

**Associate of Biblical Studies Curriculum
Two Year Course Study
Course Description Catalogue**

Year 1

Fall Semester – 8 Weeks each Course

September – November

BIB – 100: Origin of the Bible - 3 credits

This course is a study of the history of the Bible from the time of the first written documents until the modern English translations. In discovering the authenticity of the Bible, the general themes include the development of the Old Testament, the development of the New Testament, the transmission of the text, and the modern English versions of the Bible.

Required Text: *How We Got the Bible*
Author: Neil R. Lightfoot
ISBN: 080101252X
ISBN-13: 9780801012525

LHIS – 101: The Black Church - 3 credits

This course is a survey of black religious movements, including the black church. The history of black religious movements in America originated in Africa. We will then examine the religion of the slaves, the beginning of the black church movement, and the de-Christianization of the black church. This course will provide an overview of the multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary components of the Black Christian experience in America. Students who will lead contemporary African American churches, will receive a rich historical, theological, ethical, and sociological foundational experience. This course presents an academic perspective as a foundation for ministry and church leadership.

Required Text: *Black Church Studies: An Introduction*
Authors: Stacey Floyd-Thomas, Juan Floyd-Thomas, Carol B. Duncan, Stephen G.
Ray, Jr., Nancy Lynne
ISBN: 9780687332656

Required Text: *If It Wasn't for the Women...Black Women's Experience and Womanist Cultures in Church and Community*
Author: Cheryl Townsend Giles
ISBN: 9781570753435

November – December

OT – 101: The Pentateuch - 3 credits

This course will focus on the study of what is most sacred in the Jewish faith and the Torah which includes the first five books of the Hebrew Bible. These books include Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. Focusing on the beginning of creation which will cover 2,300 years of Biblical history, the redemption of Israel from Egypt, and continuing with the foundation of the rest of the biblical tradition.

Required Text: *Let Justice Roll Down: The Old Testament, Ethics, and Christian Life*
Author: Bruce Birch
ISBN: 0664240267

Required Text: *The Book of the Torah, 2nd edition.*
Author: Thomas W. Mann
ISBN: 13-978-1- 61097-895-8

BLIT - 113 Biblical Journalism - 3 credits

An introductory course in writing which will emphasize developing writing skills for a variety of publishing mediums including print, radio, TV, and the internet. Writing exercises will teach how to research, organize, write, and edit short articles, letters, and copy for websites, magazines, newsletters, brochures, and social media. Students will spend time writing to uncover their voice. Publishing vehicles that carry the message of faith.

Required Text: *Writing Theology Well 2nd Edition: A Rhetoric for Theological and Biblical Writers*
Author: Lucretia B. Yaghjian
ISBN-10: 0567499170
ISBN-13: 978-0567499172

Winter Semester – 8 Weeks each Course

January - March

OT – 102: Books of History- 3 credits

This course will acquaint students with the history, theology, and critical study of the Former Prophets of the Old Testament: Joshua, Judges, Samuel, and Kings. The focus is the proper interpretation of its message to Israel and its abiding significance for the church. The course will focus on understanding the goals and methods of ancient Israel and to focus on the literary and artistic qualities of biblical narrative.

Required Text: *Reading the Historical Books: A Student's Guide to Engaging the Biblical Text*

Author: Patricia Dutcher-Walls

ISBN: 0801048656

OT – 103: Books of Poetry- 3 credits

This course is an overview survey of the wisdom books of the Old Testament, focusing primarily on the poetry of Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon. The course content includes introductions to the various books, characteristics of Hebrew poetry, exegesis of selected passages and a broad overview of major theological themes in Old Testament wisdom literature. Students will learn the material through readings, discussion forums, course teaching and projects.

