

M.Th. in OLD TESTAMENT

SEMESTER-I

Course Code	Course Title	L - T - P	Credits
MTh/GPT-700	Research Methodology	2 - 0 - 0	2
MTh/OT-701	Critical Introduction to the Old Testament	4 - 0 - 0	4
MTh/OT-702	Evaluation of Old Testament Theology	4 - 0 - 0	4
MTh/PM-701	Practical Ministry	0 - 0 - 4	2
	Total Credits	10 - 0 - 0	12

SEMESTER-II

Course Code	Course Title	L - T - P	Credits
MTh/OT-703	Exegetical and Theological Study of Genesis Ch. 1-15 or Exodus Ch. 1-15 (in Hebrew)	4 - 0 - 0	4
MTh/OT-704	Critical Issues in the History of Israel	4 - 0 - 0	4
MTh/PM-702	Practical Ministry	0 - 0 - 4	2
	Total Credits	8 - 0 - 4	10

SEMESTER-III

Course Code	Course Title	L - T - P	Credits
MTh/OT-801	Exegetical and Theological Study of Hosea (In Hebrew)	4 - 0 - 0	4
MTh/OT-802	Intertestamental Literature	4 - 0 - 0	4
MTh/ID-800	Inter-Disciplinary Seminar	2 - 0 - 0	2
	Total Credits	10 - 0 - 0	10

SEMESTER-IV

Course Code	Course Title	L - T - P	Credits
MTh/OT-803	Theological Study of Psalms	2 - 0 - 0	2
Relevant Course Code & Number	Any one course from the existing courses from any of these branches: NT/Theology/Religion/Christian Ministry/ History of Christianity/Missiology	2 - 0 - 0	2
MTh/OT-899	Thesis		15
	Total Credits	4 - 0 - 0	19

Course Title: Research Methodology

Course Code: MTh/GPT-700

Credit (2-0-0) 2

Course Objective: To help students with the preparation of Course Research Assignments, Theses and Dissertations.

Course Outlines:

1. Research and the Researcher.
2. Basic Elements of a Research Proposal.
3. Collecting and Organizing Materials.
4. Analysis and Evaluation of Materials.
5. Interrogation of a Text.
6. Footnotes, Endnotes, Text notes, Bibliographical Entries and Reference Abbreviations.
7. The Use of Quotations.
8. Illustrative Materials and Tables.
9. Format of the Research Report.
10. Preparation of Book Reviews/Reports.

Reference:

- Anderson, Jonathan, Berry H. Durston & Millicent Poole (1970), *Thesis and Assignment Writing*, Wiley Eastern, New Delhi.
- Booth, Wayne C, Gregory G. Colomb and Joseph M. Williams (1995), *The Craft of Research*, University of Chicago, Chicago.
- Campbell, William G. (1975), *Form and Style In Thesis Writing*, Houghton Mifflin Co, Cambridge, Massachusetts.
- Denzin, Normank and Yvonna S. Lincoln, (eds). 1994, “*Handbook of Qualitative Research*,” Thousand Oaks/London/New Delhi, Sage.
- Kothari, C.R. *Research Methodology, Methods and Techniques* (1990), Wiley Eastern, New Delhi.
- Joseph, A. Antony (1986), *Methodology for Research, Guide for Writing Dissertations, Theses and Scientific Papers*, Theological Publications of India, Bangalore.
- Mabry Hunter, P (2004), *A Manual for Researchers and Writers of Course Assignments, Theses, Dissertations and Other Research Reports*, The Board of Theological Education of Senate of Serampore College, Miller’s Road, Bangalore, 560046.
- Mauch, James E and Jack W. Birch, (1998), “*Guide to the Successful Thesis and Dissertation- A Handbook for Students and Faculty*,” Marcel Dekker, Inc, New York.
- Sjoberg, Gideon & Roger Nett, (1977), *A Methodology for Social Research*, Harper & Row, New York.

Course Title: Critical Introduction to the Old Testament

Course Code: MTh/OT-701

Credit (4-0-0) 4

Objectives:

- To critically study the Old Testament by using various approaches.
- To provide critical introduction to the books of the Old Testament.

