Bachelor of Ministry, Bachelor of Theology and Related Programs

OT302/D
Old Testament
Prophets and Writings

Semester 2, 2016

Malyon College
is an approved institution of the
Australian College of Theology

OT302/D is offered by Malyon College as part of the Bachelor of Ministry and Bachelor of Theology degrees. This unit is an accredited award of the Australian College of Theology (ACT) and is authorised for distance and contact delivery by Malyon College.
At Malyon we recognise that the world is changing. These are times of great challenge and opportunity. Our commitment is to raising up a generation of influential Christians who have a strong biblical base, skills in leadership and ministry, and a heart for God.

We have been training Christian leaders for over 100 years, and we’ve learnt a few things about theological training. Our graduates are serving all over the world as pastors, cross-cultural workers, workplace leaders, chaplains, church leaders and theological faculty.

Malyon offers full-time and part-time study options through lecture, intensive and distance modes. We have excellent resources for students including a large library, wireless internet and 24 hour access to the campus. All our awards are accredited through the Australian College of Theology.

The Australian College of Theology

The ACT was established under the auspices of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia in 1891. The ACT is a company limited by guarantee governed by a nine-member Board of Directors. The Anglican Primate of Australia presides as the chairman of meetings of the company which consists of 54 persons (in 2010). The ACT is an Australasian provider of state accredited higher education courses leading to awards in theology and other disciplines related to Christian ministry. The ACT operates as an ecumenical consortium of some 2,500 students enrolled in 19 Bible and theological colleges approved to teach the awards of the ACT. These awards range from two-year diplomas, three-year undergraduate and coursework masters degrees to masters and doctoral research degrees.

The ACT has a centrally devised and managed curriculum and a quality assurance process that are applied across the whole network of affiliated colleges. The day-to-day educational system is managed by the Dean from the ACT office in Sydney. Academic governance is the responsibility of the Academic Board which oversees all academic activities of the College. The standing committees of the Academic Board share this responsibility by monitoring the quality of delivery and resourcing, developing policy, and reviewing the course structure for research, coursework and diploma courses. The membership of the Academic Board and its committees is comprised mostly of faculty members of affiliated colleges. A number of senior university academics are represented to help ensure that ACT practice (especially in the outcome of the consideration of research examiner’s reports and general academic policy) remains comparable with the standards of and best practice in the university sector.

As a HEP under the Higher Education Support Act, the College was required to undergo a quality audit conducted by the Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA). The AUQA Audit Report was publicly released on the AUQA website in February 2007.

In 2010 the company consists of 54 members composed in the following way:
(1) the Anglican Primate of Australian and the Dean of the ACT,
(2) the principals of 10 Anglican Theological Colleges,
(3) 21 persons elected by the House of Bishops of the General Synod,
(4) the principals of 11 affiliated colleges approved to deliver the research degrees of the ACT,
(5) 5 graduates holding an ACT research degree,
(6) 5 graduates holding any other degree of the ACT.
UNIT DETAILS

Unit Description

This unit examines the foundations of the Old Testament as found in the Prophets and writings. Consideration is given to the Old Testament in general, the cultural and historical context, introductory matters and theological themes. Additionally, the implications of the Old Testament for Christian life and thought are considered.

This unit falls under the Bible and Languages field of study; together with OT301/D, it forms the essential foundation for all advanced studies in the Old Testament.

Credit Points

This unit is valued at 4 credit points.

Co- and Pre-Requisites

None

Exclusions

None

Unit Content

The unit is made up of the following sections and sub-sections:

Section A. Prophetic Books/Latter Prophets
1. The Book of Isaiah
2. The Book of Jeremiah
3. The Book of Ezekiel
4. The Book of Daniel
5. The Twelve (at least four in detail)

Section B. The Writings
6. Chronicles, Ezra and Nehemiah
7. The Book of Psalms
8. Wisdom Literature
Unit Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, student will:

A. Know and understand:
   1. The Prophetic Books/Latter Prophets
      a) The Book of Isaiah
      b) The Book of Jeremiah
      c) The Book of Ezekiel
      d) The Book of Daniel
      e) The Twelve (as least four in detail)
   2. The Writings
      a) Chronicles, Ezra, and Nehemiah
      b) The Book of Psalms
      c) Wisdom Literature

