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|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Module Code</b>    | <b>HPRS7013</b>                         |
| <b>Title</b>          | <b>The Bible: Text and Transmission</b> |
| <b>Date</b>           | <b>13/01/2020</b>                       |
| <b>Level</b>          | <b>Level 7</b>                          |
| <b>Credits</b>        | <b>30</b>                               |
| <b>Pre-Requisites</b> | <b>None</b>                             |

### **AIM(S)**

- To develop a critical awareness and appreciation of scholarly issues surrounding the stabilisation of biblical texts and their transmissions, and the formation of the biblical canon.
- To enable students to identify different literary genres across both Old and New Testaments by engaging with a representative sample of primary texts (in translation).

### **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon the successful completion of this module, the student should be able to:

- demonstrate an informed understanding of the diversity and range of languages and literary genres found in the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament;
- analyse critically how early versions of the texts can act as interpretations;
- contextualize specific biblical passages within their wider literary and canonical contexts;
- identify intertextual links between the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament and examine critically the theological claims implicit in these links;
- assess the contribution to the history of biblical interpretation of a selection of key figures and movements.

### **INDICATIVE CONTENT**

- Examination of the critical issues and questions surrounding scholarly debate of the composition of the Pentateuch, the Deuteronomistic History and the Prophetic Literature.
- Historical overview of the different Ancient Versions of the Bible (including the Septuagint, Targum, Peshitta) and how these versions are used in biblical scholarship.
- The reception of the Hebrew Scriptures in late Second Temple Judaism and in early Christian writings.
- Analysis of the critical issues and questions surrounding the formation of the canonical gospels (including source criticism and redaction criticism).
- Examination of recent scholarly debates on the gospel genre and on the communities that supposedly lie behind the canonical gospels.
- The transmission and reconstruction of the New Testament, including the principles of establishing the New Testament text.

## Study Time Allocation

The study time for the module is divided as follows:

| Activity type        | Hours      | Percentage  |
|----------------------|------------|-------------|
| Scheduled learning   | 30         | 10          |
| Independent learning | 270        | 90          |
| Placement learning   |            |             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>         | <b>300</b> | <b>100%</b> |

## ASSESSMENT

### Assessment Component 1

(Tick one)

☐ Written exam      x      Coursework      ☐ Practical

| Mode of assessment                                            | Volume     | Weighting |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| Portfolio: to include book review, textual analyses and essay | 7500 words | 100%      |

### Assessment Component 2

(Tick one)

☐ Written exam      ☐ Coursework      ☐ Practical

| Mode of assessment | Volume | Weighting |
|--------------------|--------|-----------|
|                    |        |           |

### Assessment Summary

| Activity type | Percentage  |
|---------------|-------------|
| Written exam  |             |
| Coursework    | 100         |
| Practical     |             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>100%</b> |

## INDICATIVE READING LIST

| Module Code    |                                                                                                                                              |                          |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Module Title   | <b>The Bible: Text and Transmission</b>                                                                                                      |                          |
| Classification | Reading List entry                                                                                                                           | Electronic*              |
| Essential      | Barton, J., <i>Reading the Old Testament: Method in Biblical Study</i> (London: Darton, Longman & Todd, 1986; 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition 1996). | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Essential      | Barton, J., <i>A History of the Bible: The Book and its Faiths</i> (London: Allen Lane, 2019).                                               |                          |
| Essential      | Moyise, S., <i>The Old Testament in the New: Approaches to Biblical Studies</i> (2 <sup>nd</sup> edition; London: T & T Clark, 2015).        | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Essential | Rogerson, J. & Lieu, J.M. (eds), <i>The Oxford Handbook of Biblical Studies</i> (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008).                                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Further   | Aitken, J. (ed.), <i>T&amp;T Clark Companion to the Septuagint</i> (London: Bloomsbury, 2015).                                                                               | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Further   | Barton, J. (ed.), <i>The Hebrew Bible: A Critical Companion</i> (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2016).                                                               | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Further   | Barton, J. <i>The Nature of Biblical Criticism</i> (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2007).                                                                          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Further   | Barton, J., <i>People of the Book? The Authority of the Bible in Christianity</i> (3 <sup>rd</sup> edition; London: SPCK).                                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Further   | Bauckham, R., <i>The Gospels for All Christians: Rethinking the Gospel Audiences</i> (Grand Rapids: W.B. Eerdmans, 1997).                                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Further   | Burridge, R., <i>What Are the Gospels? A Comparison with Graeco-Roman Biography</i> (3 <sup>rd</sup> edition; Waco: Baylor University Press, 2018).                          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Further   | Collins, J.J., <i>The Bible after Babel: Historical Criticism in a Postmodern Age</i> (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans 2006).                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Further   | Crossley, J. and M. Fletcher, <i>Companion to the New Testament: Introduction, Interpretation, Application</i> (London: SCM, 2020).                                          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Further   | Evans, C.A., <i>Ancient Texts for New Testament Studies: A Guide to the Background Literature</i> (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2012).                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Further   | Gamble, H.Y., <i>Books and Readers in the Early Church</i> (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1997).                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Further   | Hays, R.B., <i>Echoes of Scripture in the Letters of Paul</i> (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1989).                                                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Further   | Hays, R.B., <i>Echoes of Scripture in the Gospels</i> (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2017).                                                                              | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Further   | R.B. Hays, S. Alkier & L.A. Huizenga (eds.), <i>Reading the Bible Intertextually</i> (Waco: Baylor University Press, 2009).                                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Further   | Klink III, E.W. (ed.), <i>The Audience of the Gospels: The Origin and Function of the Gospels in Early Christianity</i> (LNTS 353; London: T & T Clark International, 2010). | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Further   | Kugel, J. & Greer, R., <i>Early Biblical Interpretation</i> (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1988).                                                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Further   | Marcos, N.F., <i>The Septuagint in Context: Introduction to the Greek Versions of the Bible</i> (Leiden: Brill, 2000).                                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Further   | Moyise, S., <i>Evoking Scripture: Seeing the Old Testament in the New</i> (London: T & T Clark, 2008).                                                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Further   | Nongbri, Brent, <i>God's Library: The Archaeology of the Earliest Christian Manuscripts</i> (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2018).                                        | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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| Further | Parker, D., <i>Textual Criticism and the Making of the New Testament</i> (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014).                             | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Further | Tuckett, C., <i>Reading the New Testament: Methods of Interpretation</i> (London: SPCK, 1987).                                                | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Further | Stavrakopoulou, F. and J. Barton, <i>Religious Diversity in Ancient Israel and Judah</i> (London: T&T Clark, 2010).                           | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Further | Sweeney, M.A. and S. Chapman, <i>the Cambridge Companion to the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament</i> (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016). | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Further | T. Thatcher, C. Keith and R. Person, <i>Dictionary of the Bible and Ancient Media</i> (London; T&T Clark, 2017).                              | <input type="checkbox"/> |