



Bachelor of Ministry, Bachelor of Theology and Related Programs

OT302/D
Old Testament
Prophets and Writings

Semester 2, 2017

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

OT502/D is offered by Malyon College as part of the Master of Divinity and Related Programs authorized for distance and contact delivery by the college, which is an accredited award of the Australian College of Theology (ACT).

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 master's 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. Several 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 those sections of the Old Testament that are referred to as the Latter Prophets and the Writings in the Hebrew Bible. These two sections will be examined in terms of their background, introduction and theology. Additionally, attention will be given to their significance for Christian life and thought, as well as the preaching of 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:

1. The Latter Prophets:
 - a. The Book of Isaiah.
 - b. The Book of Jeremiah.
 - c. The Book of Ezekiel.
 - d. The Minor Prophets (Hosea to Malachi).
2. The Writings:
 - a. The Poetic Books (Psalms, Proverbs, Job).
 - b. The Megillot (Ruth, Song, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes, Esther).
 - c. The Book of Daniel.
 - d. The work of the Chronicler (Ezra-Nehemiah and Chronicles).

Unit Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, students will:

A. Knowledge and understanding:

Know and understand:

1. The Prophetic Books / Later Prophets:
 - a. The Book of Isaiah.
 - b. The Book of Jeremiah.
 - c. The Book of Ezekiel.
 - d. The Book of Daniel.
 - e. The Twelve.
2. The Writings:
 - a. Chronicles, Ezra and Nehemiah.
 - b. The Book of Psalms.
 - c. Wisdom Literature.

B. Skills:

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. Application:

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 – 2 hours per week;
 - c. Assessments – 5 hours per week.

2. Online students:
 - a. Home study; including forums and revisions – 5 hours per week;
 - b. Assessments – 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. Prophets' Biographical Assignment.
2. Writings' Forum Posts.
3. Basic Knowledge Test.

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

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

Arnold, Bill and Bryan E. Beyer. 2015. *Encountering the Old Testament: A Christian Survey*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker.

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

| Mod | Date | Preparation | Topic/s | | |
|------------------------------|--------|---|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | 18 Jul | <i>All readings from Arnold and Beyer</i> | Unit introduction | Old Testament divisions | Reading for spiritual formation |
| 2 | 25 Jul | A&B 317-332 | The context, ministry and message of the (Latter) Prophets | | |
| 3 | 1 Aug | A&B 333-364 | The Prophet Isaiah (Judah 740) | | |
| 4 | 8 Aug | A&B 365-377 | The Prophet Jeremiah (Judah 627) | | |
| 5 | 15 Aug | A&B 391-414 | The Prophet Ezekiel (Babylon 592) | | Reading the Major Prophets |
| 6 | 22 Aug | A&B 429-440 | The Minor Prophets | Hosea (Israel 755) | Jonah (Nineveh 760) |
| 7 | 29 Aug | A&B 441-466 | Zephaniah (Judah 630) | Malachi (Jerusalem 432) | Reading the Minor Prophets |
| 8 | 5 Sep | A&B 257-264, 279-290 | The Poetic Books | | The Psalms |
| 9 | 12 Sep | A&B 265-278, 291-302 | Proverbs | The Book Of Job | Reading the Poetic Books |
| S/W | 19 Sep | | Study Week | | |
| S/W | 26 Sep | | Study Week | | |
| 10 | 3 Oct | A&B 162-167, 248-251, 303-316 | <i>The Megillot</i> Ruth | Song of Songs Lamentations | Ecclesiastes Esther |
| 11 | 10 Oct | A&B 415-428, 227-238 | The Book of Daniel | | The Book Of Chronicles |
| 12 | 17 Oct | A&B 239-256 | Ezra-Nehemiah | | Reading the Chronicler |
| 13 | 24 Oct | No reading | Preaching and Teaching The Old Testament | | |
| S/W | | | Study Week | | |
| Semester examinations | | | | | |

UNIT LECTURER



After working as an Air Traffic Controller in the South African Air Force, **Charles de Jongh** commenced his ministry experience working with children, teenagers and young adults while completing his initial theological studies at the Baptist Theological College in Cape Town, South Africa, where he graduated with a Licentiate in Theology. He continued to focus on young adults' ministry while completing a BA at the University of Stellenbosch with majors in Biblical Studies and Psychology.