B. Be able to:
   1. Discuss the content and character of the writings of the Prophetic Books/Latter Prophets and the Writings
   2. Explain the influence of the Ancient Near Eastern background on the Prophetic Books/Latter Prophets and the Writings
   3. Analyse the themes and theology of the Prophetic Books/Latter Prophets and the Writings

C. Be in a position to:
   1. Integrate perspectives from ‘Old Testament Prophets and Writings’ with their other theological studies
   2. Apply perspectives from ‘Old Testament Prophets and Writings’ to current issues in Christian life and thought

Workload Requirement

A unit will generally require about 10 hours per week for lectures for contact students or home study for distance students, preparation and revision, and assignment work over thirteen weeks. In addition, two study weeks are worked into each semester. Excluding the study weeks, this generally averages out as follows:

1. Contact students:
   a. Lectures – 3 hours per week;
   b. Preparation and revision – 2 hours per week;
   c. Assignments – 5 hours per week.

2. Distance students:
   a. Home study; including forums and revisions – 5 hours per week;
   b. Assignments – 5 hours per week.
Learning Guides

Students should access the Learning Guides on the unit Moodle page for guidance through their studies for the semester.

Assessment Requirements

The student shall complete the following assessment requirements:

1. Historical Assignment
2. Research Assignment
3. End of Semester Exam

Contact students will be expected to attend all lectures; while the forum posts are the distance student’s equivalent of classroom interaction. Just as class attendance is compulsory for on-campus students, forum participation is compulsory for distance students.

Students who fail to attend lectures or complete forum posts satisfactorily may be failed.

Required Resources

In order to complete the unit, the student will be required to have access to the following resource/s:


Additionally, further learning resources will be made available on Moodle, our Online Learning Centre. These resources may include articles, extracts, contact lecture notes and other learning activities.
# Lecture Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mod</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Preparation</th>
<th>Topic/s</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>19 July</td>
<td>A&amp;B, 339-352</td>
<td>Unit Introduction Introduction to the Prophets Historical setting of the Prophets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2 Aug</td>
<td>A&amp;B, 353-381</td>
<td>Isaiah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>9 Aug</td>
<td>A&amp;B, 393-405</td>
<td>Jeremiah</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>16 Aug</td>
<td>A&amp;B, 407-426</td>
<td>Ezekiel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>23 Aug</td>
<td>A&amp;B, 427-438</td>
<td>Daniel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>30 Aug</td>
<td>A&amp;B, 251-271</td>
<td>Chronicles Ezra Nehemiah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>6 Sept</td>
<td>A&amp;B, 463-473</td>
<td>Haggai Zechariah Malachi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/W</td>
<td>20 Sept</td>
<td>STUDY WEEK</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>S/W</td>
<td>27 Sept</td>
<td>STUDY WEEK</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>4 Oct</td>
<td>A&amp;B, 303-312</td>
<td>Psalms</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>18 Oct</td>
<td>A&amp;B, 451-462</td>
<td>Other Minor Prophets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>25 Oct</td>
<td>Preaching and Teaching the Old Testament</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>S/W</td>
<td>3 Nov</td>
<td>STUDY WEEK</td>
<td></td>
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*End of Semester Exams*

**Notes:**

A&B = Arnold & Beyer
Peter Francis is Vice Principal, Field Education Director and a lecturer at Malyon College. Peter is married to Wendy who is the Queensland Director of the Australian Christian Lobby. Together they have three married children and ten grandchildren. After a 10 year career as a high school teacher, Peter entered into Pastoral ministry at Cleveland Baptist, having earned his Master of Divinity through Trinity Theological College (USA). Over the past 26 years Peter has pastored at Cleveland Baptist, Beenleigh Baptist and the City Tabernacle Baptist Church, as well as being involved in numerous short term missions in places such as PNG, Bangladesh, Thailand, Cambodia and South America. He has also given two years service as a Regional Consultant with Queensland Baptists and has served on various mission boards such as the Far East Broadcasting Company and Global Interaction. Peter’s theological studies include a Master of Divinity, a Graduate in Theology, a Master of Arts in Theology and a Doctor of Ministry.

