

# BIBLE (BBL)

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## **BBL-501 BIBLICAL HERMENEUTICS (3 Credits)**

An introduction to the process of determining the original meaning and contemporary significance of biblical texts . The course includes lecture, discussion and individual research . The course must be completed within the first 15 credits of enrollment .

*Prerequisite:* None

## **BBL-506 ANCIENT WORLD OF THE BIBLE (3 Credits)**

A detailed study of the history, culture and geography of ancient Israel, the ancient Near East and the Mediterranean basin from the Late Bronze Age through the Roman period with an emphasis on illuminating the world of the Bible . The course will include interaction with maps, archaeological resources and ancient Near Eastern and Second Temple period comparative literature . This course is the alternative to BBL-601 .

*Prerequisite:* None

## **BBL-508 BIBLICAL THEOLOGY (3 Credits)**

An integrated study of the central themes from the Old and New Testaments that comprise the grand narrative of Scripture.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-501

## **BBL-509 BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF JUSTICE (3 Credits)**

This course will aid students in constructing and enacting a biblical theology of public justice by critically examining various hermeneutical approaches to Scripture, engaging the Bible's vision of God's justice in the Old and New Testaments and discerning how this vision relates to Christian embodiment of justice in contemporary culture.

*Prerequisite:* None

## **BBL-510 GREEK I (3 Credits)**

A study of the elements of Koine Greek.

*Prerequisite:* None

## **BBL-511 GREEK II (3 Credits)**

A continuation of Greek I with exercises in reading the Greek New Testament, introduction to NT Textual Criticism and the use of basic lexical and syntactical tools.

*Prerequisite:* =BBL-510 Greek I

## **BBL-512 GREEK READING AND REVIEW (2 Credits)**

A remedial course which reviews the basics of Greek grammar and improves translation skills.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-510 and BBL-511

## **BBL-514 OLD TESTAMENT FOUNDATIONS (3 Credits)**

An introduction to the historical and cultural contexts of the events and authors of the Old Testament, as well as an examination of the literary features and theological emphases of each book.

*Prerequisite:* None

## **BBL-515 NEW TESTAMENT FOUNDATIONS (3 Credits)**

An introduction to the historical and cultural contexts of the events and authors of the New Testament, as well as an examination of the literary features and theological emphases of each book.

*Prerequisite:* None

## **BBL-516 HEBREW I (3 Credits)**

An introduction to the basic grammar and vocabulary of biblical Hebrew.

*Prerequisite:* None

## **BBL-517 HEBREW II (3 Credits)**

A continuation of Hebrew I with emphasis on grammar, syntax and expansion of vocabulary by means of translating simple texts.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-516 Hebrew I

## **BBL-519 AMER CHRISTIANITY/BIB JUSTICE (3 Credits)**

This course will explore the history of American Christianity from the perspective of a biblical theology of public justice, surveying the historical and cultural forces that have shaped the development of evangelical Christianity in America, its various conceptions of justice and how Scripture was interpreted to address a range of public issues.

*Prerequisite:* None

## **BBL-520 GENESIS (3 Credits)**

A study of the message of Genesis (English text), with emphasis on interpretive method as well as the foundational theology of this book for understanding the place of humanity in God's created order and the call on those of faith to be a blessing to all nations . For students with Hebrew, the course involves exegesis of selected portions of Hebrew text.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-501

## **BBL-523 PSALMS (3 Credits)**

A study of the Book of Psalms (English text), with emphasis on interpretive method as well as the continued relevance of psalms for individual spirituality, corporate worship and the cry for God's coming kingdom and its King, Jesus the Messiah. For students with Hebrew, the course involves exegesis of selected portions of Hebrew text.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-501

## **BBL-524 DANIEL (3 Credits)**

An analysis of the English text of Daniel, its structure and message, and its contributions to Old Testament biblical theology, especially eschatology. Pre-requisite: BBL-501

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-501

## **BBL-529 GOSPEL OF MARK (3 Credits)**

A literary and theological study of Mark with a focus on how the narrative configures the identity and mission of Jesus Christ in relation to the God of Israel and what it means to be disciples of Jesus. Special attention will be given to the Gospel's narrative devices, its use of the Scriptures and its relevance for discipleship and ministry.

