

Course Unit Outline	
Unit Code	B7110
Unit Name	Introduction to Biblical Studies
Unit Weighting	9 cps
Type of Unit	Foundational
Prerequisites, co-requisites or exclusions	Excludes B7120 and B7130
Curriculum Objectives	This course unit introduces students to the Bible, its content, context and literary genres and to the methodologies of biblical reading, study and interpretation. It provides the basis for further study of the Biblical texts.
Learning Outcomes	At the end of this unit students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) identify the basic structure and contents of the books of the Bible 2) explain the historical, geographical, social, and religious background of the Bible and its world 3) apply a range of methods of biblical interpretation 4) access and use relevant secondary literature 5) employ Scripture in theology, worship, and preaching
Threshold concept to be acquired in this unit	Recognise that the Bible has both human and divine authorship. Students readily accept God as the author of the Bible but seldom recognise the human dimension in the composition of the biblical text. By accepting human authorship along with the divine, they are more capable of receiving and applying contemporary approaches to biblical interpretation.
Content	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction to the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible Literature 2. Key methodologies and approaches to biblical interpretation 3. Historical, cultural, political, and religious contexts of the biblical materials 4. Introduction to the New Testament Literature
Learning Activities	Lectures, tutorials, field work, student presentations, seminars – in class and/or online
Assessment Profile	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review a scholarly work on biblical literature [Outcome 4] 2. Essay on a key aspect of biblical interpretation [Outcomes 1, 3] 3. Exegesis using an accepted methodology [Outcomes 2, 3, 4, 5]
Representative References	

Aharoni, Yohanan. *The Archaeology of the Land of Israel*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1978.

Baker, David W. and Bill T. Arnold. *The face of Old Testament Studies: A Survey of Contemporary Approaches*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1999.

Barton J. *The Biblical World*. New York: Routledge, 2002.

Carmody, Timothy R. *Reading the Bible: A Study Guide*. New York: Paulist Press, 2004.

Brown, Raymond E. *An Introduction to the New Testament*. New York: Doubleday, 1997.

Hayes, John H. and Carl R. Holladay. *Biblical Exegesis: A Beginner's Handbook* 3rd ed. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2007.

Johnson, Luke Timothy. *Writings of the New Testament*. 3rd ed. London: SCM, 2010.

Kee, Howard Clark, Eric M. Meyers, John Rogerson, and Anthony J. Saldarini. *The Cambridge Companion to the Bible*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997.

Malina, Bruce J. *The New Testament World: Insights from Cultural Anthropology*. Rev. ed. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 1993.

Matthews, Victor H. and Don C. Benjamin. *Old Testament Parallels: Laws and Stories from the Ancient Near East*. New York: Paulist Press, 1997.

Ralph, Margaret Nutting. *And God Said What? An Introduction to Biblical Literary Forms*. New York: Paulist Press, 2003.

Soggin, J. Alberto. *An Introduction to the History of Israel and Judah*. 2nd ed. Valley Forge, Pennsylvania: Trinity Press, 1993.