Required Text: *Handbook on the Wisdom Books and Psalms*

Author: Daniel Estes

ISBN-10: 080103888X

ISBN-13: 978-0801038884

Required Text: *An Introduction to Reading Biblical Wisdom Texts*

Author: Elaine A Phillips

ISBN-10: 1619707101

ISBN-13: 978-1619707108

Spring Semester – 8 Weeks each Course

March - April

BIB – 114: The Tabernacle

The primary focus of this course will be to study the Tabernacle, The Levitical Priesthood with its sacrificial order of worship and ceremony as found in the books of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. An In-depth study of the Tabernacle Moses built during the wilderness journey will bring a deeper understanding of the life and ministry of Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God. The course will also study those passages describe an inner sanctuary, the Holy of Holies, created by the veil suspended by four pillars.

Required Text: *The Tabernacle of the Old Testament Group Study*
Author: Bobby Sparks Th.D.
ISBN: 0976127021
ISBN-13: 9780976127024

BCOM - 110 Oral Communication for Bible Students

This course will focus on the elements of effective communication and explore the habits of highly effective people. Discussions on how to speak persuasively so others will believe what you are saying is true is a characteristic of effective leaders.

Required Text: *4 Essential Keys to Effective Communication in Love, Life, Work--
Anywhere! Including the "12-Day Communication Challenge!"*
Author: Bento C. Leal III
ISBN-10: 1546581731
ISBN-13: 978-1546581734

Required Text: *How Highly Effective People Speak: How High Performers Use Psychology
to Influence with Ease (Speak for Success)*
Author: Peter Andrei
ISBN-13: 979-8649598507

May – June

NT201 - The Four Gospels- 3 credits

This course presents the four Evangelists who introduces Jesus the Christ as the world’s Savior. The first three gospel writers Matthew, Mark, and Luke books are known as the “Synoptic Gospels,” because they have commonalities in the events and theological discourses of Jesus with others in their individual books. John presents the Holy Spirit as our comforter after the ascension of Christ. Themes discussed in this course includes Christ’s teaching, preaching, healing and various miracles that Christians today Christ empowered them to do as He did.

Required Text: *The Four Gospels*
Author: Catholic Personal Study Edition
ISBN: 9780814636312, 3631

Required Text: *A Harmony of the Gospels: New American Standard Edition*
Authors: Stanley N. Gundry and Robert L. Thomas
ISBN13: 9780060635244

NT203 - Paul’s Missionary Journeys- 3 credits

Learn how many missionary journey’s the Apostle Paul made. Was it 3 or 4? This course will be intriguing as you follow the routes Paul traveled as he established missions and churches in the Roman, Greek, and other Gentile cultures. Students will compare their preaching style to one of the great, early contemporary missionaries of the century: the Apostle Paul.

Required Text: *Journeys of the Apostle Paul*
Author: David Bomar (Editor), Craig S. Keener (Contributor), Lynn H. Cohick (Contributor), Joshua W. Jipp (Contributor), Eckhard J. Schnabel (Contributor), Timothy Gombis (Contributor)
ISBN-10: 168359357X
ISBN-13: 978-1683593577

Summer Semester – 8 Weeks each Course

July – September

CHIS – 102: Liberation Theology- 3 credits

This introductory course will discuss the many strands of liberation theology from different global contexts. The focus will be on liberation theology's methodologies, its relation to the social context, and its challenges to the theological discipline. This course explores Christian Liberation Theologies and their critics. After an initial consideration of the common characteristics of various liberation theologies and their European and North American precursors, the course will give sustained attention to liberation theologies in Africa and Latin America, and their relationship to revolutionary political struggles in those contexts. Throughout, the focus will be on careful attention to classic liberationists texts and reflection.

Required Text: *A Theology of Liberation, 15th Anniversary Edition*
Author: Gustavo Gutierrez

Required Text: *Human Liberation in a Feminist Perspective—A Theology*
Author: Letty Russell

Year 2

Fall Semester – 8 Weeks each Course

September - November

OT – 104: Major Prophets- 3 credits

A study of the Old Testament major prophets (Isaiah through Daniel) with an emphasis on historical setting, message, purpose, genre, structure, dates, theological emphasis, and application of these books. Special attention to the historical foundation of Old Testament prophecy, the theme and role of each prophet, divine judgment and salvation to the believer, and God's plan for Israel and the nations for all generations.

