

Open Bible Institute of Theology

Two Year Curriculum

Course Descriptions

YEAR ONE: TERM I

OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY I (Historical Books) (Bi131)

A survey study of the historical books of the Old Testament – (Genesis to Esther). This course especially emphasizes Israel’s messianic mission first described in God’s covenant with Abraham. It examines the background, structure and content of each book. It provides an understanding of the times and their relationship to God’s purpose in redeeming the world through Jesus Christ.

BIBLICAL THEOLOGY I (Th141)

This is the first of a series of studies of all the major Christian Doctrines. Special emphasis is placed upon the understanding of foundational concepts and terminology. The focus of this study is Doctrine of Scripture, Theology (Doctrine of God), *Anthropology* (Doctrine of Man) and *Angelology* (Doctrine of Angels).

ENGLISH GRAMMAR (SS111)

This English course focuses on the need for students to have a practical knowledge of Standard English and its functions in the different situations. The course attempts to help students apply that knowledge so that they will read, write and think effectively both in everyday life and ministry. It also seeks to develop some of the higher order comprehension skills necessary for research writing.

RESEARCH WRITING SKILLS (SS131)

The aim of this course is to initiate students into the standards and usual requirements for producing all Bible school work. The course is divided into three parts, the first of which deals with sentence and paragraph structure which will help students to produce Essays, Book Reports, Reaction papers, Word Studies. Secondly the student will learn the art of outlining, which is necessary for balanced, cohesive papers and

presentations. The third section will teach the students to handle research writing using the Turabian method resulting in the production of a Term Paper.

INTRODUCTION TO INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SS121)

A study of the basic components and operations of the computer. The course is an introduction to information technology that covers basic computer literacy.

EDUCATIONAL WORK OF THE CHURCH (CE111)

A course designed to introduce the student to the various educational tasks of the church. Emphasis is placed upon departmental structures, programmes, curriculum and personnel.

SPIRITUAL LIFE PRINCIPLES (CM101)

A study of the principles necessary for the development of a healthy, balanced spiritual life. Emphasis will be placed on the practical application of those principles to the lives of the students participating in the course.

YEAR ONE: TERM II

OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY II (Prophetical Books) (Bi132)

A survey study of the three Major Prophets, (Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel), 12 Minor Prophets, (Hosea, Joel, Amos, Micah, Obadiah, Jonah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi), Lamentations and the book of Daniel. The message and ministry of each of the prophets is studied with emphasis on their purpose and recurring themes. The study also focuses upon their contemporary social, political and religious conditions.

BIBLICAL THEOLOGY II (Th142)

This is the second of a series of studies of all the major Christian Doctrines. Special emphasis is placed upon the understanding of foundational concepts and terminology. The focus of this study is *Hamartiology* (Doctrine of Sin), *Christology* (Doctrine of Jesus Christ), *Soteriology* (Doctrine of Salvation).

GOSPELS AND ACTS (Bi122)

A study of the gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) includes the inter-testamental period, the authorship, purpose and message of each book. The study also includes a survey of the life and teachings of Christ. Emphasis will be given to John’s development of the theme that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. The book of Acts analyzes and examines questions concerning the growth of the church, both historical and contemporary. The course shows how apparent defeats and setbacks actually became victories and advances for the gospel. Emphasis is also given to the formation of the church, the work of the Holy Spirit among men and the missionary activities of Paul.

EVANGELISTIC STRATEGIES (Mh122)

A study of the principles, procedures and strategies for evangelism, discipleship and church planting. Emphasis will be placed on the Biblical basis for these ministries. Attention will also be given to Scripture memorization, leadership and methods, and the analysis of special problem situations. Practical assignments will be included to encourage the student to apply the knowledge gained.

MUSIC & WORSHIP (SS132)

A course designed to understand the fundamentals of music with emphasis on music notation, terminology, pitch, time, sight-reading, key signatures and harmony. The course also introduces students to the essentials of conducting effective praise and worship with emphasis on personnel, music and variations in worship.