Outline:

1. The Canon of the Old Testament.
2. Contemporary methods of Biblical Interpretation.
 - a). The Historical-Critical approach to the Old Testament
 - b). Newer approaches:
 - i). The Bible as literature
 - ii). Rhetorical and stylistic criticism
 - iii). Structural analysis
 - iv). Social Scientific criticism
 - v). Canonical criticism
 - c). Liberation Readings:
 - i). Feminist reading of the Bible (O.T.).
 - ii). Dalit and Tribal reading of the Bible (O.T.).
3. Critical introduction to the books of the Old Testament
 - a). The Pentateuchal books:
 - Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy.
 - b). The Historical books:
 - Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1&11 Samuel, 1&11 Kings, 1&11 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah & Ester
 - c). The Poetic and Wisdom books:
 - Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, & Song of Solomon.
 - d). The Prophetical books:
 - Major prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah & Ezekiel
 - Minor prophets: Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah & Malachi

References:

- Anderson, G.W (1959), A Critical Introduction to the Old Testament, Duckworth, London.
- Eissfeldt, O. (1965), The Old Testament: An Introduction, Blackwell, Oxford.
- Fohrer, G (1968), Introduction to the Old Testament, Nashville.
- Laffey, Alice, L. (1988), An Introduction to the Old Testament, A Feminist Perspective, Fortress press, Philadelphia.
- Noth, Martin, A History of Pentateuchal Traditions, Eaglewood Cliffs, New Jersey.
- Rowley, H.H (1951), The Old Testament and the Modern Study, Clarendon press, Oxford.

Course Title: Evaluation of Old Testament Theology

Course Code: MTh/OT-702

Credit (4-0-0) 4

Objectives:

- To trace the origin and development of Old Testament theology.
- Make possible attempts to construct Old Testament theology.
- To study various theological themes.

Outline:

1. The origin and development Old Testament theology.
2. The Revival of Old Testament Theology during early 20th century Old Testament Theology after World War II.
3. Old Testament Theology since 1970: G. Fohrer, J.L. Mckenzie, R.E. Clements, Walther Zimmerli, Claus Westermann, B.S. Childs, Rolf, P. Knierim
4. Methodological problems of Old Testament Theology in the writings of:
 - a). Walther Eichrodt
 - b). Gerhard Von Rad
 - c). Theodorus C. Vriezen
 - d). Edmond Jacob
 - e). J.L. Mckenzie
 - f). Claus Westermann
 - g). B.S. Childs
 - h). Rolf P. Knierim
4. Major Theological themes in the Old Testament:
 - a). Creation and Ecology
 - b). Yahweh
 - c). Revelation
 - d). Covenant
 - e). Law
 - f). Salvation
 - g). Shalom
 - h). Justice
 - i). Monarchy
 - j). Cult and the Presence of God
 - k). Prophecy
 - l). Kingship of God
 - m). Land
 - n). Hope
 - o). Eschatology
 - p). Messiah

References:

1. Childs, Brevard S (1970), Biblical Theology in Crisis, Westminster, Philadelphia.
2. Dyrness, William (1979), Themes in Old Testament Theology, Downers Grove, Inter-Varsity press.
3. Eichrodt, Walther (1961), Theology of the Old Testament – Vol 1&II, SCM press London
4. Hasel, Gerhard F (1975), Old Testament Theology: Basic Issues in the Current Debate, William B. Eerdmans Pub. Co, Grand Rapids.
5. Hayes, John H & Prussner, Frederick C,(1985), Old Testament Theology: Its History and Development, John Knox press, Atlanta.
6. Reventlow, Henning Graf (1985), Problem of Old Testament Theology in the Twentieth Century, SCM press, London.

Course Title: Practical Ministry

Course Code: MTh/PM-701

Credit (0-0-4) 2

Course Outline:

Introduction:

- 1 What is Practical Ministry?**
- 2 The Importance of Practical Ministry.**
- 3 The Goal of Practical Ministry.**
- 4 The Scope of Practical Ministry.**

Activities of Practical Ministry:

- 1. Ministry of Preaching:**
Preaching from the Scriptures for Spiritual, Moral and Ethical upliftment of the people.
- 2. Ministry of Feeding:**
Involving in the Food distribution service of Yesu Darbar Ministry.
- 3. Ministry of Visiting the Sick:**
Hospital Visitation and House Visitation.
- 4. Ministry of Counseling:**
Youth Counseling, Personal Counseling, Family Counseling, Marriage Counseling etc. to the students and the families in the campus and in the neighboring localities.
- 5 Ministry of Prayer:**
Conducting Prayer Meetings and Individual Prayer Sessions.
- 6. Ministry of Social Action:**
Campus Cleaning, Plantation and Environmental Care.

