding in the foundational elements of Hebrew grammar and lays the basis upon which students can begin to tackle Hebrew narrative texts. The course introduces from an early stage the reading of passages of the biblical text, tailored appropriately to the grammar covered. The module is intended to prepare students for the follow-up module, Hebrew 2: Narrative.

Aims

1. To provide a knowledge of the foundational elements of the grammar of Biblical Hebrew.
2. To enable students to begin reading and translating Hebrew narrative texts with understanding, accuracy, and confidence.

GK41 Greek 1: Grammar

The New Testament is written in *Koine Greek*. Accordingly, knowledge of *Koine Greek* will serve 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 allows students to begin some engagement with this body of literature, and serves as a foundation for further study of Greek. It is preparatory for the Greek 2 module.

Aims

1. To learn the foundations of *Koine Greek*.
2. To begin to read elementary texts, including appropriate texts from the NT and beyond.

OT41 OT1: Pentateuch and Former Prophets

The Pentateuch is not only the beginning, but also 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. Its proper exegesis, integration into the wider canon, and application, is foundational to all other modules. The Former Prophets continue the story of ancient Israel and develop the major pentateuchal themes. While Joshua–Kings may be historical narrative in content, the books' perspective is prophetic and highly theological. Understanding them is crucial background for studying God's overall purposes in redemptive history, and more specifically the Latter Prophets, Psalms, and Wisdom Literature.

Aims

1. You will learn to read the Pentateuch book-by-book and as a coherent whole; grapple with selected critical issues; read any text in the Pentateuch as part of the Christian Bible and (accordingly) apply it to Christian life and ministry.

2. You will learn to read the Former Prophets book-by-book and as a continuous story; grapple with selected critical issues; study any text in the Former Prophets as part of the Christian Bible and (accordingly) apply it to Christian life and ministry.

CH41 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

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

MM41 Preaching and Communication

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 will integrate 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 develop skills in hermeneutics, sermon preparation and public speaking.
3. To enable students to prepare and present clear, engaging and relevant messages from biblical texts of various genres.
4. To give experience of preaching with feedback.

MM44 Biblical Foundations of Mission

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

Aims

1. 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.
2. 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.

ST41 Systematic Theology 1

The module sets foundations in 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.

IS41 Independent Essays

The Independent Essays module provides students with an opportunity to explore topics of their own choice, subject to approval. Topics may be chosen from Biblical Studies, Theological Studies or Ministry Practice.

Aims

The module encourages skills of independent study, research and essay writing.

BA Module Descriptors Level 5

HB51 Hebrew 1: Grammar

This module introduces students to the language of Biblical Hebrew, the language in which the vast majority of the Hebrew Bible was written. It provides a grounding in the foundational elements of Hebrew grammar and lays the basis upon which students can begin to tackle Hebrew narrative texts. The course introduces from an early stage the reading of passages of the biblical text, tailored appropriately to the grammar covered. The module is intended to prepare students for the follow-up module, Hebrew 2: Narrative.

Aims

1. To provide a knowledge of the foundational elements of the grammar of Biblical Hebrew.
2. To enable students to begin reading and translating Hebrew narrative texts with understanding, accuracy, and confidence.

HB52 Hebrew 2: Narrative

Building upon the foundations of Hebrew 1: Grammar, this module enables students to take a major step forward in reading fluency and competence. The bulk of the class time consists in sustained reading of a range of biblical texts of the narrative genre, with the remainder of class

time devoted to the introduction or development of theory topics (to be reinforced in the readings). This includes matters of grammar and syntax. In addition to independent preparation of set texts, students continue to learn vocabulary and principal parts.

Aims

1. To develop an ability to read, understand, and analyse Hebrew narrative by means of sustained exposure to a representative range of texts from this genre.
2. To gain a deeper understanding of grammar and syntax that directly informs reading and interpretation of Hebrew narrative.
3. To make exegetical and theological comment on the text.

GK51 Greek 1: Grammar

The New Testament is written in *Koine Greek*. Accordingly, knowledge of *Koine Greek* will serve 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.

Aims

1. To learn the foundations of *Koine Greek*.
2. To begin to read elementary texts, including appropriate texts from the NT and beyond.

