



# Masters Course Descriptions

## **Biblical Theology (BT)**

### **BT 5208 - Biblical Hermeneutics**

A study of the principles of biblical interpretation from a historical-grammatical, contextual viewpoint with emphasis on the unity of scripture as the inspired history of redemption. The history of interpretation, interpretive principles, and contemporary issues of interpretation will be considered. Special attention will be given to the interpretation of the forms of biblical history, narrative, literature, law, poetry, prophecy, parables, and prophecy.

### **BT 5235 - Biblical Theology**

An in-depth study of the history, principles, and practice of Biblical Theology, as well as a review of the diverse secondary literature. Emphasis will be on the biblical theology of the scripture, as it is traced through the entire history of redemption from creation to new creation. The perspective taken will be that of the unity and continuity of revelation in the gradual unfolding of the redemptive purposes of God in Christ. A key objective of the course is to explore the correlations between the covenant of creation and the covenant of redemption as the gospel is progressively unveiled from Genesis 3:15 to Revelation 22:21.

## **Church History (CH)**

### **CH 7124 - Church History 1: Apostles to Reformation**

From the close of the Apostolic Age to the Reformation, A. D. 100-1517. The Church and Roman Empire; development of theology and dogma; the church of the Middle Ages; doctrinal controversies and movements in religious life; the Renaissance.

### **CH 7229 - Church History 2: Reformation to Modern**

From the Reformation to present day. The forerunners, causes, progress, chief leaders and effects of the Reformation; the Counter-Reformation; Pietism and the Evangelical Revival; the Roman and Protestant Churches in the nineteenth century.

## **New Testament (NT)**

### **NT 5101 - Biblical Greek 1**

For beginners in Greek language study. Study of the original language of the New Testament, including how it is written, word formation, sentence structure, vocabulary, and basic translation, with practice reading from the New Testament. Prescribed for students without knowledge of Greek.

## **NT 5206 - Biblical Greek 2**

For students continuing in the study of New Testament Greek. Basic study in syntax and etymology of common New Testament words. Practice reading and basic exegetical exercises from the Greek New Testament. Pre-requisite: NT 5101.

## **NT 5207 - New Testament Introduction**

An examination of the content, canon, text, and interpretation of the New Testament, including an introduction to the language of the New Testament, its relation to antecedent and contemporary Greek, and its distinctive characteristics, studying Textual Criticism, and history of the Text, and giving an overview survey and basic content of each individual book and their contribution to the whole Bible.

## **NT 6113 - The Gospels: The Life of Christ**

This study will include Jewish backgrounds, the geography of the Holy Land, and the authorship, date, biblical theology, and history of these books. A chronological and theological study of the Gospels' accounts of Christ's birth, life, death, resurrection, and ascension. The focus will be on the time, place, circumstances, and people involved in the events of our Lord's ministry as they all relate to the Old Testament motifs and biblical-theology of the history of redemption that come to fullness and consummation in the New Testament.

## **NT 6218 - Acts and Pauline Epistles**

A study of apostolic history and a survey of the life of Paul, before and after conversion, his personal experiences, studying especially his missionary journeys and epistles in their witness to Christ. Gentile backgrounds, geography of the Mediterranean, and the authorship, date, biblical theology, and history of these letters are covered.

## **NT 7122 - General Epistles and Revelation**

An exegetical study of Revelation, considering its major themes, structural features, historical setting, and theological emphasis, presenting its major themes and content as they correspond with the Old Testament.

## **Old Testament (OT)**

### **OT 5102 - Old Testament Introduction**

Old Testament Introduction is a study of issues such as the inspiration and canonicity of the Old Testament Scriptures. Included are the genuineness and authenticity of the Scriptures, touching upon writing and writing materials in the ancient world, especially with reference to the Hebrew language and the Hebrew Scriptures. An introduction to lower and higher criticism and its history is given, with special emphasis upon versions and translations of the text.

### **OT 5103 - Pentateuch**

Old Testament Books of the Law is a study of the contents of the five books of Moses, the Pentateuch, with an emphasis on providing a background for an understanding of

the New Testament and Christianity. The focus is on the content of the five books, rather than upon issues covered in the course on OT Introduction.

## **OT 6111 - Biblical Hebrew 1**

An introduction to Biblical Hebrew, during which the students will cover the fundamentals of Hebrew phonology and morphology, gain an introductory understanding of Hebrew grammar, develop a rudimentary vocabulary, and achieve an elementary ability to read Hebrew.

