

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2025

MTh specialising in Religion Studies (Coursework) (06256982)

Department Old Testament and Hebrew Scriptures

Minimum duration of study 2 years

Total credits 180

NQF level 09

Programme information

Also refer to General Academic Regulations G30-G41.

- This programme offers the student with a four-year BDiv, a BThHons or equivalent qualification, the opportunity of theological specialisation and research at master's level.
- The coursework modules, in case of the coursework master's degree, provide the opportunity to acquire specialist skills in the practical field of the Ministry.

Admission requirements

1. Relevant honours degree
or
Relevant four-year bachelor's degree
2. A weighted average of at least 65% at final-year level

Other programme-specific information

Modules to the value of 10 credits may be selected from any other faculty as substitute for one of the core modules.

Examinations and pass requirements

- A master's degree is conferred on a student by virtue of an examination, or an examination and a dissertation, or an examination and a mini-dissertation.
- These examinations can be written or oral.
- A subminimum of 50% is required in the examination. At least 50% is required as a pass mark for the mini-dissertation or dissertation.
- The stipulations of G39 regarding pass requirements for dissertations apply with the necessary changes to mini-dissertations.
- Mini-dissertations are evaluated and examined in accordance with the stipulations set out in a study guide,

which is available on request from the various departments.

Research information

Mini-dissertation

The proposed title of the mini-dissertation must be submitted for approval to the Research Committee via the Supervisor and the relevant head of department before a student may commence with the research.

Also refer to General Academic Regulation G39.13.

Article for publication

- Unless Senate, on the recommendation of the supervisor, decides otherwise, a student, before or on submission of a dissertation, must submit at least one draft article for publication in a recognised academic journal and in the case of a thesis, must submit proof of submission of an article issued by an accredited journal, to the Head: Student Administration.
- The draft or submitted article, should be based on the research that the student has conducted for the dissertation and be approved by the supervisor if the supervisor is not a co-author.
- The supervisor shall be responsible for ensuring that the paper is taken through all the processes of revision and resubmission, as may be necessary. Conferment of the degree may be made subject to compliance with the stipulations of this regulation.

Pass with distinction

In order to pass with distinction, a weighted average (GPA) (not rounded) of at least 75% in the examination of the coursework and 75% for the mini-dissertation must be obtained.

Curriculum: Year 1

Students must select elective modules as set out below.

Option A:

- Compulsory core modules BYB 893 and BYB 813.
- Select all of the following elective modules: BYB 823, BYB 833, BYB 843, BYB 853, BYB 863, BYB 873 and BYB 883.

Option B:

- Compulsory core modules BYB 893 and BYB 813.
- Select the following elective modules BYB 814, BYB 815 and BYB 816. Students may select these 60 credits only in consultation and with the approval of the course coordinator.
- Select one additional elective module worth 10 credits.

Core modules

Research methodology 813 (BYB 813)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 seminar per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Religion Studies
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Study of the scientific research process (methodology).

Mini-dissertation: Biblical and religious studies 893 (BYB 893)

Module credits	90.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Religion Studies
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Mini-dissertation on a theme chosen in collaboration with the department which relates to one of the modules that are studied in the programme, constituting 7 000-10 000 words written under supervision of a supervising lecturer. The study entails scholastic and advanced research of a selected specialist area. Planning, researching and managing processes within broad parameters and functions are required. Use of computer programs for analysis and report writing. Complete accountability for achieving and evaluating personal and/or group output. Entry to doctoral and further research education, and to research-based occupations.

Elective modules

Living Islam 814 (BYB 814)

Module credits 20.00

NQF Level 09

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Old Testament and Hebrew Scriptures

Period of presentation Year

Module content

This module provides an overview of the beliefs, practices and scripture of Islam.

History of Islam 815 (BYB 815)

Module credits 20.00

NQF Level 09

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Old Testament and Hebrew Scriptures

Period of presentation Year

Module content

This module deals with the origin and apparent growth of Islam during its formative years.

Christian-Muslim encounters 816 (BYB 816)

Module credits 20.00

NQF Level 09

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Old Testament and Hebrew Scriptures

Period of presentation Year

Module content

This module deals with the history of relations between Christians and Muslims with the underlying theories and topics characterising the relations.

Hermeneutics 823 (BYB 823)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	09
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

Theory of Biblical interpretations and the practical application thereof.

Biblical archaeology 833 (BYB 833)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	09
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

Study of the principles of this discipline as well as study of selected excavations in the lands of the Bible.

History and historiography 843 (BYB 843)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Old Testament and Hebrew Scriptures
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Study of the principles of Biblical historiography as such and the study of the characteristics of historical texts in the Bible.

Religious studies 853 (BYB 853)

Module credits	10.00
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NQF Level	09
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

Study of Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism and African religions.