**Course Title: Exegetical and Theological Study of Genesis
Chapter 1-15 or Exodus Chapter 1-15
(In Hebrew)**

Course Code: MTh/OT-703

Credit (4-0-0) 4

Outline:

1. Introduction of Tools of Interpretation.
 - (a) Historical Critical Approach
 - (b) Literary Approach
 - (i) Textual Study
 - (ii) Translation
 - (iii) Form/Structure/Style.
 - (iv). Redaction, Social-Scientific Criticism etc.
 - (v) Grammar and Syntax
 - (c) Liberation Approach
 - (d) Other Approaches: Feminist & Tribal etc.
2. Introduction to the Book.
3. Historical Background of the Book.
 - (i) Authorship
 - (ii) Date and Place.
 - (iii) Context
4. Composition of the Book.
5. Philological Study.
6. Study of Theological Message.
7. Relevance of the Message to the Present Context.

References:

1. BDB Dictionary
2. BHS Hebrew Bible
3. B.S. Childs: Exodus, SCM, London 1974.
4. N.K. Gottwald: The Hebrew Bible: A Socio-literary Introduction.
5. J.P. Hyatt Exodus, New Century Bible, London 1971.
6. M. Noth: A History of Pentateuchal Tradition, Englewood Cliffs, N.J.
7. W. Brueggemann: Genesis

Course Title: Critical Issues in the History of Israel

Course Code: MTh/OT-704

Credit (4-0-0) 4

Objectives:

- (i) To Trace the History and Culture of Ancient Israel
- (ii) To Analyse Critical Issues in the History of Israel
- (iii) To know the Importance of the History of Israel

Outline:

1. Geography of Palestine
2. The Identity of the People of Israel
3. The Migration of the People of Israel
4. Israelites in Egypt
5. The Exodus from Egypt
6. The Journey in the Wilderness
7. The Occupation and the Settlement in Canaan
8. The Period of the Judges
9. The Period of United Kingdom (Saul, David & Solomon).
10. The Fall and Division of the Nation of Israel
11. The Exile
12. The Return and Rebuilding of the Temple
13. The Re-establishment of the Priesthood
14. Religious Observations and Festivals
15. The Struggle for Political Independence
16. Lessons to be learned from History of Israel

References:

- A. Alt, *Essays on Old Testament History and Religion*, Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1966
- G.W. Ramsay, *The Quest for the Historical Israel, Reconstruction of Israel History*, SCM London, 1982.
- J. Bright, *A History of Israel OLT*, London, 1972.
- H. Ringgren, *Israelite Religion*, London 1966.
- R.B. Coote, *The Emergence of Israel in Historical perspective*, Almond Sheffield, England 1986.

Course Title: Practical Ministry

Course Code: MTh/PM-702

Credit (0-0-4) 2

Course Outline:

Introduction:

- 6 The Importance of Practical Ministry.**
- 2 The Goal of Practical Ministry.**
- 3 The Scope of Practical Ministry.**

Activities of Practical Ministry:

1. Ministry of Preaching:

Preaching from the Scriptures for Spiritual, Moral and Ethical upliftment of the people.

2. Ministry of Feeding:

Involving in the Food distribution service of Yesu Darbar Ministry.

3. Ministry of Visiting the Sick:

Hospital Visitation and House Visitation.

4. Ministry of Counseling:

Youth Counseling, Personal Counseling, Family Counseling, Marriage Counseling etc. to the students and the families in the campus and in the neighboring localities.

1. Ministry of Prayer:

Conducting Prayer Meetings and Individual Prayer Sessions.

6. Ministry of Social Action:

Campus Cleaning, Plantation and Environmental Care.

**Course Title: Exegetical and Theological Study of Hosea
(In Hebrew)**

Course Code: MTh/OT-801

Credit (4-0-0) 4

Outline:

1. Introduction of Tools of Interpretation.
 - (a) Historical Critical Approach
 - (b) Literary Approach
 - (i) Textual Study
 - (ii) Translation
 - (iii) Form/Structure/Style.
 - (iv). Redaction, Social-Scientific Criticism etc.
 - (v) Grammar and Syntax
 - (c) Liberation Approach
 - (d) Other Approaches: Feminist & Tribal etc.
2. Introduction to the Book of Hosea.
3. Historical Background of the Book.
 - (i) Authorship
 - (ii) Date and Place.
 - (iii) Context
4. Composition of the Book.
5. Philological Study.
6. Study of Theological Message.
7. Relevance of the Message to the Present Context.

References:

1. BDB Dictionary
2. BHS Hebrew Bible
3. New Bible Commentary
4. Jerome Biblical Commentary
5. Word Biblical Commentary
6. Anchore Bible Commentary
7. New Century Bible Commentary
8. H.H. Rowley *The OT and the Modern Study*, (Clarendon Press, Oxford 1951).
9. G. Von Rad, *OT Theology*.