*Prerequisite:* None

## **BBL-550 GOSPEL OF MATTHEW (3 Credits)**

Exposition of this Gospel with emphasis on its themes of Christology, kingdom and church.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-501

## **BBL-552 GOSPEL OF LUKE (3 Credits)**

An examination of the Gospel of Luke with concentration on its message and preparation of narrative material for preaching and teaching.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-501

## **BBL-553 ACTS OF THE APOSTLES (3 Credits)**

An exegetical examination of the Acts of the Apostles with concentration on the biblical theology of the Book of the Acts, the historical background of events and the theological emphasis of the speeches. Special attention is given to the relationship between the church and Israel in the early church era.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-501

## **BBL-554 ROMANS (3 Credits)**

An exposition of this letter in terms of its significance for biblical and systematic theology.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-501

**BBL-555 GALATIANS (3 Credits)**

The course engages students in readings, critical reflection, online discussion and in reflective and exegetical writing related to the Book of Galatians. Consideration is given to the history of interpretation, exegetical method for interpretation, difficult issues related to interpretation and to theological development. The course culminates for the student in the development of a written exegetical research commentary on one section of the Book of Galatians.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-501

**BBL-556 PASTORAL EPISTLES (3 Credits)**

Interpretation of 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus in relationship to ministry and church life.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-501

**BBL-557 HEBREWS (3 Credits)**

A verse-by-verse interpretation of the epistle with special attention to the literary structure, the use of the Old Testament, the Christology and the problem of apostasy.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-501

**BBL-558 JAMES (3 Credits)**

The text of James will be studied with special emphasis on its connections to the Old Testament, the Gospels, Second Temple Judaism and its contribution to wisdom and ethical literature in the New Testament.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-501

**BBL-559 REVELATION (3 Credits)**

An exposition of the Apocalypse in view of genre, history of interpretation, structure and theological significance.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-501

**BBL-600 BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY (3 Credits)**

A study of the application of archaeological method and theory to excavation in the lands and times of the Bible, the history of so-called "Biblical Archaeology" and important archaeological findings that illuminate the world of the Bible. The course may include a "field study" component consisting of on-site training and excavation.

*Prerequisite:* None

**BBL-601 EXPER THE ANCIENT WORLD OF THE BIBLE (2 Credits)**

Through extensive travel and on-site study, this course provides a detailed study of the history, culture and geography of ancient Israel, the ancient Near East and the Mediterranean Basin from the Late Bronze Age through the Roman period with an emphasis on illuminating the world of the Bible. In cooperation with GTI Tours, this intensive study trip includes interaction with maps, archaeological resources and ancient Near Eastern and Second Temple period comparative literature. This course is for Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in biblical exegesis students and may be audited for non-credit seeking students. In addition to tuition, each student will be charged a course fee to cover the travel and accommodation costs associated with the study tour. The fee is due upon approval of participation and must be paid directly to the Cornerstone University Accounting Office. Scholarships are available; application determines eligibility

*Prerequisite:* None

**BBL-603 METHODS & PRACTICE IN BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY (3 Credits)**

An independent study focused on the hands-on application of archaeological method and theory as part of an organized field excavation and/or laboratory analysis project. This course may be taken multiple semesters

*Prerequisite:* None

**BBL-604 EXPER THE ANCIENT WORLD OF THE BIBLE (3 Credits)**

Through extensive travel and on-site study, this course provides a detailed study of the history, culture and geography of ancient Israel, the ancient Near East and the Mediterranean Basin from the Late Bronze Age through the Roman period with an emphasis on illuminating the world of the Bible. In cooperation with GTI Tours, this intensive study trip includes interaction with maps, archaeological resources and ancient Near Eastern and Second Temple period comparative literature. This course is open as an elective to all students in any program (degree-seeking and non-degree-seeking) and may be taken for credit or as an audit. In addition to tuition, each student will be charged a course fee to cover the travel and accommodation costs associated with the study tour. The fee is due upon approval of participation and must be paid directly to the Cornerstone University Accounting Office. Scholarships are available; application determines eligibility

*Prerequisite:* None

**BBL-627 EPHESIANS (3 Credits)**

A literary and theological study of the letter with special attention to its structure, the character of its argument, its theological orientation within its ancient ideological and cultural setting and its vision for the church.

*Prerequisite:* None

**BBL-630 WISDOM LITERATURE (3 Credits)**

A study of the Old Testament wisdom literature (English text of Proverbs, Job, Ecclesiastes, the Song of Songs and wisdom psalms), with emphasis on the theology of wise living and the relevance of these books to biblical theology and contemporary culture. For students with Hebrew, the course involves exegesis of selected portions of Hebrew text.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-501

**BBL-632 ISAIAH (3 Credits)**

A study of the message of Isaiah (English text), with emphasis on the prophet's vital contribution to the unfolding message of God's kingdom—the role of his royal, suffering Servant. For students with Hebrew, the course involves exegesis of selected portions of Hebrew text.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-501

**BBL-637 MINOR PROPHETS (3 Credits)**

A study of the message of selected Minor Prophets in their original contexts (English text), with emphasis on interpretive method as well as relevance for spiritual formation and engagement with contemporary culture. For students with Hebrew, the course involves exegesis of selected portions of Hebrew text. The following two groupings are offered regularly. AMOS AND HOSEA A study of the message of two prophets who ministered as judgment dawned on the northern kingdom, calling Israel back to its covenantal obligation to social justice and loving devotion to God. MICAH, ZEPHANIAH, HABAKKUK A study of the message of three prophets who served at crisis points in the history of the southern kingdom, calling the nation's leadership to account and offering hope to the faithful remnant who suffered in the face of national calamity.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-501

