

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2021

BThHons Religion Studies (06246082)

Department Biblical and Religious Studies

Minimum duration of study 1 year

Total credits 120

NQF level 08

Programme information

The purpose of this programme is to provide qualifying students the opportunity to obtain specialised knowledge, skills and applied competence on a first postgraduate level in a particular field or fields of Theology.

The BThHons is conferred on a student if the student has complied with the following minimum period of study: One academic year after the qualification has been obtained by virtue of which admission to the study has been granted.

Also refer to General Regulation G.22.

Admission requirements

1. BTh (or equivalent) degree **or** Diploma in Theology (completed at UP) **or** relevant diploma in Theology (not completed at UP) and one-year programme with the Centre for Contextual Ministry with a 65% weighted average
2. A weighted average of at least 65% at final-year level
3. Hebrew passed at first-year level of the bachelor's degree – for the BThHons (Old Testament Studies)
4. Greek passed at first-year level of the bachelor's degree – for the BThHons (New Testament Studies)
5. Religion Studies passed at final-year level of the bachelor's degree – for the BThHons (Religion Studies)

Examinations and pass requirements

Examination regulations applicable to honours degrees in the faculty

A student may not sit for an examination for the honours degree more than twice in the same module, subject to exceptions approved by the Dean, on the recommendation of the relevant head of department. A percentage mark is given provided that the passmark is at least 50% and at least 75% as a pass with distinction.

Pass with distinction

The degree is conferred with distinction on a student who obtains a weighted average (GPA) of 75% in all the prescribed modules, provided not one of the modules had been failed previously and that the programme was completed within the minimum prescribed period.

General information

Registration for postgraduate programmes

1. Concurrent registration for a second postgraduate programme

No student is allowed to register for more than one postgraduate programme concurrently, except where the student's academic record warrants it and with the Dean's approval. Continuation of study for the second postgraduate programme will be subject to favourable progress reported by the heads of department in the Faculty of Theology. However, no student will be allowed to participate in examinations for a second postgraduate programme in another faculty during the examinations of the Faculty of Theology.

2. Renewal of registration

Students of the University are registered for one year of study. After an academic year has expired, students wishing to continue their studies at the University must renew their registration and pay such fees for renewal of registration as prescribed.

No interruption may occur in a postgraduate student's registration for a postgraduate study programme. Should a student interrupt his/her studies, such a student will upon re-registration be liable for the full fees applicable to the degree programme.

If a student interrupts registration for the postgraduate programme and it is not renewed within four years of the first registration, the credits obtained will no longer be valid. The student should repeat the modules already passed.

A student for an honours degree must complete his or her studies within two years. Under special circumstances, the Dean, on the recommendation of the relevant head of department, may give approval for a limited fixed extension of this period.

A master's degree is conferred on a student only if at least one year has expired after obtaining the qualifications required for master's study.

A doctorate is conferred on a student only if at least 12 months since registration for the doctorate at this University have expired. Subject to other faculty regulations, a student for a doctorate must complete his or her studies within three years after first registering for the degree. Under special circumstances, the Dean, on the recommendation of the relevant head of department, may give approval for a limited fixed extension of this period.

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 120

The **six electives** consist of the following choices:

- Select any two modules for 30 credits between BYB 711; BYB 712; BYB 713 and BYB 714; as well as
- Select any two modules for 30 credits between BYB 721, BYB 722, BYB 723, BYB 724 as well as;
- Select any two modules for 30 credits between BYB 731; BYB 732; BYB 733, BYB 734

Core modules

Research report 740 (BYB 740)

Module credits	30.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	3 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Religion Studies
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

After studying this module, the student should be able to write a scholarly essay and utilise the sources in the library.

Elective modules

Background of the Bible 711 (BYB 711)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	3 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Religion Studies
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

The aim of this module is to acquaint the student with certain aspects regarding the background of the world in which the Bible originated.

Hermeneutics 712 (BYB 712)

Module credits	15.00
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NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	3 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Religion Studies
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

In this module the emphasis falls on the different factors involved in the interpretation of the Bible, as well as on some models of interpretation.

Biblical archaeology 713 (BYB 713)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	3 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Religion Studies
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

After studying this module, the student should be able to define Biblical archaeology, and to discuss its methods and its contribution to our understanding of the Bible. The student should be able to discuss archaeology in Jerusalem as well as the religious significance, geography and history of Jerusalem from an archaeological perspective.

Religious studies 714 (BYB 714)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Religion Studies
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

The aim of this module is to make the student aware of the subject of Religious Studies and its different subfields, and to give the student an introductory view of a few world religions.

Old Testament theology 721 (BYB 721)

Module credits	15.00
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NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	3 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Religion Studies
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

The aim of this module is to get an overview of several aspects of the Book of Psalms in order to identify and understand the different theologies in the book.

New Testament theology 722 (BYB 722)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	3 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Religion Studies
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

The aim of this module is to understand the principles underlying a theology of the New Testament and the origin of New Testament theology.

Biblical ethics 723 (BYB 723)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Religion Studies
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Ethical questions are very important in our society. Human relations form the basis of the church as well as the society as a whole. In this module attention will be given to the ethical guidelines of scripture on ethical issues.

Theory of Biblical exposition 724 (BYB 724)

Module credits	15.00
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NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	3 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Religion Studies
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

The aim of this module is to have insight in the process of exegesis and to be able to evaluate different approaches to the analysis of the Bible.

Old Testament exegesis 731 (BYB 731)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	3 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Religion Studies
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

After completing this module, the student should be able to discuss the character, composition, research history and message of the books of Proverbs and Ecclesiastes. He/she should also be able to discuss the translation, literary form and meaning of selected texts.

New Testament exegesis 732 (BYB 732)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	3 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Religion Studies
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

In this module the student will do exegesis of selected texts from the New Testament.

Bible in African context 733 (BYB 733)

Module credits	15.00
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NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Religion Studies
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

This module aims to provide the student with insight into how the Biblical text is read and understood in the African context.

Bible and the arts 734 (BYB 734)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Religion Studies
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

The first aim of this module is to get a broad overview on the role of music in the Bible, to reflect on the relationship between music and religion in general, and to understand the role of music in the Western civilisation and sub-Saharan Africa. The second aim is to enable the student to discuss the relationship between visual arts and religion (Christianity) in history with special attention to distinct tendencies in specific periods and the religious aspects and meanings of selected works of art.

The information published here is subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information. The [General Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) apply to all faculties of the University of Pretoria. It is expected of students to familiarise themselves well with these regulations as well as with the information contained in the [General Rules](#) section. Ignorance concerning these regulations and rules will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression.