

## PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION AND AIM:

The Bachelor of Theology Honours (BThHons) programme builds on the Bachelor of Theology degree by providing for specialisation, consolidation and deepening of knowledge and expertise in three key areas of Christian theology: Old Testament, New Testament and Christian Doctrine. In addition, one further module will be provided each year chosen by the Research Committee from Church History, Pastoral Theology, Missiology, Homiletics or Ethics.

## PROGRAMME OUTCOMES:

Graduates of the Bachelor of Theology Honours programme will have advanced exegetical, theological and ministerial skills enabling them to contribute to Christian ministry in Church and society and to advance their intellectual theological skills.

## ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS:

- A Bachelor of Theology degree or equivalent (as determined by the Faculty Board) with a final year average of 65%.
- Basic reading competency in either Biblical Greek or Classical Hebrew; the equivalent of 1-year full time. You can meet this requirement in the following ways:
  - A transcript and curriculum outline showing you have completed Biblical Greek or Classical Hebrew language studies in the past 5 years covering material equivalent to GWC's Greek 1 & 2 or Hebrew 1 & 2 modules.
  - A pass in the GWC Biblical Greek or Classical Hebrew Entrance Test for Postgraduate Students or
  - A pass in GWC's Biblical Greek or Classical Hebrew 1 & 2 module which can be taken as self-study while completing the BThHons programme; students have access to contact lectures on campus in Muizenberg to support the self-study of either language. Full admission to this programme can only be granted once this entrance requirement has been fulfilled.

The Biblical language requirement has several purposes: (1) to foster a particular attitude towards the text of Scripture and a growing knowledge of the nature of Scripture, even when the original languages are not directly used or later kept; (2) to provide the opportunity to develop your ability in one or more original languages that you have begun in your undergraduate programme; and (3) to prepare you for future work in Biblical studies including engaging with technical commentaries in ministry, or continued research into the Biblical text in subsequent degrees.

- International applicants require an [evaluation of your highest qualification](#) from the SA Qualifications Authority which can take 3-6 months to acquire from SAQA **OR** proof of a qualification completed at an ACTEA accredited institution; as well as proof of English language proficiency through the IELTS test (6.5 overall and 6.0 for the written element) or TOEFL (computerised 232/575; internet based 90/91). Applications for exemption from the testing can be made (with appropriate motivation) to the Faculty Board, whose decision is final. Further details may be obtained from the Assistant Registrar.
- Admission through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is permitted for a maximum of 10% of the enrolment for any year. See the RPL Policy or *Student Handbook* for details of RPL procedures.

## DURATION OF STUDY:

**Full-time:** minimum one year

**Part-time:** maximum three years

Students who register to complete the qualification part-time will be given a part-time study agreement by the Director of Postgraduate Studies.

## APPLICATIONS FOR CREDIT:

Applications for credit transfer for individual modules must be applied for in writing before Registration Day. See the procedures and regulations for *Credit Accumulation and Transfer* in the CAT Policy.

## QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS/ARTICULATION:

A minimum of 120 credits with passes in all modules. See the *Student Handbook* and individual study guides for module pass requirements.

Graduates of the BThHons programme may apply for entry into the Master of Theology programme.

## STUDY GUIDES:

At the commencement of each module, you will receive a study guide which sets out, *inter alia*, the following information:

- the aim of the module, showing how it contributes to the overall programme outcomes.
- the module outcomes
- an outline of the lecture programme
- required and recommended reading
- the assessment requirements

## ASSESSMENT:

The aim of assessment is to determine whether the outcomes, as specified in the study guides, have been achieved. A variety of assessment methods are used, both formative (i.e. on-going) - tests, assignments, class participation; and summative (examinations). The exact method of assessment for each module is specified in the module study guide, available at the commencement of each module.

## PROGRAMME STRUCTURE:

The programme comprises 4 coursework modules and an Issues Paper on a topic to be agreed with the Research Committee. Full details and the relevant procedures are contained in the *Student Handbook*. Please note that certain modules are offered on an intensive (block) basis. A calendar is available at the beginning of each year.

This programme is offered in hyflex mode, which means a student can participate in lectures in real-time, remotely through zoom. Upon application, students can select their mode of interaction.