In 1991, he commenced ministry in a church plant as the solo pastor at the Hilton Baptist Church, South Africa; during his ministry, the church grew from 6-10 attendants to over sixty. At the same time, he completed an MA at Stellenbosch University, researching 'contemporary developments in Christology in Africa.' After five years of ministry, he took up a lecturing position at the Baptist Theological College of Southern Africa with a focus on Biblical Studies and Practical Theology. While lecturing, he carried out doctoral research at the Rand Afrikaans University into the 'significance of hermeneutical method in recent biblical scholarship.' Other ministry involvement included serving on the Executive of Baptist Youth of Southern Africa and chairing the Board of Mission Aviation Fellowship South Africa.

Charles has been a lecturer at Malyon College since July 2007, with his main teaching areas being Biblical Studies and Youth Ministry. He has since completed a doctorate at the University of Johannesburg in Higher Education, examining 'theories of multiple intelligences and learning assessment for deep learning in higher education.'

Contact details:

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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, as marks will be deducted for incorrect and poor presentation. Of significance 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. The study of primary sources and the principles underlying their analysis are introduced, especially in Biblical Studies and Church History and where relevant in other fields of study. The foundation for the critical evaluation of ideas is 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: Prophets Biographical Assignment

Students are to write a biography of ONE of Isaiah, Ezekiel or Hosea. The essay must cover the chosen **prophet's life, ministry and message**.

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

- a. A regular research essay, adhering to the College's 'Assignment Style Guide.'
- b. An illustrated entry for a Bible encyclopaedia, using creativity and variety as desired.
- c. A biographical or autobiographical story, using creativity and variety as desired.
- d. *Any other format or style agreed to by the lecturer.*

Students choosing to use the third or fourth option are not required to include any quotes in their submission; however, the submission must be appropriately referenced.

The **key assessment criteria** for this requirement are as follows:

1. Identification and discussion of the key events in the prophet's life.
2. Identification and explanation of the particular nature of the prophet's ministry.
3. Identification and development of the main elements of the prophet's message.
4. Quality use of the chosen format.

Length: 1600 words or equivalence for option 'd'
References: no less than six meaningful references
Due: Monday 4 September by electronic submission on Moodle
Mark allocation: 40%

Requirement 2: Writings' Forum Posts

Students will be required to post 200-word responses to topics related to the five modules addressing the Old Testament Writings.

The purpose of the forums is for students to intentionally interact with the material being studied. While each response is only 180-220 words long (longer word length will be penalized), it is important to understand that they are to be well argued and appropriately referenced where necessary.

* As a guide, students should plan to spend 2-2½ hours per forum post.

Students should note that they are granted two complete weeks to complete each forum; as such, extensions will only be granted in genuinely exceptional circumstances – procrastination will not be accepted as a reason for late submission. In the event of late submission, students will be penalized by being awarded 0% for a maximum of one late submission. If two or more posts are not submitted on time, then students will fail both the assessment requirement and the unit.

The **key assessment criteria** for this requirement are as follows:

1. Meaningful consideration of the topic.
2. Clear and focused responses.
3. Demonstrated grasp of the relevant materials.
4. Appropriately referenced when necessary.

Length: 1000 words (5x200 words)

References: as required

Due: Each forum will be closed two weeks after the related module is taught

Mark allocation: 25%

Requirement 3: Basic Knowledge Test

Students will be required to complete a 60-minute short-question test of 50 questions based on all the material covered *and found* in the unit Learning Guides.

The purpose of the test is to ensure that students have mastered the 'basic content' of the unit; in other words, the material that they are expected to 'just know.'