Required Text: *The Message of the Prophets: A Survey of the Prophetic and Apocalyptic Books of the Old Testament.*
Author: Daniel J. Hayes
ISBN-10: 0310271525
ISBN-13: 978-0310271529

BIB - 231 The Trinity- 3 credits

This course will interpret the exegesis of the scriptures to explain the significance of the Trinity to Christianity. A discussion of questions concerning the Trinity: Who? What? Where? When? Why? and how? will be researched and analyzed by the student. For many centuries through oral tradition individuals have asked Christian leaders who is the Trinity? This course will clarify why Christians believe in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost as one God in three persons.

Required Text: *The Trinity in the Gospel of John: A Thematic Commentary on the Fourth Gospel*
Author: Royce G. Gruenler
ISBN-10: 1592446477
ISBN-13: 978-1592446476

Required Text: *The Moody Handbook of Theology*
Author: Paul Enns (Author), John MacArthur (Foreword)
ISBN-10: 9780802411983
ISBN-13: 978-0802411983

November – December

OT – 105: Minor Prophets

A study of the 12 Minor Prophets. This course covers practical and doctrinal aspects of the books of Hosea through Malachi. This is an analysis of biblical prophecies as expressed in the Minor Prophets considering both natural and historical significance and their relevance today. Special attention to Messianic prophecies involving Christ and the Church, prophetic ministry, and the personal application of these timeless truths. This course covers all twelve of the Minor Prophets: Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi.

Required Text: *The Minor Prophets: A Commentary of Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi*

Author: Thomas Edward McComiskey

ISBN: 1540960870

Required Text: *Sovereign Hope—A Study of the Minor Prophets*

Author: Claudia Barba

ISBN: 1628565470

NT - 204 The General Epistles- 3 credits

An evangelical approach is used in studying these general epistles that will provide a deeper enrichment to your ministry. Discussions of the Hebrew culture, and the advice and theological teachings of Christ written to each Pastor provides a new insight of the exegesis of the various themes within each letter. The relevancy of these 7 General Epistles will inspire one to learn more of the historical events of that period, culture, and people that will strength our Christian faith and provide practical examples to use in present day ministry.

Required Text: *Letters to the Church: A Survey of Hebrews and the General Epistles*

Author: Karen H. Jobes

ISBN-10: 9780310267386

Winter Semester – 8 Weeks each Course

January – March

NT - 205 The Acts of the Apostles and the Early Church- 3 credits

The students who take this course will explore historical events from the inception of the early church after the ascension of Jesus Christ through the Protestant movement. The acts of the Apostles in mission work built on the foundation laid by Christ, the master builder will be presented.

Required Text: *ACTS OF THE APOSTLES: A Study Outline and Commentary*
Author: Raymond Webb
ISBN-10: 1079700110
ISBN-13: 978-1079700114

Required Text: *The Story of Christianity, Vol. 1: The Early Church to the Dawn of the Reformation*
Author: Justo L. Gonzalez
ISBN-10: 9780061855887

BIB - 232 Pentecostalism- 3 credits

This course will explore the growth of Pentecostalism and the Charismatic movements in the twentieth century. Students will discuss the relevancy of these movements today in context of a historical and social perspective for Biblical studies students.