Bachelor of Theology Honours	
Modules	Credits
NT418 Galatians	16
MS412 Congregational Ministry in Africa	16
OT414 Interpreting Chronicles for Today	16
DS418 Justification, Good Works and Sanctification in Romans	16
RM410 Research Methodology	8
RP410 Research Proposal	8
SR410 Specialist Reading	8
MD410 Issues Paper	32
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>120</b>

## MODULE DESCRIPTIONS – BACHELOR OF THEOLOGY HONOURS:

### NT418 GALATIANS: THE GOSPEL OF FREEDOM AND THE BATTLE FOR TRUTH AND BELONGING

Vuyani Sindo

16cp

Galatians stands as Paul's most intense and politically charged defence of the gospel. In this module, we will explore the letter's sharp rhetoric, crafted to confront a crisis of identity within the early church. Paul's central claim—that covenant membership is grounded in justification by faith rather than "works of the law"—will serve as our starting point. We will examine how Paul presents the gospel as an eschatological revelation that dismantles the old divisions between Jew and Gentile, replacing them with a new social reality of unity in Christ. This unity is expressed in a Spirit-empowered life of freedom, lived beyond the constraints of the Mosaic law, and culminating in a radical inheritance shared by all who belong to Christ.

### MS412 CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRY IN AFRICA

Vhumani Magezi

16cp

This course exposes church leaders and postgraduate students to real life ministry challenges and approaches in Africa. Come and learn how to relate and apply the gospel to real life situations in a way that makes God's Word and the message about Christ relevant to people's context. African context is not static; times change, and new issues emerge. For example, post-colonial Africa and the on-going decolonisation discussions pose new challenges to the African church today. Any response has both philosophical and practical aspects. Too often we focus on the philosophical but ignore practical questions. This course seeks to address both. And as times change, the fixed Christian foundational truth is that God and His Word do not change. Therefore, we learn to address practical questions in a way that is both mindful of our context, but faithful to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

### OT414 INTERPRETING CHRONICLES FOR TODAY: FROM EXILE TO KINGDOM

Peter Hon Wan Lau

16cp

Discover how Chronicles speak powerfully to our contemporary challenges. Written for God's people rebuilding their lives after devastating exile, Chronicles offers timeless wisdom for churches and individuals facing discouragement and uncertainty today. Learn how the Chronicler reworked earlier biblical texts to craft hope for his audiences, and how his key themes bridge ancient and modern faith. Understand how Jesus interprets the Chronicler's vision of the kingdom of God, the temple, and our worship. This module offers critical engagement with current scholarship, while maintaining a theological and pastoral focus.

### DS418 JUSTIFICATION, GOOD WORKS, AND SANCTIFICATION IN ROMANS

Sherif A. Fahim

16cp

This course explores the argument of the Book of Romans, unravelling the profound theological arguments articulated by the Apostle Paul. The primary focus will be on navigating the nuanced relationship between justification and good works, as well as justification and sanctification as articulated in this epistle. The course of the study will include discussions of the exegetical and syntactical issues in the text, in addition to understanding the main theological themes through the book of Romans. One of the objectives is to develop a deeper understanding of the interface between justification and good works, while evaluating various perspectives within and outside traditional interpretations.

### RM410 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY 1

Amy Pluke

8cp

Aims to educate learners in the methodology of postgraduate research, thereby aiding successful preparation and production of assignments, reports and theses of a high academic standard. The following areas are addressed: assembly of bibliography and conducting literature reviews; reading techniques; identifying research problems; developing and submitting credible research proposals; dynamics of critical thinking; argumentation strategies; scholarly writing (including formatting of academic papers, general thesis requirements, citation and referencing protocol); patterns of supervision; submission and examination of theses. The handling of bibliographical software, electronic databases, and other digital resources is also given substantial attention.

### RP410 RESEARCH PROPOSAL

Supervisor

8cp

The Research Proposal (RP) is an important document which sets out the rationale for the study and the problem to be investigated in the mini-dissertation. An RP is also "a document that outlines how you *propose to undertake*

*your research studies, and it is a project-planning document which embodies your thinking about the study as you envisage it at the beginning of the project (Mouton, 2001:45).*

**SR410 SPECIALIST READING**

**Supervisor**

**8cp**

A prerequisite to the mini-dissertation, the module aims to ensure that the student has an extensive knowledge of the literature around the topic chosen for research, before she/he embarks on the research.

**MD410 ISSUES PAPER**

**32cp**

For the culmination of the Honours degree, the student must show capability of conducting research under supervision and producing a coherent Issues Paper on a topic agreed on through her/his research proposal.