Contact details:

☎ (07) 3354 5656  📧 peter.francis@malyon.edu.au
UNIT ASSESSMENT

Assessment Instructions

In completing assessments, students should note that:

1. The College requirements for the writing and submission of assignments are to be adhered to at all times, as marks will be deducted for incorrect and poor presentation. Of particular importance is that the official College title page is to be used, and that the word length be indicated.

2. The current Assignment Style and Writing Guides are available to all students on the Moodle site; it should be studied, both when starting out and at the beginning of each academic year as adjustments or changes may be made from time-to-time.

3. With respect to length, students are permitted to write at a length of 10% either side of the stated length; for example, a 1000-word assignment should be within a 900-1100 word length. Students will be penalized 1% per 100 words, or part thereof, under or over the stipulated length.

4. With respect to the List of References, a specific number of references will not be set; however, students should note the guidelines indicated for the specific assessment requirement. However, students should note that:
   a. Bibles (including study Bibles), basic dictionaries and devotional guides are not regarded as academic references.
   b. Electronic sources should generally not number more than half the required number of references, and should be used with caution.

5. The failure to adhere to the stipulated assessment format requirements will be penalized as follows:
   a. Body of assignment:
      i. 1st level – 1%
      ii. 2nd and subsequent levels – 2%
   b. List of References and referencing:
      i. 1st level – 1%
      ii. 2nd and subsequent levels – 2%
Grade Criteria

Bachelor’s students at the foundational undergraduate degree 300-level should note that grades are awarded on the following criteria:

Units at foundational level introduce undergraduate students to the foundational features and principles of a discipline or topic. A foundation for the critical evaluation of ideas is also established.

Pass
✓ Attempts to engage primary sources and is aware of their significance for the discipline.
✓ Evidences a basic understanding of the foundational features of the discipline.
✓ Shows an awareness of relevant scholarly viewpoints without necessarily engaging these in depth.

Credit
✓ Demonstrates an engagement with primary sources.
✓ Has begun to grasp the foundational features of the discipline.
✓ Is beginning to engage with a range of scholarly viewpoints.

Distinction
✓ Demonstrates ability in engaging primary sources, is beginning to understand their setting and historical context.
✓ Evidences a grasp of the foundational features of the discipline.
✓ Demonstrates emerging skills in the task of critically evaluating a range of scholarly viewpoints.

High Distinction
✓ Demonstrates a pronounced ability in engaging primary sources and understands their setting and historical context.
✓ Evidences a sound grasp of the foundational features of the discipline.
✓ Shows an ability to evaluate critically a range of scholarly viewpoints with empathy.
ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

Requirement 1: Historical Assignment

Write a biography of the life and ministry of Daniel as recorded in the Old Testament Book which bears his name. Your biography should also reflect an understanding of his significance.

The format of the biography may take on any one of the following forms:

1. A regular research essay, adhering to the College’s ‘Assignment Style Guide.’
2. An illustrated entry for a Bible encyclopedia, using creativity and variety as desired.
3. A biographical or autobiographical story, using creativity and variety as desired.

The key assessment criteria for this requirement are as follows:

1. Identification of the key events of Daniel’s life.
2. Identification of the particular nature of Daniel’s ministry.
3. Identification of the main contribution of Daniel’s life and ministry.
4. Appropriate use of the chosen format.

Length: 750 word equivalence
References: no less than four meaningful references
Due: Tuesday 6 September by electronic submission on Moodle
Mark allocation: 15%
Requirement 2: Research Assignment

Write an essay that addresses three major theological themes of either the Book of Ruth or the Book of Lamentations. Your essay should address the following issues:

1. The importance or significance of your chosen book for the Old Testament (200 words).
2. The discussion of three major theological themes, including the reasons for choosing each theme and an analysis of each theme with appropriate references to the biblical text (300 words per theological theme).
3. A conclusion about the relationship (if any) between the three themes presented (150 words).