GK52 Greek 2: Reading

This module builds on the Greek 1 – Grammar module and aims to train students to read Greek texts with understanding. This module introduces matters of syntax, with a focus on the variety of contexts in which the elements of the first year course can be found. This is essential to reading with understanding, and to evaluating exegetical decisions. The module builds up reading speed through reading longer passages and a variety of authors, with the conviction that the skills of close exegesis need to be rooted in exposure to large volumes of texts.

Aims

You will learn to read and exegete Greek texts with a growing understanding of Syntax, and develop your reading fluency, by working through a large volume of texts from within and without the NT.

NT51 NT1: Gospels

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, together with Paul and his letters in Level 6, expose students to detailed study of the key themes and texts of the New Testament.

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 analyse key issues, themes and theological concepts in the Gospels and draw implications for Christian practice and contemporary contexts.

CH52 From the Puritans to the Evangelical Revival

The module builds on prior study at level 4 in the Reformation period. 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

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

ST52 Systematic Theology 2

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, in terms of advanced scholarship, interacting critically with past and present theologians, and to encourage awareness of their relevance for Christian ministry practice.

MM52 Pastoral Theology and Ministry

Pastoral Theology is a discipline in its own right but is integrated across all disciplines and modules in the BA course. The module develops key skills and theological understanding, and principles for ministry praxis.

It is complementary to MM41 Preaching and Communication. Students focus on homiletics in that module. This module focuses on other aspects of ministry.

Aims

1. To enable students to reflect theologically on key aspects of ministry.
2. To develop principles of ministry which can be applied across a wide spectrum of contexts.

MM54 Global Christianity and the Church's Mission

The course will aim to build on the Biblical Foundations of Mission module by considering the Theological underpinnings of the Church's mission and how this must be applied in the polycentric reality of Global Christianity. Historical examples will illustrate the nuanced relationship between mission and empire, and how resultant churches often had a hybrid identity. The course will also consider contemporary centres of world Christianity and how these post-Christendom realities affect the mission of the Global Church today. The course will encourage critical engagement with a range of missiological perspectives, whilst seeking to advocate a coherent, reformed theology and practice of mission in a Global Christianity context. While reflection on best practice will be encouraged, establishing the principles on which the practice is based will be the main objective of the course.

Aims

1. To outline the theological foundations for mission, particularly in the doctrine of the Trinity.
2. To consider the global nature of Christianity in both historical and contemporary perspective.
3. To critically engage with a range of missiological perspectives and practices.
4. To present a coherent, reformed theology and practice of mission which encourages critical reflection on our own approaches to mission.

IS52 Ministry Research Project

The module provides students with the opportunity to examine the ministry of a church or Christian organisation, to deploy their theological training in evaluating different aspects of ministry practice and to reflect on and develop skills for their own ministry practice.

Aims

To enable students to deploy and develop their theological understanding of pastoral and practical ministry through a research project focussing on a particular ministry context.

BA Module Descriptors Level 6

HB62 Hebrew 2: Narrative

Building upon the foundations of Hebrew 1: Grammar, this module enables students to take a major step forward in reading fluency and competence. The bulk of the class time consists in sustained reading of a range of biblical texts of the narrative genre, with the remainder of class time devoted to the introduction or development of theory topics (to be reinforced in the

readings). This includes matters of grammar and syntax. In addition to independent preparation of set texts, students continue to learn vocabulary and principal parts.

Aims

1. To develop an ability to read, understand, and analyse Hebrew narrative by means of sustained exposure to a representative range of texts from this genre.
2. To gain a deeper understanding of grammar and syntax that directly informs reading and interpretation of Hebrew narrative.
3. To make exegetical and theological comment on the text.

HB63 Hebrew 3: Poetry

This module builds on the knowledge and understanding of the Hebrew language acquired in 'Hebrew 2: Narrative' by studying blocks of material from a wider range of genres, including law, prophecy, wisdom, and poetry. The module enables learners to gain (a) greater fluency and proficiency in reading Hebrew poetry; (b) understanding of the syntax and conventions of that poetry (e.g., parallelism); (c) a broader vocabulary; (d) understanding of the distinctive features of different Hebrew genres; and (e) a working knowledge of textual criticism of the Hebrew Bible.

Aims

1. To read and translate selected passages from all major genres of the Hebrew Bible, including poetry, wisdom, law, and prophecy.
2. To study aspects of grammar, lexicon, and syntax.
3. To consider some distinctive markers of Hebrew poetry (e.g., parallelism), law, and prophecy.
4. To examine philological problems and textual variants, occurring in assigned texts.
5. To make exegetical and theological comment on the text.