## **OT 6112 - Historical Books**

A survey of the books of Joshua, Judges, 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings, Ruth, Esther, 1 & 2 Chronicles, and Ezra & Nehemiah to understand their theological perspectives during the periods of the conquest, the judges, the monarchy, and postexilic Israel. Issues of historiography, literary analysis, and Ancient Near Eastern background will also be covered.

## **OT 6115 - Historical and Geographical Studies of Israel**

The archaeology of the Bible is a study of those material remains of Palestine and its neighboring nations which relate to, and throw light on, the biblical period and its narrative. Biblical archaeology is uniquely concerned with understanding the backgrounds to the biblical text in its Ancient Near Eastern context in order to better understand the text. This course is based on the assumption that the biblical text is a reliable source of information for archaeology, and that archaeological discoveries, while never casting doubt on the biblical text, have often provided corroborating evidence for its veracity. This assumption is also guided by the understanding that archaeology is an interpretive discipline, and subject to human error, and therefore conclusions are carefully weighed by the evidence at hand. A major feature of the course is visualization through photographs, slides, drawings, and maps, illustrating the artifacts and material culture of biblical archaeology. Each scene is adequately explained so that students see the meaning of each slide in the process of enhancing biblical studies through archaeology. One important component of this course is to study archaeology as an application of various scientific enterprises through lab work in order to demonstrate key examples of this aspect of the subject.

## **OT 6216 - Biblical Hebrew 2**

Building on elementary Hebrew, the student will recognize features of weak verbs, develop a familiarity with the tools basic to the study of the Bible in Hebrew, continue learning a basic vocabulary for reading simple Hebrew, and begin translation and sight-reading of easier Biblical passages. Pre-requisite: OT 6111.

## **OT 7121 - OT Poets**

Old Testament Wisdom Literature is a study of the five books of Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Songs. The goal is to study the theology and artistry of these profoundly beautiful books, while considering their role in the history of redemption. Poetics, the interpretation of wisdom poetry, and the role wisdom has in the life of believers and the church are also explored.

## **OT 7139 - Pre-exilic Prophets**

Pre-exilic Prophets is a study of the prophets preceding the Israelite exile (Obadiah, Joel, Jonah, Amos, Hosea, Isaiah, Micah, Nahum, Zephaniah). A consideration of the principles of interpretation of these prophetic writings will include a review of the historical background and critical questions concerning each of these books. Emphasis will be on the Biblical Theology of the prophets, as their messages are both an exposition of the earlier covenant-promises and the law, as well as preparatory in consistently pointing forward to Christ who will fulfill both the law and the promises. Contemporary application will also be a major point for discussion of the timeless teaching of the prophets.

## **OT 7240 - Exilic to Post-exilic Prophets**

Exilic to Post-exilic Prophets is a study of the prophets in Exile and after the Exile (Jeremiah, Lamentations, Habakkuk, Daniel, Ezekiel, Haggai, Zephaniah, Malachi). A consideration of the principles of interpretation of these prophetic writings will include a review of the historical background and critical questions concerning each of these books. Emphasis will be on the Biblical Theology of the prophets, as their messages are both an exposition of the earlier covenant-promises and the law, as well as preparatory in consistently pointing forward to Christ who will fulfill both the law and the promises. Contemporary application will also be a major point for discussion of the timeless teaching of the prophets.

## **Practical Theology (PT)**

### **PT 6137 - Expository Teaching and Preaching 1**

Teaching and preaching from the whole of the Bible is the primary vehicle that God has appointed for the proclaiming and teaching of his truth. That is, the whole of Scripture communicates his gospel of redemption, and it applies to the whole of life as it is lived by his disciples under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Therefore, emphasis in this course is to gain knowledge and skill in expositing the biblical text, on the basis of sound hermeneutical principles and proper exegesis, in a way that brings honor and glory to God by clearly presenting the central biblical-theological subject: the person and work of Jesus Christ. As opposed to topical, anecdotal, biographical, exemplaristic, and moralizing teaching and preaching students will be taught the expository method which takes the biblical text as the central focus of the sermon and explores it in relationship to both the Old and New Testaments as progressively revealing Christ. In terms of exploring the theories of expository teaching and preaching, an emphasis will be placed on the process of exegesis (translation and interpretation) that is contextual in relation to the whole Bible, in order to present a biblical theology of the Old and New Testaments as one inspired, unified revelation of the gospel of redemption relevant to the diverse needs of the whole person in the contemporary church. (pre-requisite to PT 6238 Expository Teaching & Preaching 2)

## **PT 6217 - Introduction to Biblical Counseling**

An introduction to the principles and practice of counseling from a biblical and theological perspective. The course covers principles, theories and techniques of Christian counseling and prepares the student for various types of counseling.