Course Title: Intertestamental Literature

Course Code: MTh/OT-802

Credit (4-0-0) 4

Outline:

1. General Introduction to the Historical Situations during 200 – 100 B.C.E.
2. Religious and Sectarian Movements within Judaism:
 - (a) The Sadducees, (b) The Pharisees, (c) The Hassidim,
(d) The Essences, (e) The Qumran Community.
3. The Literatures of the Intertestamental Period:
 - (a) The Apocryphal and Pseudipigrapha
 - (i) I & II Maccabees, (ii) Judith (iii) Tobit (iv) Ecclesiasticus, (v) Letter of Jeremy (vi) Wisdom of Solomon (vii) Book of Susana(viii) Martyrdom of Isaiah (ix) Book of Jubilee (x) Testament of Moses. (xi) Adam and Eve (xii) Letter of Aristeas. (xiii) Book of I & II Esdras. (xiv) Testament of the Twelve Patriarchs. (xv) Fourth Ezra (xiv) Prayer of Manasseh. (xvii) Bel and the Dragon. (xviii) Additions to Esther. (xix) The Prayer of Azariah and the Song of the Three Young men
 - (b) Qumran Literature
 - (i) War Scroll (ii) Manual of Discipline (iii) Damascus Rule
(iv) Hymns Scroll
 - (c) Mishna, Targum, Sumerian Literature, Philo etc.
4. The Theology of the Intertestamenal Period
5. The Importance of the Intertestamental Literature

References:

- R.H. Charles *The Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha of Old Testament*, Oxford, 1913.
- H.F.D. Sparks, *The Aprocrypha, Old Testament*, Oxford 1984.
- J.H. Charlsworth, *The Pseudepigrapha and Modern Research*, Scholars Press, 1976.
- J.H. Charlesworth, *The OT Pseudepigrapha*, 2 Vols. Doubleday, 1983-85.
- G. Vermes *The Dead Sea Scrolls in English*, Penguin, 1968.
- L.H. Brockington, *A Critical Introduction to the Aprocrypha*, Duckworth, 1961.

Course Title: Inter-Disciplinary Seminar

Course Code: MTh/ID-800

Credit (2-0-0) 2

Objectives:

1. To assign to the students certain important topics from various branches of theological studies.
2. To make the students of different branches write research papers and present Seminar Papers from the perspective of one's own discipline of which one is a student.
3. Students of various branches will sit together and make a creative discussion on the Issue/topic presented in the seminar class.

Areas of study:

1. Issues from the Old Testament
2. Issues from the New Testament
3. Christian Theological Issues
4. Religious Issues
5. Historical Issues
6. Christian Ministerial Issues
7. Missiological Issues
8. Issues in Communication
9. Sociological Issues
10. Gender Issues
11. Ethical & Environmental Issues

Course Title: Theological Study of Psalms

Course Code: MTh/OT-803

Credit (2-0-0) 2

Objectives:

- To study the Psalms in their historical setting.
- To study the Hebrew poetry with its characteristics.
- To do exegetical study of selected psalms thereby to draw theological message.

Outline:

1. Introduction to the Book of Psalms.
 - a). The title of Psalms
 - b). The canon of the Psalms
 - c). The formation and composition of the Psalms
2. The characteristics of Hebrew Poetry.
 - a). The Hebrew parallelism
 - b). The Hebrew Metre and Rhythm
 - c). Technical terms in the Psalms
 - d). The superscription of the Psalms
3. The types and settings of the Psalms.
4. Recent scholars' view on the Psalms.
5. West Asian and Indian parallel to the Psalms.
6. Thematic study on:
 - i). Kingship of Yahweh
 - ii). Torah
 - iii). Problem of Righteous Suffering
 - iv). Zion theology
 - v). Cult
 - vi). Messiah
 - vii). Life after Death
 - viii). Eschatology.
7. Exegetical study on selected text:
Psalms: 2, 6, 19, 32, 45, 46, 47, 51, 73, 80, 95, 103, 104, 121, 124, 132, 137, 139.

References:

- L.C. Allen, *Psalms 101-150*, Word Biblical Commentary, Texas, 1987.
- A.A. Anderson, *The Book of Psalms*, Vols. 1&2, New Century Bible, Oliphants, London 1972.
- C.A. Briggs, *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Book of Psalms*, Edinburgh, 1907.
- W. Brueggemann, *The Message of the Psalms*, Augsburg Publishing House, Minneapolis, 1984.
- P.C. Craigie *Psalms 1-50*, Word Biblical Commentary, Texas, 1983.