

# LIDLAW COLLEGE

*Te Wananga Amorangi*

## 119.415 The Story of the Bible Course Assessment and Delivery Outline

**Campus/Delivery Mode:** Distance Learning

Semester 1, 2015  
NQF level: 4, 15 credits

### CONTENT OVERVIEW

1. Introduction – the Bible God’s story
2. Adam and Eve: God’s image, damaged
3. Abraham: the call of Abraham and the mission of God
4. Moses, God’s people and God’s covenant
5. Joshua-Ruth: God’s faithfulness amidst human failure
6. David: the model King
7. Solomon: the voice of wisdom
8. Isaiah: the voice of the prophet
9. Jesus: the fulfilment of Scripture
10. Jesus: the mediator of the new covenant
11. Paul: apostle to the Gentiles
12. Pictures of the Last Days

### ASSESSMENT TASKS AND DUE DATES

Assessment tasks involve the following:

#### 1. Online Discussion

<i>Learning outcomes:</i>	3, 4
<i>Due date:</i>	Midnight Sunday of lesson weeks 1, 2, 4, 7, 9, 11.
<i>Weighting:</i>	25%
<i>Length:</i>	As indicated below

The online discussion requires you to engage with your classmates on various topics throughout the course. In six lessons you will be required to prepare an initial post on Moodle of 100-150 words, followed by a response to at least one other student’s post of at least 50 words. You will be responsible to make this second and subsequent posts within one week of your initial post.

Specific instructions will accompany each online discussion task. Managing your time is important. Students are expected to complete all online discussions in a timely manner.

#### 2. Narrative Essay

<i>Learning outcomes:</i>	3, 4
<i>Due date:</i>	Midnight Sunday at the end of semester week 8
<i>Weighting:</i>	25%
<i>Length:</i>	650 Words

Write a 650 word essay on one of the following key narrative sections of the Old Testament:

- The life of Abraham as a prime example of divine blessing.
- The Exodus story from the burning bush until the building of the tabernacle.
- The Story of David from his anointing to becoming king of all Israel (1 Sam 16—2 Sam 20), reflecting on his career and character.

In your essay, you should

- (a) summarise the key facts that make up your chosen part of the biblical story
- (b) explain how this part of the Bible helps in our understanding of God, and
- (c) explain how this part of the Bible helps in our understanding of the rest of the Bible.

You should write approximately equal amounts for the above three sections of your essay.

### 3. Thematic essay

*Learning outcomes:* 2, 5  
*Due date:* Midnight Sunday at the end of semester week 12  
*Weighting:* 25%  
*Length:* 800 Words

Write an 800 word essay on one of the following themes:

- Creation
- Land
- Temple.

Write your essay in two main parts:

**Part 1.** Discuss two aspects of your chosen theme in the Old Testament.

**Part 2.** Show how each of these aspects are fulfilled or developed in the New Testament.

Your essay should also include an introduction and a conclusion. You should write approximately the same amount on each of parts 1 and 2. Your essay should refer to 4 or 5 sources that you have read in preparation for your writing. Be sure to reference your sources using footnotes, and also include them in your bibliography.

### 4. Self-Tests

*Learning outcomes:* 1-4  
*Weighting:* 25%  
*Due dates:* See below:

<b>Self-test #</b>	<b>Covers material in module</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Due to be completed by midnight Sunday at the end of week</b>
1	3	Abraham	4
2	4	Mt Sinai	5
3	6	David	7
4	8	The prophets	9
5	9	The gospels and background	10

These are self-grading online tests that you can take yourself on Moodle. These self-tests will help you to learn and review course material. Each test can be taken up to three times, and the best grade out of the three is the one that will be recorded. You must get at least 50% in three of the five tests in order to pass this assessment.

Please note that each self-test must be completed by midnight Sunday of the week following the module in which the material for that test is covered, so the test for Module 3's material is due to be completed at the end of week 4.

## CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT

### Online Discussion

Before beginning your first online discussion, please see the grading grid (rubric) on the “online discussion assignment coversheet” for further details on how these criteria will be applied.