Length: 60 minutes

Date: As per the semester examination timetable

Mark allocation: 35%

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)

| | 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. |
|--|----|----|----|----|
| Graduate Attribute 1: Personal Formation – 'Shepherds with God's heart' | | | | |
| a. Is secure in God, living in the truth and freedom of the gospel | | | ✓ | |
| b. Pursues intimacy with God and Christ-likeness, particularly through spiritual disciplines | | | | ✓ |
| c. Intentionally plans for growth, being aware of personal strengths and weaknesses | | | | ✓ |
| d. Grows spiritual, personal and relational health, especially through accountability | | | | ✓ |
| e. Is committed to influencing and serving others in the church and the world | | | ✓ | |
| Graduate Attribute 2: Theological Formation – 'Knowledge and understanding of God's heart' | | | | |
| a. Understands the 'big story' of the Bible and the gospel | ✓ | | | |
| b. Is personally able to interpret and apply the Bible | ✓ | | | |
| c. Is formulating a biblical, historical and contemporary theology | ✓ | | | |
| d. Reflects biblically and theologically on life and practice | | ✓ | | |
| d. Is committed to communicating and demonstrating the gospel | | | ✓ | |
| Graduate Attribute 3: Ministry Formation – 'Knowledgeable and wise shepherds' | | | | |
| a. Has a godly influence on others | | | | ✓ |
| b. Possesses the knowledge and skills needed for chosen ministry path | | ✓ | | |
| c. Ministers and communicates the gospel with clarity in a range of contexts | | | | ✓ |
| d. Works well in a team and intentionally does so | | | | ✓ |
| e. Is committed to servant leadership and the mentoring of others | | | | ✓ |
| 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

- Aharoni, Y. 1982. *Archaeology of the Land of Israel*. Philadelphia: Westminster.
- Bienkowski, P. and A. Millard. 2000. *Dictionary of the Ancient Near East*. London: British Museum.
- Davies, P. and J. Rogerson. 2005. *The Old Testament World*. 2nd ed. London: T&T Clark.
- Flanders, H. J., R. W. Crapps and D. A. Smith. 1996. *People of the Covenant*. 4th ed, New York: OUP.
- Hallow, W. W. and K. L. Younger. 2002. *The Context of Scripture (3 Volumes)*. Leiden: Brill.
- Hoerth, A. J. 1998. *Archaeology and the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Baker.
- Matthews, Victor H. 2007. *Studying the Ancient Israelites: A Guide to Sources and Methods*. Grand Rapids: Baker.
- Walton, J. H., V. H. Matthews and M. W. Chavalas. 2000. *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: Old Testament*. Downers Grove: IVP.

Old Testament Introduction

- Archer, Gleason L. 1974. *A Survey of Old Testament Introduction*. Rev ed. Chicago: Moody.
- Arnold, Bill and Bryan E. Beyer. 2015. *Encountering the Old Testament: A Christian Survey*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker.
- Bandstra, Barry L. 2004. *Reading the Old Testament*. 3rd ed. Belmont: Wadsworth/Thomson.
- Boadt, Lawrence. 1984. *Reading the Old Testament: An Introduction*. New York: Paulist.
- Brettler, Marc Zvi. 2005. *How to Read the Jewish Bible*. Oxford: University.
- Brueggemann, W. 2003. *An Introduction to the Old Testament: The Canon and Christian Imagination*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox.
- Collins, J. J. 2004. *Introduction to the Hebrew Bible*. Minneapolis: Fortress.
- Dick, Michael B. 2008. *Reading the Old Testament: An Inductive Introduction*. Peabody: Hendrickson.
- Geisler, Norman L. 1977. *A Popular Survey of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Baker.
- Gottwald, Norman K. 1985. *The Hebrew Bible: A Socio-Literary Introduction*. Philadelphia: Fortress.
- Hill, A. E. and J. H. Walton. 2009. *A Survey of the Old Testament*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan.
- La Sor, W. S., D. A. Hubbard and F. W. Bush. 1996. *Old Testament Survey*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.
- Longman, Tremper and Raymond B. Dillard. 2006. *An Introduction to the Old Testament*. 2nd ed. Nottingham: Apollos.

