This sample unit outline is provided by CHC for prospective and current students to assist with unit selection.

Elements of this outline which may change with subsequent offerings of the unit include Content, Required Texts, Recommended Readings and details of the Assessment Tasks.

Students who are currently enrolled in this unit should obtain the outline for the relevant semester from the unit lecturer.
Unit code | JA401  
---|---  
Unit name | Biblical Interpretation and Application  
Associated higher education awards | Graduate Certificate in Ministry  
| Graduate Diploma in Ministry  
Duration | One semester  
Level | AQF Level 8  
Unit coordinator | Christine Chapman  
Core/elective | Core  
Weighting | Unit credit points: 10cp  
| Total course credit points:  
| Graduate Certificate in Ministry 40cp  
| Graduate Diploma in Ministry 80cp  
Student workload | Face-to-face on-site  
| Time tabled hours: 39  
| Readings and study hours: 51  
| Assignment preparation hours: 60  
| Total hours per unit: 150  
| External  
| Directed study hours: 39  
| Readings and study hours: 51  
| Assignment preparation hours: 60  
| Total hours per unit: 150  
| Students requiring additional English language support are expected to undertake an additional one hour per week  
Delivery mode | Face to Face on site  
| External  
Pre-requisites/co-requisites/restrictions | Prerequisites: Nil  
| Co-requisites: Nil  
| Restrictions: Nil  
Rationale | The ability to interpret and apply scriptural texts is foundational to every area of Christian study, belief and ministry. To do this well, students require foundational skills of interpretation and application needed for their study of the Word of God. Students will also engage in an introductory overview to biblical Hebrew and Greek.  
Selected hermeneutical models used throughout the church’s history will be critically examined and applied to gain a greater understanding of the intended meaning of various passages of Scripture.  
Students will develop skills in exegeting, interpreting and applying the various literary genres found in the Bible. Students will learn to use a variety of Bible study tools and research methods that will enable them to interpret the Bible for themselves. They will also be challenged to critically reflect on their own hermeneutical approaches and the way these are shaped by contemporary contexts.
|---|---|
| Recommended readings | Fee, GD & Stuart, D 2014, *How to Read the Bible for all its Worth*, 4th edn, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, MI.  
Hackett, J 2010, *A Basic Introduction to Biblical Hebrew*, Hendrickson, Massachusetts, MA.  
Thayers, JH 1995, *Thayers Greek English Lexicon*, Hendrickson, Peabody, MA.  
| Specialist resources requirements | Nil |
| Content | 1. Hermeneutics – understanding the rationale and need for interpretation of Scripture  
2. Basic principles of hermeneutics  
3. Introduction to biblical Hebrew and Greek  
4. The Bible and its interpretation in history: approaches to hermeneutics  
5. Contexts – then and now  
6. Genres – Overview and Narratives  
7. Genres – Law and prophecy  
8. Genres – Poetry, Psalms and Wisdom Literature  
9. Genres – Gospels, Parables and Epistles  
10. Outlining a book and diagramming a passage  
11. Word studies in context: Paragraphs and discourses  
12. The qualifications and goals of the interpreter  
13. Challenges faced in the interpretation of Scripture and application of hermeneutics |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning outcomes</th>
<th>On completion of this unit, students should be able to:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Observe, interpret and apply Scripture;</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Apply exegetical methods to selected passages of Scripture and interpret and apply these findings to contemporary contexts;</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Critically examine challenges faced in the interpretation of the Scriptures;</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Classify different historical interpretation methods and critically evaluate their strengths and weaknesses;</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Identify various genres in the Bible and use appropriate hermeneutical principles to interpret the different genres; and</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Communicate at an appropriate tertiary standard with special attention to correct grammar, punctuation, spelling, vocabulary, usage, sentence structure, logical relations, style, referencing and presentation.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment tasks</th>
<th>Task 1: Expositional Paper</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Word Length/Duration:</td>
<td>3,500 words</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learning Outcomes:</td>
<td>1-3,5,6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessed:</td>
<td>Week 8</td>
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<tr>
<th>Assessment tasks</th>
<th>Task 2: Observation, Outline and Critical Comparison</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>Weighting:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learning Outcomes:</td>
<td>1, 3-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessed:</td>
<td>Week 13</td>
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| Unit summary | This core unit aims to provide the student with foundational hermeneutical skills that will undergird and support the development of biblical theology, and ministry formation and practice. |