- Engagement with material
- Constructive engagement with others
- Structure and presentation
- Timeliness

### Narrative Essay

- Coverage: includes all the important events of the chosen narrative section
- Explanation: evidence of careful thinking about how the narrative helps our wider understanding of God and the Bible
- Structure: the essay has an introduction, body, and conclusion; is in good paragraphs; flows well, in a logical order.
- Communication/ presentation: message is clear, spelling and grammar correct, written in own words.

### Thematic Essay

- Coverage: includes two aspects of chosen theme.
- Careful thought: shows understanding of the theme and its changes from the Old Testament to the New Testament.
- Structure: the essay has an introduction, body, conclusion; is in good paragraphs; flows well, in a logical order.
- Communication/ presentation: message is clear, spelling and grammar correct, written in own words; Biblical references are included in brackets and sources are acknowledged (footnotes); bibliography (4 – 5 works) in proper format.

### Self-Tests (five)

- Self-directed and sequential learning of material in five modules (3, 4, 6, 8 and 9).

## LEARNING HOURS

119.415 The Story of the Bible is a 15 credit course consisting of 150 learning hours. The assignment tasks and learning hours are as follows.

<b>Task</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Interaction with course materials and reading		50 hours
Online Discussion	25%	20 hours
Narrative	25%	25 hours
Thematic Essay	25%	25 hours
Self-Tests	25%	30 hours
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>150 hours</b>

Although this guideline regarding learning hours is not intended to be applied rigidly, it should be loosely adhered to in order to ensure a balanced workload.

## TEXTBOOK

The following textbook **is required** for this course:

Strom, Mark. *The Symphony of Scripture*. Phillipsburg: P & R Publishing, 1990.  
[This text gives a broad overview of Scripture touching on every book of the Bible and how it contributes to the whole.]

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

The following resources will be helpful, particularly as you prepare for your essays:

Alexander, D. *From Eden to the New Jerusalem*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2009.

Alexander, T. Desmond and Brian S. Rosner, eds. *New Dictionary of Biblical Theology*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2000.

Davis, Ellen F. and Richard B. Hays, eds. *The Art of Reading Scripture*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2003.

Fee, Gordon D. *How to Read the Bible Book by Book: A Guided Tour*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002.

Fee, Gordon D. and Douglas Stuart. *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth: A Guide to Understanding the Bible*. 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1993.  
[Gives a wide-ranging look at the books of the Bible. This popular work lets explains the different kinds of literature we call genres.]

Goldsworthy, Graeme. *According to Plan: the unfolding revelation of God in the Bible*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2002.

La Sor, William Sanford, David Allan Hubbard and Frederic William Bush. *Old Testament Survey: the message, form, and background*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996.

Lloyd-Jones, Sally. *The Jesus Storybook Bible: Every Story Whispers His Name*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2007.

Roberts, Vaughan. *God's Big Picture: tracing the story-line of the Bible*. Leicester: InterVarsity Press, 2004.

Ryken, Leyland. *How to Read the Bible as Literature*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1984.  
[An older work that presents a step-by-step look at the stories in the Bible as literature.]

### Articles:

Goheen, Michael, W. "The Urgency of Reading the Bible as One Story". *Theology Today*, 2006, 4, 469-483.

Peterson, Eugene. "Living into God's Story". Accessed on 12 May from:  
<http://www.biblicaltheology.ca/about/articles/>

Wright, N. T. "The Book and the Story". Accessed on 12 May 2008 from:  
[http://www.biblicaltheology.ca/blue\\_files/The%20Book%20and%20the%20Story.pdf](http://www.biblicaltheology.ca/blue_files/The%20Book%20and%20the%20Story.pdf)

Wright, N. T. "The Bible for the Post Modern World". Accessed on 12 May 2008 from:  
[http://www.biblicaltheology.ca/blue\\_files/The%20Bible%20for%20the%20Post%20Modern%20World.pdf](http://www.biblicaltheology.ca/blue_files/The%20Bible%20for%20the%20Post%20Modern%20World.pdf)

**Other resources:**

*OT39 Flashcards*, Walk Thru the Bible. <http://www.walkthru.org/>

[A fun way to learn the Old Testament. The cards are an innovative way to learn the "big ideas" of each book—from Genesis to Malachi.]