

MTG100.8 THE BIBLICAL STORY FOR EVERYONE

Name of Unit 1 (Unit Code 1)
The Biblical Story for Everyone (MTG100.8)

SECTION 1 – GENERAL INFORMATION

Administrative details

Associated higher education awards	Duration	Level	Unit Coordinator
Graduate Certificate Graduate Diploma Masters	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 / 12 credit points	24 / 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 so that they are able 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) Evaluate various ways the biblical text has been understood and interpreted in the Christian tradition and contemporary scholarship
- 2) Exegete and apply passages from the biblical text in a principled (incl. contextual), critical, 'faithful', and responsible fashion
- 3) Explain 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
Essay Choose one key theologian / biblical scholar from three key periods of church history (e.g., early church, Middle Ages, Reformation, etc). N.B. One of these periods must be from 1980-today. Evaluate (1) their understanding of the nature of the biblical text and (2) how they interpreted it. In the light of your research, articulate some key principles of "faithful" biblical interpretation. (2000 words)	1, 2	Week 8	40%
Journal x 4 Students are to write a 500 word journal reflection on four acts of the biblical narrative Each reflection should consist of two elements: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A brief discussion of the key characters, developments, and themes that appear in the relevant act of the biblical narrative, 2) A reflection on the intersection between the relevant act of the biblical narrative and the students' own story in being formed for their chosen community profession (Equivalent to 4 x 500 words)	3, 4	All entries submitted by the end of week 13	30%

Assessment tasks			
Type	Learning Outcome/s assessed	When assessed – year, session and week	Weighting
Interpretation Exercise Students are to interpret and apply a passage of Scripture, chosen in conversation with the lecturer, using the knowledge and skills they have developed in the unit. (1500 words)	2	Week 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 C. G., and M. W. Goheen, *The Drama of Scripture: Finding Our Place in the Biblical Story*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2014.

McKim, D. (Ed.) *Historical Handbook of Major Biblical Interpreters*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1998.

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 edition. New York: Paulist Press, 2012.

Brauch, M. *Abusing Scripture: The Consequences of Misreading the Bible*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2009.

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. and 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.

McKnight, Scot. *The Blue Parakeet: Rethinking How You Read the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2008.

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.

Rasmussen, C. G. *Essential Atlas of the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2013.

Richards, R. and O'Brien, B. *Misreading Scripture with Western Eyes*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2012.

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, NT. *How God Became King: Getting to the Heart of the Gospels*. London: SPCK, 2012.

* Seminal Work