

HIGHLAND  
THEOLOGICAL  
COLLEGE

**HTC**



**A Community of Faith & Scholarship**

***Access Course in  
Christian Theology***



## **Introduction**

The Highland Theological College (HTC) is an independent, non-denominational theological college and is both evangelical and reformed. It is a constituent college of the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI)

This course is for anyone who wants to study the Christian faith in greater depth.

You have the option of taking the course for the certificate or for interest only.

The course would be particularly suitable for those wishing to study the Christian faith who does not have the necessary qualifications for entry to HTC's BA in Theological Studies degree.

You will receive personal tutorial support, plus have the opportunity to meet with other students at Conference Days.

There are 6 modules, each comprising 15 units. Each unit should take about 4 hours to complete.

## **Qualifications Granted**

Those who complete the course successfully within three years will be awarded a Certificate of Access in Christian Theology. This means that, if you wish, you can go on to study for our BA in Theological Studies degree. If you choose to take the course for interest only and successfully complete it out with the three years, you will receive a Certificate of Completion.

## **Qualifications Required**

No formal qualifications are required for entrance onto the course.

## **Mode of Study**

This course is currently offered by open learning (OL) mode.

## **Module Structure (OL)**

There are 15 units in the module, each of which should take you about 4 hours to complete. In each unit you will have to do some reading which is carefully set out for you. You will also be guided through a set of activities, and instructed when to return written work to your tutor.

## **Book Resources**

If you have any questions or need help, please feel free to contact our Librarian, Martin Cameron, who will be pleased to assist you. He can be contacted on Tel: 01349 780000 or Email: [Martin.Cameron@htc.uhi.ac.uk](mailto:Martin.Cameron@htc.uhi.ac.uk)

# Study Skills For Theology

*What is this module about?*

This module focuses on the methods of study needed for higher education in general, and theological education in particular. It does so using theological texts and Biblical materials. This means that, while the module is of particular benefit to anyone who has been out of the habit of study for some time, it still has its own "free standing" benefit because of the reading it requires.

The module aims:

- to help you assess what you understand by "study"
- to give you some tools and pointers that will help you with your study, *and*
- to give you first hand experience of using these tools in a theological environment

*What text books will I need?*

As well as the supplied notes you will need:

- a Bible (preferably with a good cross referencing system)
- EITHER a copy of *Learn How to Study: A Guide for Students of All Ages*. [D. Rowntree (Warner Books 1998)]
- OR *How To Study Effectively* [G. R. Freenkm & J. Meed (Collins Educational 1996)]
- a copy of *The New Birth: What "Born Again" Really Means* [Rev. Dr. A. T.B. McGowan (Christian Focus Publications, Geanies House, Fearn, Ross-shire, Scotland, IV20 1TW, 1996)]

# Biblical Theology I

*What is this module about?*

Although the Bible tells us about many people, places and events, it is really telling one story, which some have called History i.e. the story of God and his acts. This module introduces you to the themes of the first part of that story by giving you a thematic introduction to the Old Testament.

The module aims:

- to familiarise you with the broad sweep of biblical history, particularly as seen in the Old Testament
- to identify most of the key themes of the Old Testament
- to enable you to understand something of the historical background to these themes, *and*
- to enable you to see some of the links between the Old Testament story of God's people and the New Testament story of God's revelation in Jesus Christ.

*What text books will I need?*

As well as the supplied notes you will need:

- a Bible (preferably with a good cross referencing system)
- a copy of the 3 volume *Illustrated Bible Dictionary (IVP)*, or it's more compact form simply called the *New Bible Dictionary*
- a copy of *Old Testament Survey* (second edition) [William Sanford La Sor et. al. (Wm. B. Eerdmans & Paternoster Press 1996)]

# Introduction To Systematic Theology

*What is this module about?*

Systematic theology draws together the different strands of teaching found in the Scriptures in an attempt to systematically, coherently and meaningfully expound the Christian faith.

This module aims:

- to familiarise you with tasks and methods of systematic theology
- to identify the key themes of systematic theology
- to enable you to trace the links between these themes, *and*
- to show how the Person and Work of Christ, as revealed in the Scriptures, is the key to understanding them all

*What text books will I need?*

As well as the supplied notes you will need:

- a Bible (preferably with a good cross referencing system)
- *Sinclair B. Ferguson et. al. (Eds) New Dictionary of Theology [IVP, Leicester, 1988]*
- *Bruce Milne, Know the Truth [IVP, 1982]*
- J. I. Packer, *Knowing God [Hodder & Stoughton, many editions]*

# Biblical Theology II

*What is this module about?*

This module takes up the story we began in Biblical Theology I – the story of the acts of God in history. Where Biblical Theology I focused on the story of God and his actions as told in the Old Testament, this module focuses on the content and meaning of the New Testament. The books of the New Testament focus on the life, ministry, death, resurrection and ascension of Christ, and the consequences of these events both for the people of God and the history of the world. The books of the New Testament cover only a relatively small number of decades, but they bring to fulfilment the themes developed over centuries of Old Testament history.

This module aims:

- to familiarise you with the major divisions of the New Testament
- to acquaint you with some of the historical background to the New Testament
- to enable you to identify the development of key themes as introduced in Biblical Theology I (e.g. grace, covenant, sin etc.)
- to let you see that these are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ, *and*
- to help you see the significance of these things for personal faith

*What text books will I need?*

As well as the supplied notes you will need:

- a Bible (preferably with a good cross referencing system)
- a copy of the 3 volume *Illustrated Bible Dictionary [IVP]*, or its more compact form simply called the *New Bible Dictionary*.
- a copy of *A Survey of the New Testament (Fourth Edition) [R. H. Gundry (Zondervan, 2003)]*

# An Introduction To The History of Christianity

*What is this module about?*

Church history is, as the name implies, the study of the history of the Church. The parameters of this study are enormous, spanning the last 2,000 years and touching all parts of the earth. This module gives us a "broad brush" picture of this remarkable story in a way that is readable and informative without being daunting.

