

MTG100.5 THE BIBLICAL STORY FOR EVERYONE

Name of Unit 1 (Unit Code 1)
The Biblical Story for Everyone (MTG100.5)

SECTION 1 – GENERAL INFORMATION

Administrative details

Associated higher education awards	Duration	Level	Unit Coordinator
Diploma Bachelor	One semester	Introductory	Dr Aaron Chalmers

Core or elective unit

Indicate if the unit is a

- core unit
 elective unit
 other (please specify below):

This unit is one of Tabor's Christian Studies common core.

Unit weighting

Using the table below, indicate the credit point weighting of this unit and the credit point total for the course of study (for example, 10 credit points for the unit and 320 credit points for the course of study).

Unit credit points	Total course credit points
6 credit points	48 / 144 credit points

Student workload

Using the table below, indicate the expected student workload per week for this unit.

No. timetabled hours per week	No. personal study hours per week	Total workload hours per week
3	6	9

For those students requiring additional English language support, how many additional hours per week is it expected that they will undertake?

Additional English language support: 0 hours per week

Pre-requisites and co-requisites

Are students required have undertaken a prerequisite or co-requisite unit for this unit?

- Yes No

SECTION 2 – ACADEMIC DETAILS

Brief description of the content of the unit

This unit examines the nature of the biblical text, and how our understanding of its character will shape the way we read it. Students explore key principles for reading the Bible responsibly and intelligently to discern how the text might intersect with their story and formation in their chosen vocation. Employing a drama metaphor, students engage with the Bible in six acts (Creation, Rebellion, Israel, Jesus, Church, and Consummation) and reflect on the explicit invitation within the biblical narrative to be transformed through personal participation in this divine drama.

Learning outcomes for the unit

- 1) Discuss the nature of the Bible in the light of the Christian tradition and contemporary scholarship
- 2) Propose key principles for biblical interpretation, which enable the text to be applied in a critical, contextual and responsible fashion
- 3) Identify key characters, developments, themes and genres within the biblical narrative
- 4) Evaluate and communicate the intersection of the Biblical narrative with their own life and formation for their chosen vocation

Assessment tasks

Type	Learning Outcome/s assessed	When assessed – year, session and week	Weighting
<p>Essay and Group Presentation</p> <p>Students are to write their own response to the following question: “What is the Bible and how might we read it today? Explain and justify your answer in the light of the Christian tradition and contemporary scholarship” (1500 words)</p> <p>They are then to work in teams to develop a short creative presentation which summarises the key points they raised in their essays. (Equivalent of 500 words)</p>	1, 2	8	40% (Essay) 10% (Presentation)
<p>Tests x 4</p> <p>Students are required to complete four half-hour online, open book tests involving true/false, multiple choice, matching, and short answer questions based on the textbook readings, class lectures, and their own personal reflections. The tests will assess comprehension of the biblical narrative, including key people, events and themes. The first two tests will cover the OT period and the second two tests the intertestamental and the NT periods. (Equivalent to 4 x 250 words)</p>	3	4, 7, 10 & 13	20%

Assessment tasks			
Type	Learning Outcome/s assessed	When assessed – year, session and week	Weighting
Journal x 6 Students are required to write journal entries reflecting on the intersection between the six acts of the biblical narrative and the students' own story in being formed for their chosen community profession (6 x 250 words)	4	14	30%

2.1 Prescribed and recommended readings

Provide below, in formal reference format, a list of the prescribed and recommended readings for the unit.

Required Textbook

Bartholomew Craig, G., and Goheen, Michael W., *The Drama of Scripture: Finding Our Place in the Biblical Story*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2014.

Recommended Resources

Artebury, Andrew, W. H. Bellinger Jr, and Derek S. Dodson. *Engaging the Christian Scriptures: An Introduction to the Bible*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2021.

Block, Daniel L. *Covenant: The Framework of God's Grand Plan of Redemption*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2021.

Boadt, L. *Reading the Old Testament: An Introduction*. 2nd ed. New York: Paulist Press, 2012.

Bontrager, M., Hershberger, M. and Sharp, John E. *The Bible as Story: An Introduction to Biblical Literature*. 2nd ed. WorkPlay Publishing, 2017.

Collins, John J. *Introduction to the Hebrew Bible*. 3rd ed. Fortress Press, 2018.

Coogan, Michael D. and Chapman, Cynthia R., *The Old Testament: A Historical and Literary Introduction to the Hebrew Scriptures*. 4th ed. Oxford University Press, 2017.

Duvall, J. and Hays, J. *Living God's Word: Discovering our Place in the Great Story of Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012.

Ehrman, B. *The Bible: A Historical and Literary Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013.

Enns, P. *How the Bible Actually Works*. London: Hodder & Stoughton, 2019.

Fee, G. & Stuart, D. *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*. 4th ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2014.

Hamilton, A. *Making Sense of the Bible: Rediscovering the Power of Scripture Today*. New York: HarperOne, 2014.

Kostenberger, Andreas, and Richard Patterson. *Invitation to Biblical Interpretation: Exploring the Hermeneutical Triad of History, Literature and Theology*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Academic, 2021.

McLaren, B. *The Story We Find Ourselves In: Further Adventures of a New Kind of Christian*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2008.*

Morgan, Christopher, and Robert Peterson. *Christian Theology: the Biblical Story and Our Faith*. Nashville, TN: B & H Academic, 2020.

Peterson, E. *Eat This Book: A Conversation in the Art of Spiritual Reading*. London: Hodder and Stoughton, 2006.

Powell, Mark A., *Introducing the New Testament: A Historical, Literary, and Theological Survey*. 2nd ed. Baker Academic, 2018.

Rasmussen, Carl G. *Essential Atlas of the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2013.
Rogerson, J. and J. Lieu (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Biblical Studies*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008.*
Russell, Brian D. *(re)Aligning with God: Reading Scripture for Church and World*. Eugene: Cascade, 2016.
Williams, Jarvis J. *Redemptive Kingdom Diversity: A Biblical Theology of the People of God*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2021.
Wright, N. T. *How God Became King: Getting to the Heart of the Gospels*. London: SPCK, 2012.
Wright, N. T. and Bird, Michael F., *The New Testament in Its World: An Introduction to the History, Literature, and Theology of the First Christians*. Zondervan Academic, 2019.

* Seminal Work