## **PT 6236 - Biblical Ethics**

This course explores the biblical foundation for Christian ethics as rooted in the Old Testament and developed in the New Testament. The philosophical and theoretical background of the diverse ethical systems available will be introduced and evaluated in light of the ethical framework of the Bible. This will include an emphasis on the principal and ethical material found in the Old and New Testaments, as well as upon the nature of what it means to both do good and to become good. With the emphasis on the Christian witness to the world of the gospel of Jesus Christ, considerable attention will be given to the question of what it means for the contemporary believer and the church, who live under the Lordship of Christ in all areas of life, to be a light to the nations. The discussion will include the development of ethical reasoning skills, based on sound exegetical study, to enable students to arrive at conclusions and convictions about key moral issues facing the church today.

## **PT 6238 - Expository Teaching and Preaching 2**

The objective of this course is primarily to put into practice what was learned in 6137 Expository Teaching and Preaching 1 (pre-requisite). Emphasis is on gaining practical skill in exegeting, expositing, teaching, and preaching the whole of Scripture as a communication of the gospel of redemption that applies to the whole of life as it is lived by his disciples under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Learning experiences will include exegetical preparation of biblical, edifying, and even creative expositions of Scripture, practice preaching, watching recorded sermons, and self-critique. As opposed to topical, anecdotal, biographical, exemplaristic, and moralizing teaching and preaching students will practice the expository method which takes the biblical text as the central focus of the sermon and explores it contextually in relationship to both the Old and New Testaments as progressively revealing Christ. An emphasis will be placed on the practical steps of exegesis (translation and interpretation) that is contextual in relation to the whole Bible, in order to present a biblical theology of the Old and New Testaments as one inspired, unified revelation of the gospel of redemption relevant to the diverse needs of the whole person in the contemporary church.

## **PT 7227 - Biblical Missions**

A comprehensive survey of the Biblical basis of missions, the present day needs, the missionary imperative, unevangelized fields, and the Lord's return as related to missionary endeavor.

## **PT 7228 - Pastoral Theology**

Biblical basis of church government – pastoral life and duties as they relate to his responsibilities and professional conduct; administration including administering the

ordinances, conducting services and other specific ministries and concerns of the pastoral ministry.

## **Systematic Theology (ST)**

### **ST 5104 - Prolegomena and Bibliology**

Prolegomena: A study of the terminology, the necessity of theology, the possibility of theology, the methods of theology, and the disciplines of theology. Bibliology: A study of general and special revelation, theories of inspiration, the Bible as an objective propositional revelation, illumination, canonicity, authority, animation and preservation of the Scriptures. Theology Proper: a study of the knowledge of God, the doctrine of the trinity, and the works of God.

### **ST 5209 - Theology and Anthropology**

This course considers the doctrine of God and the doctrine of man: the knowability and being of God, the names and attributes of God, the Trinity, the divine decrees, providence, and good and evil angels, the origin of man, the constitutional nature of man, man as the image of God, man in the covenant of works, the origin of sin, essential character of sin, the transmission of sin, sin in the life of human race, the punishment of sin, and man in the covenant of grace.

### **ST 6114 - Christology and Soteriology**

This course considers the doctrine of Christ and the doctrine of salvation. The names and natures of Christ, the unipersonality, the states of humiliation and exaltation, the prophetic, the priestly, the kingly offices of Christ, and the nature, purpose and extent of atonement will be covered in Christology. In Soteriology the following doctrines will be covered: The operation of the Holy Spirit, common grace, the mystical union, regeneration and calling, conversion, faith, justification, sanctification, and perseverance of the saints.

### **ST 6219 - Ecclesiology and Eschatology**

Study of the nature and mission of the Church, the sacraments, and last things. Topics considered will be: the identity of the Church; the unity and mission of the Church; spiritual gifts; the leadership of the Church; baptism; the Lord's supper; the return of Christ; the millennium; the final judgment; the final state of humanity; the new earth etc.

### **ST 7123 - Apologetics**

While exploring speculative and philosophical areas of apologetics, the focus is on the application of biblical apologetics. Diverse approaches to the apologetic task are also investigated. Consideration is given to a systematic, reasoned defense of the Christian faith in our contemporary context. With an emphasis on the credibility of biblical faith, topics include a critique of relativism and pluralism, tests for truth and fallacy, and a study of select issues in the history of apologetics.