Old Testament Theology

- Anderson, Bernhard W. 1999. *Contours of Old Testament Theology*. Minneapolis: Augsburg.
- Birch, B. C., W. Brueggemann, T. E. Fretheim and D. L. Petersen. 2005. *A Theological Introduction to the Old Testament*. Nashville: Abingdon.
- Brueggemann, Walter. 2005. *Theology of the Old Testament: Testimony, Dispute, Advocacy*. Philadelphia: Fortress.
- Dumbrell, W. 2002. *The Faith of Israel*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker.
- Goldingay, J. 2003. *Old Testament Theology – Volume 1, Israel's Gospel*. Downers Grove: IVP.
- Goldingay, J. 2006. *Old Testament Theology – Volume 2, Israel's Faith*. Downers Grove: IVP.
- Goldingay, J. 2009. *Old Testament Theology – Volume 3, Israel's Life*. Downers Grove: IVP.
- House, P. R. 1998. *Old Testament Theology*. Downers Grove: IVP.
- Kaiser, Walter C. 2008. *The Promise Plan of God: A Biblical Theology of the Old and New Testaments*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan.
- Waltke, Bruce K. 2007. *Old Testament Theology: An Exegetical, Canonical and Thematic Approach*. Downers Grove: Zondervan.

The Prophets

- Blenkinsopp, J. 1996. *A History of Prophecy in Israel*. Louisville: John Knox Westminster.
- Boda, Mark J. and J. Gordon McConville, eds. 2012. *Dictionary of the Old Testament: Prophets*. Downers Grove: IVP.
- Brueggemann, W. 2001. *The Prophetic Imagination*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress.
- Chisholm, R. 2002. *Handbook on the Prophets*. Grand Rapids: Baker.
- Collins, J. J. 1998. *The Apocalyptic Imagination: An Introduction to Jewish Apocalyptic Literature*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.
- Heschel, Abraham J. 2001. *The Prophets*. Perennial ed. New York: Harper & Row.
- Hill, Clifford. 1989. *Prophecy Past and Present*. Crowborough: Highland.
- McConville, G. 2002. *Exploring the Old Testament Vol. 4: Prophets*. London: SPCK.
- Mowvley, Harry. 1979. *Guide to Old Testament Prophecy*. Cambridge: Lutterworth.
- Redditt, Paul L. 2008. *Introduction to the Prophets*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.
- Von Rad, Gerhard. 1968. *The Message of the Prophets*. London: SCM.

The Writings

- Arnold, Bill T. and H. G. M. Williamson, eds. 2005. *Dictionary of the Old Testament: Historical Books*. Downers Grove: IVP.
- Crenshaw, James L. 1981. *Old Testament Wisdom: An Introduction*. London: SCM.
- Grogan, Geoffrey. 2001. *Prayer, Praise and Prophecy: A Theology of the Psalms*. Fearn: Christian Focus.
- Longman, Tremper. 1988. *How to Read the Psalms*. Downers Grove: IVP.

- Longman, Tremper and Peter Enns, eds. 2008. *Dictionary of the Old Testament: Wisdom, Poetry and Writings*. Downers Grove: IVP.
- Lucas, Ernest. 2003. *Exploring the Old Testament – Volume 3: The Psalms and Wisdom Literature*. London: SPCK.
- Murphy, R. E. 2002. *The Tree of Life*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.
- Satterthwaite, P and McConville, G. 2007. *Exploring the Old Testament – Volume 2: The Histories*. London: SPCK.

Preaching the Old Testament

- Goldsworthy, Graeme. 1991. *According to Plan, The Unfolding Revelation of God in the Bible*. Downers Grove: IVP.
- Kent, Grenville J. R., Paul J. Kissling and Laurence A. Turner, eds. 2010. *‘He Began with Moses: Preaching the Old Testament Today*. Nottingham: IVP.

ACT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Key Policies

Students should take note of the following ACT policies:

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

Accessing Documents

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

1. Undergraduate Handbook.
2. Postgraduate Handbook.
3. Student Policy Handbook.
4. International Student Handbook.
5. Distance Education Handbook.

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