The key assessment criteria for this requirement are as follows:

1. Identification of three theological themes.
2. Justification for the choice of these themes.
3. Analysis of each theme.
4. Conclusions about the relationship (if any) between the themes.
5. The list of references is indicative of appropriate research.

Length: 1250 words

References: no less than six meaningful references
Due: Tuesday 11 October by electronic submission on Moodle
Mark allocation: 25%
Requirement 3: Examination

A two-hour examination will be written at the end of the semester as follows:

1. Students will be required to study all the material covered in the unit, with the exception of the materials that relate to theological themes of the books of Daniel, Ruth and Lamentations (this material is addressed in assessment requirements 1 and 2).

2. The examination will be structured as follows:
   a. Section A, short questions.
   b. Section B, five 5-mark questions.
   c. Section C, 1 out of 3 elective essay questions.

3. Students will need to have access to an unmarked, standard Bible.
   Students should note that:
   a. All topics in the unit are subject to assessment, but no topic will be assessed twice.
   b. The examination may include any, but not necessarily all, syllabus topics.

The key assessment criteria for this requirement are as follows:

Relative to the questions posed, students will variously be required to:

1. Discuss the content and character of the writings of the Prophetic Books/Latter Prophets and the Writings
2. Explain the influence of the Ancient Near Eastern background on the Prophetic Books/Latter Prophets and the Writings
3. Analyse the themes and theology of the Prophetic Books/Latter Prophets and the Writings
4. Integrate perspectives from ‘Old Testament Prophets and Writings’ with their other theological studies
5. Apply perspectives from ‘Old Testament Prophets and Writings’ to current issues in Christian life and thought

Length: 2 hours
Due: as per the examination timetable
Mark allocation: 60%
## UNIT CONTRIBUTION TO GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES

*Developing Christians of Influence*

“Then I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding.”

(Jeremiah 3:15)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graduate Attribute 1: Personal Formation – ‘Shepherds with God’s heart’</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Is secure in God, living in the truth and freedom of the gospel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Pursues intimacy with God and Christ-likeness, particularly through spiritual disciplines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Intentionally plans for growth, being aware of personal strengths and weaknesses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Grows spiritual, personal and relational health, especially through accountability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Is committed to influencing and serving others in the church and the world</td>
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</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graduate Attribute 2: Theological Formation – ‘Knowledge and understanding of God’s heart’</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Understands the ‘big story’ of the Bible and the gospel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Is personally able to interpret and apply the Bible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Is formulating a biblical, historical and contemporary theology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Reflects biblically and theologically on life and practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Is committed to communicating and demonstrating the gospel</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graduate Attribute 3: Ministry Formation – ‘Knowledgeable and wise shepherds’</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Has a godly influence on others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Possesses the knowledge and skills needed for chosen ministry path</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Ministers and communicates the gospel with clarity in a range of contexts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Works well in a team and intentionally does so</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Is committed to servant leadership and the mentoring of others</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1. A major thrust of this unit
2. A contribution that this unit should make
3. A possible function of this unit, but not targeted
4. An unlikely product of this unit

**Note:** Graduates who have not completed the curricular and non-curricular ministry aspects of Malyon’s courses will tend to be most developed in Graduate Attribute 2.
**RECOMMENDED READINGS**

The list below provides the learner with references that relate to the unit material and topics under consideration.

### Context and Setting


### Old Testament Introduction

**Old Testament Theology**


**The Prophets and Writings**

Collins, J J 1998 The Apocalyptic Imagination, An Introduction to Jewish Apocalyptic Literature, 2nd ed., Eerdmans, Grand Rapids,

**Preaching the Old Testament**

ACT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Key Policies

Students should take note of the following ACT policies:

1. Unit Moderation Policy.
3. Academic Appeals Policy.

Accessing Documents

These and other policy documents are available in the following handbooks, through links on ACT’s home page (www.actheology.edu.au):

1. Undergraduate Handbook.
5. Distance Education Handbook.

These should be read in conjunction with the ‘Recent Updates’ link found on the ACT website.