This module aims:

- to give you an overview of the history of Christianity from the first century AD until today
- to introduce you to some of the major eras in the Christian story to provide you with tools to help you examine current issues

## Resources for this module

- (i) a copy of *The New Lion Handbook The History of Christianity*; (Jonathan Hill, Lion Hudson plc, Oxford, 2007 (ISBN 978 0 7459 5156 0))
- (ii) a copy of *New Dictionary of Theology* (SB Ferguson et. al. eds., IVP, Leicester, 1988)
- (iii) a copy of *Strength of the Hills*; Jenny Robertson, The Bible Reading Fellowship, Oxford, 2001 (ISBN 1 84101 125 8)

OR

a copy of *A Church History of Scotland*: JHS Burleigh, Edinburgh Hope Trust, 1988.

Note: both these books are out of print but a copy can be borrowed from the college library.

# Introduction To Pastoral Theology

*What is this module about?*

Theology is not simply an academic discipline. Theological reflection takes place in the "rough and tumble" of life. It relates to the real world in which people are born, live, and die. It is our theological reflection on God's dealings with us in this "real" world which gives us the raw material for pastoral theology.

This module aims:

- to introduce you to some of the aims and methods of pastoral theology
- to provide an elementary biblical basis and rationale for the pursuit of pastoral theology
- to give you the opportunity to see some of the relationships between biblical and theological studies, and the life issues which we must face day by day
- to give you the chance for some personal reflection on some issues of pastoral relevance, *and*
- to give you the chance to explore some of the fundamental issues involved in grief and bereavement

*What text books will I need?*

As well as the supplied notes you will need:

- a Bible (preferably with a good cross referencing system)
- a copy of the 3 volume *Illustrated Bible Dictionary [IVP]*, or its more compact form simply called the *New Bible Dictionary*.
- *Sinclair B. Ferguson et. al. (Eds) New Dictionary of Theology [IVP, Leicester, 1988]*

## **Student Fees**

Fees will be different for Scottish Residents and UK Non-Scottish Residents/ EU /International.

Please see the Fees information sheet for details.

## **Funding**

The ILA 200 is available for the study skills module only.

### **Individual Learning Accounts (ILA)**

If you are over 16 years of age, earning £22,000 per year or less and living in Scotland, you could be able to claim up to £200 towards the cost of your course. ILA Scotland is a Scottish Executive scheme which helps you pay for learning. The funding cannot be used in conjunction with any other funding.

To find out more about payment of fees please contact finance officer Barbara MacPhail on tel. 01349 780000 or email [Barbara.Macphail@htc.uhi.ac.uk](mailto:Barbara.Macphail@htc.uhi.ac.uk).

## **UK Non-Scottish Residents / EU / International**

Please note that the cost for UK Non-Scottish Residents /EU/ International can normally be reduced substantially by successful application for funding from a number of organisations.

### **Local Education Authority/ Education & Library Board**

Students who are eligible in England & Wales can apply for support funding to their Local Education Authority (LEA) or in Northern Ireland, their local Education & Library Board (ELB). EU and International students should be able to access similar funding sources in their home country. For successful applicants, this should pay a substantial proportion of the module cost. The level of support must be confirmed to HTC at the time of enrolment.

### **Please Note**

The cost and provision of College-supported modules are subject to periodic review and alteration by the College. For UK non-Scottish resident / EU students, funding for a module will normally come either from a source such as an LEA/ELB or from approved College support. All UK non-Scottish resident / EU / or International students applying for College support will be expected to provide evidence of refusal of funding from such a source.

### **Off-Campus Examination Fee**

A £25 fee is chargeable for each off-campus examination (except those which take place in Scotland). This is to cover administration, invigilation and postal costs. Any additional charge (e.g. for room hire) made by your chosen venue is the responsibility of the student.

## **FAQ's**

### **Have you ever thought that you would like to know more about the Bible or the Christian faith?**

This course offers you the chance to explore key areas such as the Old Testament, New Testament, Church History, Systematic Theology and Pastoral Theology.

**Does the thought of study put you off?** The course includes a module on study skills, designed to help you with issues such as planning, reading, writing and even preparing for exams!

### **Am I too old?**

This course caters for all ages. It is open to school leavers or pensioners, or anyone in between. Why not take a year out before university?

### **Where does it lead?**

Successful completion of the course demonstrates competence to begin degree level study. The course is free-standing, however, and does not presume that you will go onto degree level work.

### **Where do I find out more?**

If you would like more information or an application form, please contact the Registrar, Highland Theological College at the address below.

### **Contact Details**

**Address:** The Registrar, HTC, High Street, Dingwall,  
IV15 9HA, Scotland.  
**Telephone:** +44 (0) 1349-780000  
**Fax:** +44 (0) 1349-780001  
**E-mail:** [htcadmissions@htc.uhi.ac.uk](mailto:htcadmissions@htc.uhi.ac.uk)  
**HTC Web Site:** [www.htc.uhi.ac.uk](http://www.htc.uhi.ac.uk)  
**UHI Web Site:** [www.uhi.ac.uk](http://www.uhi.ac.uk)