YEAR ONE: TERM III

OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY III (Poetical Books) (Bi133)

A study of the biblical books of Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon. The literary structure of each book is analysed and emphasis is placed upon the characteristics of Hebrew poetry. Attention is also paid to the message of each book.

BIBLICAL THEOLOGY III (Th143)

This is the third of a series of studies of all the major Christian doctrines. Special emphasis is placed upon the understanding of foundational concepts and

terminology. The focus of this study is *Ecclesiology* (Doctrine of the Church), *Pneumatology* (Doctrine of the Holy Spirit), *Eschatology* (Doctrine of Last Things).

HERMENEUTICS ((Bi143))

A study of the principles of correctly interpreting the Bible to improve personal Bible study and ministry of the Word. It involves an examination of the principles of biblical interpretation with the aim of correctly understanding and applying the Bible. Emphasis is placed on the rules of General and Special Hermeneutics.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS AND SPIRITUAL WARFARE (CM113)

This course is designed to give the student a new awareness of the spiritual gifts and how they function. Special emphasis is placed on the nine charismatic gifts, the biblical principles of prayer, spiritual warfare and guidelines for the deliverance ministry.

PULPIT SPEECH I (CM133)

A study of the preparation of the various types of sermons. Emphasis is placed upon sermon types and structure including texts, themes, illustrations, introductions and other basic features of the sermon. The priority of preaching in fulfilling the Great Commission will be emphasized.

PRINCIPLES & PRACTICE OF TEACHING CHILDREN (CE143)

An examination of the church’s ministry to children with emphasis on administration, objectives, age group characteristics, spiritual and emotional needs and teaching methodology. Additionally, it is designed to provide guidance for the student in preparing and presenting lessons in accordance with sound Scriptural principles of teaching and using all of the audio and visual media available.

YEAR TWO: TERM I

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY I (Bi231)

A survey of the New Testament books of Romans, I & II Corinthians and Galatians. The study considers the introduction and message of each book.

Attention is paid to the doctrinal, ethical, moral and other problems facing the early Church to whom Paul wrote.

PULPIT SPEECH II (CM231)

A study of the preparation of sermons with emphasis being placed upon the effective delivery of sermons. Students will prepare and deliver sermons to be evaluated by the class.

PRINCIPLES & PRACTICE OF TEACHING YOUTH (CE211)

An examination of the church's ministry to youth with emphasis on objectives, characteristics, challenges, spiritual and emotional needs and programming. This examination is combined with a practicum in teaching designed to provide guidance for the student in preparing and presenting programmes/lessons in accordance with sound Scriptural principles of teaching using available audio and visual media.

CULTS & HERESIES (Mi231)

An examination of the primary cults present in the Western World with particular emphasis on the Caribbean. The study focuses on the origin and doctrines of such groups as Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons and others and compares them with the orthodox Christian position.

INTRODUCTION TO MISSIONS (Mi241)

This course is designed to give the student a brief overview of Missions from a biblical perspective. It also focuses on the role of the local church in the missionary enterprise.

PASTORAL MINISTRIES I (CM221)

A study of the principles relative to pastoral ministry and of the practical aspects of conducting the total work of the church. The study includes the examination of the qualifications, roles, responsibilities and problems of pastoral ministry, as well as the practical execution of the pastor's duties.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT (CE221)

A study of the techniques of organizing, administering and developing a Christian education programme.

General principles are considered with application made to the large and small local church situation.

YEAR TWO: TERM II

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY II (Bi232)

A survey/analysis of the New Testament books of Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, I & II Thessalonians, I & II Timothy, Titus and Philemon. The study considers the introduction and message of each book.

Attention is paid to the doctrinal, ethical, moral and other problems facing the early Church.

COUNSELLING (CM232)

An introduction to general, pre-marital, marriage and pre-psychiatric counselling for students anticipating church leadership roles.