Exegesis 863 (BYB 863)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	New Testament and Related Literature
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Study of the principles of exegesis as well as practical exegesis of selected texts of the Old and New Testaments.

Theology 873 (BYB 873)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	09
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

Study of Old and New Testament theology.

Biblical ethics 883 (BYB 883)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	09

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

Study of the values and ethical institutions in the time of the Bible as well as practical application in the modern context .

Curriculum: Final year

Students must select elective modules as set out below.

Option A:

- Compulsory core modules BYB 893 and BYB 813.
- Select all of the following elective modules: BYB 823, BYB 833, BYB 843, BYB 853, BYB 863, BYB 873 and BYB 883.

Option B:

- Compulsory core modules BYB 893 and BYB 813.
- Select the following elective modules BYB 814, BYB 815 and BYB 816. Students may select these 60 credits only in consultation and with the approval of the course coordinator.
- Select one additional elective module worth 10 credits.

Core modules

Research methodology 813 (BYB 813)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 seminar per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Religion Studies
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Study of the scientific research process (methodology).

Mini-dissertation: Biblical and religious studies 893 (BYB 893)

Module credits	90.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Religion Studies
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Mini-dissertation on a theme chosen in collaboration with the department which relates to one of the modules that are studied in the programme, constituting 7 000-10 000 words written under supervision of a supervising lecturer. The study entails scholastic and advanced research of a selected specialist area. Planning, researching and managing processes within broad parameters and functions are required. Use of computer programs for analysis and report writing. Complete accountability for achieving and evaluating personal and/or group output. Entry to doctoral and further research education, and to research-based occupations.

Elective modules

Living Islam 814 (BYB 814)

Module credits 20.00

NQF Level 09

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Old Testament and Hebrew Scriptures

Period of presentation Year

Module content

This module provides an overview of the beliefs, practices and scripture of Islam.

History of Islam 815 (BYB 815)

Module credits 20.00

NQF Level 09

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Old Testament and Hebrew Scriptures

Period of presentation Year

Module content

This module deals with the origin and apparent growth of Islam during its formative years.

Christian-Muslim encounters 816 (BYB 816)

Module credits 20.00

NQF Level 09

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Old Testament and Hebrew Scriptures

Period of presentation Year

Module content

This module deals with the history of relations between Christians and Muslims with the underlying theories and topics characterising the relations.



Hermeneutics 823 (BYB 823)

Module credits 10.00

NQF Level 09

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

Theory of Biblical interpretations and the practical application thereof.

Biblical archaeology 833 (BYB 833)

Module credits 10.00

NQF Level 09

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

Study of the principles of this discipline as well as study of selected excavations in the lands of the Bible.

History and historiography 843 (BYB 843)

Module credits 10.00

NQF Level 09

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 1 lecture per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Old Testament and Hebrew Scriptures

Period of presentation Year

Module content

Study of the principles of Biblical historiography as such and the study of the characteristics of historical texts in the Bible.

Religious studies 853 (BYB 853)

Module credits 10.00



NQF Level	09
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

Study of Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism and African religions.

Exegesis 863 (BYB 863)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	New Testament and Related Literature
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Study of the principles of exegesis as well as practical exegesis of selected texts of the Old and New Testaments.

Theology 873 (BYB 873)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	09
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

Study of Old and New Testament theology.

Biblical ethics 883 (BYB 883)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	09

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

Study of the values and ethical institutions in the time of the Bible as well as practical application in the modern context .

General Academic Regulations and Student Rules

The [General Academic Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) and [General Student Rules](#) apply to all faculties and registered students of the University, as well as all prospective students who have accepted an offer of a place at the University of Pretoria. On registering for a programme, the student bears the responsibility of ensuring that they familiarise themselves with the General Academic Regulations applicable to their registration, as well as the relevant faculty-specific and programme-specific regulations and information as stipulated in the relevant yearbook. Ignorance concerning these regulations will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression, or basis for an exception to any of the aforementioned regulations. The G Regulations are updated annually and may be amended after the publication of this information.

Regulations, degree requirements and information

The faculty regulations, information on and requirements for the degrees published here are subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information.

University of Pretoria Programme Qualification Mix (PQM) verification project

The higher education sector has undergone an extensive alignment to the Higher Education Qualification Sub-Framework (HEQSF) across all institutions in South Africa. In order to comply with the HEQSF, all institutions are legally required to participate in a national initiative led by regulatory bodies such as the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), the Council on Higher Education (CHE), and the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). The University of Pretoria is presently engaged in an ongoing effort to align its qualifications and programmes with the HEQSF criteria. Current and prospective students should take note that changes to UP qualification and programme names, may occur as a result of the HEQSF initiative. Students are advised to contact their faculties if they have any questions.