**BBL-640 OT I: INTRODUCTION TO HEBREW EXEGESIS (3 Credits)**

An introduction to the methods of Hebrew exegesis, including textual criticism, syntactical and discourse analysis and lexical studies, with further development of skills in translating and understanding Hebrew narrative.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-516 and 517 (minimum grade C)

**BBL-641 OT II: EXEGESIS IN THE PENTATEUCH (3 Credits)**

A study of the content and biblical theology of Genesis through Deuteronomy, including exegesis of selected texts from various literary genres. This course engages questions of composition, ancient history and culture, New Testament correlation, contemporary challenges to religion and ethics in the Old Testament, as well as the relevance and communication of the canonical message of these texts to contemporary culture.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-640

**BBL-642 OT III: EXEGESIS IN THE PROPHETS & WRIT (3 Credits)**

A study of the content and biblical theology of Joshua through Malachi, including exegesis of selected texts from the Prophets, Psalms and wisdom literature. This course engages questions of composition, ancient history and culture, New Testament correlation, as well as the relevance and communication of the canonical message of these texts to contemporary culture. Emphasis is placed on the message of Isaiah, Psalms and selected wisdom themes.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-640

**BBL-650 GOSPEL OF JOHN (3 Credits)**

Study and analysis of the purpose, structure, emphases and significance of the English text of the fourth Gospel.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-501

**BBL-651 I CORINTHIANS (3 Credits)**

A detailed study of the text of 1 Corinthians with emphasis on the relevance of this epistle for the contemporary church.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-501

**BBL-672 NT I: INTRODUCTION TO EXEGESIS (3 Credits)**

An introduction to the theory of translation and practice of exegesis. Selections in the Pauline epistles are used to apply grammatical and hermeneutical principles of Greek exegesis. The life and writings of Paul are introduced.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-510 and BBL-511 (minimum grade C)

**BBL-677 NT II: THE GOSPELS (3 Credits)**

An introduction to the study of the Gospels, emphasizing exegetical method. Students will become aware of the rudiments of historical, source, form, redaction and literary critical methods. They will also develop their own skills in the exegesis of Gospel texts with a view to biblical theology and the ministry of the word.

*Prerequisite:* Take Greek I & II and BBL-672 NT Studies I

**BBL-678 NT III: THE GENERAL EPISTLES (3 Credits)**

An introduction to the study of Hebrews, the General Epistles and Revelation, emphasizing Greek exegesis and biblical theology. Students will consider the historical setting of these books and develop their exegetical skills by working with selected texts. Growth in doing biblical theology and expository ministry is also targeted.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-510(498) BBL-511(502) BBL-672(1033);

**BBL-688 BIB, THEO & HIS FOUNDATION OF JUSTICE (3 Credits)**

This course will aid students in constructing and enacting a theology of public justice by integrating sound biblical exegesis, theology that is grounded in the historic Christian tradition and appropriating insights from contemporary justice movements.

*Prerequisite:* None

**BBL-689 CAPSTONE COURSE (3 Credits)**

This course will aid students in constructing and enacting a theology of public justice by integrating sound biblical exegesis, theology that is grounded in the historic Christian tradition and appropriating insights from contemporary justice movements. This course serves as a capstone for the Master of Arts in biblical studies.

*Prerequisite:* None

**BBL-742 BIBLICAL ARAMAIC (3 Credits)**

An introduction to the grammar, vocabulary and syntax of biblical Aramaic. The course will focus on reading selections from Daniel and Ezra but will also include readings in extra-biblical Aramaic texts.

*Prerequisite:* Take one year of Hebrew

**BBL-762 PARABLES OF JESUS (3 Credits)**

Methods of interpreting Jesus' parables are surveyed and then an eclectic model drawing on the best insights of each is applied to each of the major narrative parables in the Gospels. Conclusions are drawn concerning the theology and significance of this portion of Jesus' teaching.

*Prerequisite:* Take BBL-501

**BBL-770 INTERMEDIATE GREEK GRAMMAR (3 Credits)**

A more advanced study of Greek grammar than Greek I and II with emphasis on learning grammatical labels and applying them to the Greek text.

*Prerequisite:* Take Greek I & II

**BBL-772 GREEK EXEGESIS OF EPHESIANS (3 Credits)**

This course is an exegetical and theological study of the Greek text of the New Testament epistle to the Ephesians. The text will be translated and grammatically and structurally analyzed in relation to selected commentary and journal literature on the epistle.