Required Text: *Black Fire: One Hundred Years of African American Pentecostalism*
Author: Estrela Y. Alexander
ISBN-10: 083082586X
ISBN-13: 978-0830825868

Required Text: SCM Core Text: Pentecostalism
Author: William K. Kay
ISBN-10: 0334041449
ISBN-13: 978-0334041443

Optional Reading: *African American Holiness Pentecostal Movement: An Annotated Bibliography (Religious Information Systems) 1st Edition*

Author: Sherry S. DuPree
ISBN-13: 978-1138966222
ISBN-10: 1138966223

Spring Semester- 8 Weeks each Course

March – April

NT - 206 The Pauline Epistles- 3 credits

This course discusses the preaching methodologies and strategies of Paul after his conversion in Damascus by persuading others to convert to Christianity. Paul's style of persuasion in his letters to the people of the 1st century. He major theme concerned the risen Christ. The Pauline epistles were addressed to the Romans, the Corinthians, the Galatians, the Ephesians, the Philippians, the Colossians, the Thessalonians, and to his spiritual sons Philemon, Timothy, and Titus.

Required Text: *Interpreting the Pauline Epistles, 2nd edition*
Author: Thomas R. Schreiner
ISBN: 080103812X
ISBN-13: 9780801038129

Required Text: *Paul's Theology of Preaching: The Apostle's Challenge to the Art of Persuasion in Ancient Corinth*
Author: Duane Litfin
ISBN: 0830824715
ISBN-13: 9780830824717

BIB – 235: Science and The Bible- 3 credits

This course will define issues of assumed contention between scientists and theologians in debates concerning science and the Bible. In this course, you will explore the toughest questions about faith and science, from Adam and Eve to the age of the earth, miracles, and evolution. You will even learn about concepts such as string theory and multiverse. By the end, you will have a thorough grasp of the relevant concepts, theories, terms, movements, individuals, and debates.

Required Text: *Rocks of Ages: Science and Religion in the Fullness of Life*
Author: Stephen Jay Gould
ISBN: 0345430093

April - June

NT – 207: The Book of Revelation- 3 credits

Many people have avoided reading the Book of Revelation because of their inability to interpret the context. This study of the book of revelations is an overview that will clarify and answer many questions that may have baffled one for years. The major themes that will be addressed in this course that may bring understanding are Letters to the Seven Churches, the Sovereignty of God, the Seven Seals, the Seven Trumpets, the Dragon and persecution of the righteous, the Seven Bowls, Fall of Babylon, Marriage Supper of the Lamb, the Second Coming of Jesus, the Millennial Kingdom, Satan's Final Rebellion, Great White Throne Judgement, and Heaven's Victory and Revealing of the Lamb.

Required Text: *Understanding the Book of Revelation*
Author: Jay A. Parry and Donald W. Parry
ISBN-10: 1590387627
ISBN-13: 978-1590387627

Required Text: *An Overview of the Book of Revelation*
Author: Jack Lunsford
ISBN 13: 9781597817905

Required Text: *Who Shall Be Able to Stand? Finding Personal Meaning in the Book of Revelation*
Author: S. Michael Wilcox
ISBN-10: 1609087003
ISBN-13: 978-1609087005

BIB – 240: The End Times- 3 credits

"When will the end come?" is an age-old question asked during the time of Jesus and is people of various cultures today asking the same question all over the world. This course will explore various themes if this is the end of the world. An increase of suicide bombers, actions of radical Islamic extremists, ISIS, and societal morality at a low makes one wonder. People believing that right is wrong and wrong is right forsaking God's moral law. The Scriptures will support the various theories that respond to answering if we are living in end times

Required Text: *Is This the End?*
Author: Dr. David Jeremiah
ISBN-10: 0718079868
ISBN-13: 978-0718079864

Required Text: *Unveiling the End Times in Our Time the Triumph of the Lamb in Revelation*

Author: Adrian Rogers, with Steve Rogers

ISBN-10: 1433680181

ISBN-13: 978-1433680182

Required Text: *A Study of Revelations*

Author: Raymond Webb

ISBN-10: 1072644932

ISBN-13: 978-1072644934

Summer Semester – 8 Weeks each Course

July – September

BIB - 299 Practicum Project 3-credits

A total of 66 credit hours