PASTORAL MINISTRIES II (CM212)

A study of the principles relative to the pastoral ministry and of the practical aspects of conducting the total work of the church. The study focuses on the practical execution of the pastor's duties.

PRINCIPLES & PRACTICE OF TEACHING ADULTS (CE222)

A study of the total programme of education for adults in the local church. Emphasis is placed upon age-group characteristics, objectives, organization and activities. This is combined with opportunity for the student to prepare and present a teaching activity for one or more of the adult groups studied.

CHURCH HISTORY (SS232)

This course is designed to give the student an overview of Christianity from Pentecost until the present, with emphasis on the influence of major persons, problems and decisions. Emphasis will also be placed upon the doctrinal, organizational and philosophical development of the church and the causes and effects of heresies, persecution and present day denominations.

MISSIONARY LIFE AND WORK (Mi232)

A course designed to evaluate the life and work of the missionary while on the mission field. It focuses on the

qualifications, preparation, adjustment and work of the missionary.

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT (CE232)

An examination of the construction and use of curriculum materials in the church with emphasis on evaluation.

MINISTERIAL PRACTICUM (CM242)

The Ministerial Practicum is an effort to provide training which is both scriptural and practical for the student considering pastoral ministry. The program combines the resources and supervision of an experienced pastor and a monthly schedule of physical and spiritual activities to give some practical experience in the local church setting, to the student considering pastoral ministry.

EVANGELISM AND MISSIONS PRACTICUM (Mi242)

This practicum (EMP) is an effort to provide training that is both scriptural and practical for the student majoring in Evangelism and Missions. The programme combines the resources of a supervisor and a monthly schedule of activities designed to give some practical experience to the student for a period of four months.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION PRACTICUM (CE242)

The Christian Education Practicum (CEP) is an effort to provide training which is both scriptural, theoretical and practical for the student of Open Bible Institute of Theology who is majoring in Christian Education. The programme combines the resources of an experienced supervisor and a monthly schedule of activities designed to give some practical experience to the student for the duration of three months.

YEAR TWO: TERM III

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY III (Bi233)

A survey of the New Testament books of Hebrews, James, I & II Peter, I, II & III John, Jude and Revelation. The study considers questions of authorship, destination, purpose and structure and emphasizes the message of each book.

WORLD RELIGIONS (Mi233)

A study of the major classical religions of the world. Emphasis is placed upon those which hold influence in the Caribbean including Hinduism, Islam, Roman Catholicism, Spiritual Baptist and the New Age Movement.

PRINCIPLES OF LEADERSHIP (CM223)

This course entails a study of leadership as demonstrated in biblical literature and particularly as it relates to leadership in the church context. Emphasis will be placed on the personality, attitudes, the role and functions, skills and spiritual characteristics required for effective leadership. Attention will also be paid to Jesus' example as a model for leadership as well as to what Paul and others teach about the requirements for leadership in the church. Students will also reflect on the differences between biblical and non-biblical leadership.

MARRIAGE & FAMILY (SS223)

A study of the fundamental roles of husband and wife. It includes an examination of the biblical foundation of and the problems related to courtship and marriage. Attention is also paid to engagement, early marital adjustments, financial adjustments, the meaning of parenthood, budgeting and family crises.

CROSS CULTURAL STUDIES (Mi233)

An application of anthropological insights to the task of communicating the Christian message cross-culturally. Special attention is given to the fundamentals of culture and the differences in structure and organization of different societies.

CHURCH ADMINISTRATION & BUSINESS (CM243)

This study focuses on various administrative and business challenges that will be faced by prospective ministers. The skills needed to manage the business of the local church are considered, including management of personnel, finances, public relations, legal relations and development and maintenance of buildings and equipment. Consideration is also given to administrative principles, to parliamentary procedures and to the Principles and Policies of Open Bible Standard Churches.