*Prerequisite:* Take Greek I & II

**BBL-782 THESIS READINGS & PROPOSAL (1 Credit)**

This guided course will equip the student to survey relevant scholarship and prepare a thesis proposal and outline.

*Prerequisite:* None

**BBL-783 INDEPENDENT STUDY: OT (1-3 Credits)**

Individual research in a particular area under the direction of a member of the Old Testament faculty. Registration for this course requires adviser approval.

*Prerequisite:* None

**BBL-784 INDEPENDENT STUDY: NT (1-3 Credits)**

Supervised independent study for advanced students in New Testament. Registration for this course requires adviser approval.

*Prerequisite:* None

**BBL-789 ADVANCED TOPICS: BIBLE (3 Credits)**

A formal class which addresses the interests of students and faculty. Courses may include current issues, biblical and theological areas and other subjects which call for special analysis.

*Prerequisite:* None

**BBL-792 MASTER'S THESIS (3 Credits)**

The student will write a thesis (50-75 pages) under the supervision of a faculty thesis adviser on a significant approved topic in the major field. The thesis format should be governed by "A Manual for Writers of Papers, Theses and Dissertations" (current edition) by Kate L. Turabian, along with any supplemental materials and/or instructions provided by the seminary. Registration for this course requires adviser approval. Each enrolled student will be charged an additional fee of \$100.00 for thesis review and binding.

**BBL-840 ADVANCED LANGUAGE STUDY (4 Credits)**

Guided study in Aramaic, or if competency already is demonstrated for Aramaic, then Ugaritic, Akkadian or Middle Egyptian may be substituted.

*Prerequisite:* None

**BBL-841 ADV STUDY HIST/CULTURE ISRAEL (4 Credits)**

Guided study of critical issues in the history and culture of ancient Israel within the context of the ancient Near East. In addition to extensive reading in biblical and ancient Near Eastern literature, archaeology and historical geography, students will present a final paper before the faculty of Old Testament.

*Prerequisite:* None

**BBL-846 ADV STUDY OF OLD TESTAMENT (4 Credits)**

Guided study of critical issues and contemporary methods in the study of the Old Testament. In addition to extensive reading in the various subfields of biblical criticism, students will present a final paper before the faculty of the Old Testament.

*Prerequisite:* None

**BBL-848 ADVANCED OT EXEGESIS (4 Credits)**

Guided exegesis in selected texts in a variety of genres. The student will incorporate a variety of constructive approaches to biblical criticism and demonstrate competency using the advanced search capabilities of electronic tools. The final paper will be an exegetical commentary on a selected text.

*Prerequisite:* None

**BBL-870 GRAMMAR AND TRANSLATION (4 Credits)**

For this course, the student will be expected to have a working knowledge of Greek grammar and to have translated the entire Greek New Testament.

*Prerequisite:* None

**BBL-872 NT INTRO & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (4 Credits)**

The student will be expected to know the basis, history and methodology of textual criticism. The student must have a general awareness of those significant historical developments from the Persian period through the Bar Kokhba's revolt which form the backdrop for the New Testament.

*Prerequisite:* None

**BBL-874 EXEGESIS OF GOSPELS & ACTS (4 Credits)**

The student will sight-read the Greek text and discuss the exegetical issues with the major professor. They will also prepare a list of major exegetical problems for each book.

*Prerequisite:* None

**BBL-876 EXEGESIS OF PAULINE EPISTLES (4 Credits)**

The student will sight-read the Greek text and discuss the exegetical issues with the major professor. They will also prepare a list of major exegetical problems for each book.

*Prerequisite:* None

**BBL-877 EXEG OF GEN EPISTLES/REVELATION (4 Credits)**

The student will sight-read the Greek text and discuss the exegetical issues with the major professor. They will also prepare a list of major exegetical problems for each book.

*Prerequisite:* None

**BBL-880 ENRICHMENT (4 Credits)**

The student will select, with the guidance of the academic adviser, an enrichment module outside the program major.

*Prerequisite:* None

**BBL-884 ADV STUDY OF OT THEOLOGY (4 Credits)**

Guided study of classic and contemporary Old Testament theologies, engaging as well at the interface with Israelite religions. In addition to written review of the primary literature, the student will present a final paper before the faculty of the Old Testament on a topic that demonstrates their own method.

*Prerequisite:* None

**BBL-890 MASTER OF THEOLOGY THESIS (6 Credits)**

The student will write a thesis (60-100 pages) on a significant and approved topic in the major field. The thesis format should be governed by "A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations" (current edition) by Kate Turabian, along with supplemental materials and/or instructions provided by the seminary. The thesis will be supervised by a thesis adviser and defended before a faculty committee. Each enrolled student will be charged an additional fee of \$125.00 for thesis review and binding.

*Prerequisite:* None