GK62 Greek 2: Reading

This module builds on the Greek 1 – Grammar module and aims to train students to read Greek texts with understanding. This module introduces matters of syntax, with a focus on the variety of contexts in which the elements of the first-year course can be found. This is essential to reading with understanding, and to evaluating exegetical decisions. The module builds up reading speed through reading longer passages and a variety of authors, with the conviction that the skills of close exegesis need to be rooted in exposure to large volumes of texts.

Aims

You will learn to read and exegete Greek texts with a growing understanding of Syntax, and develop your reading fluency, by working through a large volume of texts from within and without the NT.

GK63 Greek 3: Further Reading

This module develops the kind of reading fluency that will allow Greek to be of use during busy Christian 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 2 — Reading, by increasing the rate of reading, and increasing the difficulty and stylistic variety of the biblical and extra-biblical texts. It is preparatory for the Advanced Greek Reading module on the MTh.

Aims

You will build a comfortable reading speed of the Greek New Testament, greater confidence in understanding the syntax and stylistic variation of *Koine Greek*.

OT62 Latter Prophets, Psalms and Wisdom

This module builds on Old Testament 1 and introduces the Latter Prophets and some of the Writings (usually Psalms and the wisdom literature).

The module introduces and examines the prophetic office in ancient Israel and the Major and Minor Prophets, interpreting those books as preaching/proclamation, literature, and theology. There is also discussion of the historical, socio-cultural, religious, and political context of the Latter Prophets. The module emphasises inner-biblical interpretation, biblical theology, and how this literature influenced the New Testament writers and Christian theology.

For the Writings, the module introduces the conventions of Biblical Hebrew poetry (in English translation) and the complexities of the Wisdom Literature. The bulk of the second part of module is devoted to the book of Psalms, which was central in Old Testament worship and has shaped Christian theology and worship for 2000 years.

Aims

1. You will learn to interpret the genres of Prophecy and Wisdom, be guided in reading a selection of the Old Testament Prophets and Wisdom Literature (in their canonical setting).
2. To gain insight into current issues in scholarship, as well as confidence in handling the books' theology from a Christian perspective.
3. You will learn to read the Psalms in the context of the Psalter, the wider canon, and as central to Christian instruction, public worship and private devotion.

NT62 Paul and His Letters

Besides Jesus Christ, Paul is a key figure of early Christianity. His influence on the thought and practice of the early Church, rooted in the life and teachings of Jesus, was so fundamental that he continues to be relevant for Christianity in the 21st century. The Gospels course considered the central significance of Jesus in the formation of Christianity. Paul and his letters ensures that students explore the main parts of the New Testament.

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 understand the Jewish and Graeco-Roman worlds in which Paul operated and his relationship to Judaism.
3. To analyse the main themes in Pauline theology.
4. To evaluate the occasion, critical issues and theology of each letter in the Pauline Corpus and draw implications for Christian practice and contemporary contexts.

ST63 Systematic Theology 3

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, and their relevance for Christian ministry.

MM63 Advanced Biblical Communication and Pastoral Ministry

Biblical studies and theological and historical studies are all intended to come together in the area of ministry practice. This module will develop skills, applicable in a variety of ministry settings.

It builds on level 4 Preaching and Communication and level 5 Pastoral Theology modules. Time allocated for in person teaching is somewhat higher than other modules to enable lecturer and peer interaction and feedback.

The module lends itself to being audited by students who have elected to study two Biblical languages and who wish to develop specific ministry skills as well.

Aims

1. To enable critical reflection on principles for homiletics and pastoral theology which are biblically and theologically informed in order to encourage the application of principles to praxis in a variety of ministry settings.
2. To develop greater skills in key areas of ministry including preaching and teaching, leadership, outreach, worship and pastoral care.

MM65 Children's, Youth and Family Ministry

The module supplements the offerings in the Ministry practice strand of the BA programme by providing opportunity for theological reflection and training for learners working or seeking to work with Children, Young People, and Families.

Aims

1. To train learners engaged in Children's, Youth and Family work to reflect critically and theologically on their own theory and practice in light of current scholarship and thinking.
2. To develop essential skills in this field for ministering within the context of the local church.

DS61 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, 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 ministry practice. The Dissertation module, in its broadest sense, seeks to enhance the skills necessary for independent learning and research acquired in the Level 5 Ministry Research Project module.

Aims

1. To provide students with the opportunity of, 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.