

# Overview of the Bible

---

## Akadēmiskie kredītpunkti

6 KP (9 ECTS)

## Prerequisites

None

## Approved by

Methodological Commission (August, 2021)

## Course Authors and Lecturers

Rev. Dr. Charles Lloyd Cortright ([charles.cortright@lcms.org](mailto:charles.cortright@lcms.org))

Mg. theol. Laila Čakare ([laila.cakare@lut.edu.lv](mailto:laila.cakare@lut.edu.lv))

## Content

*Overview of the Bible* presents a formal introduction (*isagogics*) of the Old and New Testament books in terms of their general content and common groupings (e.g., Pentateuch, Prophets, Gospels, etc.). The contextual topics of date, author, theme, and genre of the books of the Bible will be developed within a confessional Lutheran understanding of Scripture (Christocentric unity of the Bible, Law and Gospel, unity of the Old and New Testaments, etc.). In addition, TH200 presents introductory material regarding the practice of confessional Lutheran hermeneutics and exegesis of Scripture.

## Aims

*In keeping with the scope of the course, Overview of the Bible seeks to:*

- begin to develop the student's ability to interpret the Old and New Testaments in accord with sound hermeneutics and confessionally Lutheran principles.

## Learning Outcomes

### *Knowledge and Understanding*

*After successfully finishing the study course students will be able to:*

- demonstrate general introductory knowledge of the Bible and its individual books, their common groupings, and their contribution to the Scriptures as a whole.

### *Assessment*

Tests 1, 2  
Exam

### *Skills and Abilities*

*After successfully finishing the study course students will be able to:*

- articulate the relevance of the Bible to Christian faith;

Exegetical task

- explain the principles of a confessional Lutheran hermeneutic (Christocentric unity of the Bible, Law and Gospel, unity of the Old and New Testaments, etc.). Tests 1, 2

### **Competencies**

*After successfully finishing the study course students will be able to:*

- discuss a pericope from Scripture in accord with an introductory understanding of confessional Lutheran hermeneutics and exegesis. Exegetical task Exam

## **FULL-TIME STUDIES**

### **Lesson Plan**

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Ac. hours 45 min.</i>
1 Introduction to Biblical studies	4
2 Introduction to Lutheran hermeneutics and the exegesis of Scripture	4
3 The Torah (five Books of Moses)	8
4 The History of Israel: Joshua – Esther	8
5 Wisdom and Poetry: Job – Song of Songs	8
6 Overview of the Prophets	4
7 <b>TEST 1 and post-test Q&amp;A</b>	8
8 Introduction to the New Testament	4
9 Acts 1–12; James	4
10 Jew and Gentile: Acts 15, Galatians; The Letters to the Thessalonians	4
11 Corinth and Rome; The Captivity Letters	4
12 <b>TEST 2 and post-test Q&amp;A</b>	8
13 The Pastoral letters; The Synoptic Gospels: MT, MK, LK	4
14 The Book of Acts; 1 and 2 Peter; Jude	4
15 Hebrews; Gospel of John	4
16 1, 2, 3 John; Revelation	4
17 <b>Presentation of the Exegetical task</b>	8
<b>Exam</b>	4
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>96</i>

### **Individual study plan**

## Overview of the Bible

---

Nr.	Individual studies	Hours
1.	Preparation for the <b>Tests</b> , including reviewing mandatory reading and lesson material	64
2.	To prepare an <b>Exegetical task</b> presentation on an assigned text (= <i>pericope</i> )	40
3.	Preparation for the <b>Exam</b> , including reviewing mandatory reading and lesson material	40
<i>TOTAL</i>		<b>144</b>

## Assessment

Task	Learning Outcomes			% of the final score
	Knowledge	Skills	Competencies	
Test 1	+	+		20
Test 2	+	+		20
Exegetical task		+	+	30
Exam	+		+	30
<i>TOTAL</i>				<b>100%</b>

## Readings

### ***Mandatory Readings***

- Baikovs, Guntars. *Bībele kā Kristus liecība*. Rīga: Luterisma mantojuma fonds, 2016.
- Franzmann, Martin H. *The Word of the Lord Grows*. St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 2000. Logos electronic edition.
- Hoerber, Robert G. "Principal Teachings of Scripture," *Concordia Self-Study Bible*. St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1986. xvi – xx. PDF reprint on Canvas.
- Roehrs, Walter R. *Survey of Covenant History: A Historical Overview of the Old Testament*. St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 2011. Kindle e-book.

### ***Additional Readings***

- Bečelore, Mērija. *Atverot Bībeli*. Rīga: Latvijas Bībeles biedrība, 1997.
- Dreins, Džons. *Ievads Vecajā Derībā*. Rīga, Latvijas Bībeles biedrība, 2007.
- Dišlers, Guntis. *Diens un cilvēku vēsture Vecajā Derībā*. Rīga: Jumava, 2001.
- Feldmanis, Roberts un Čakare, Laila. *Vecās Derības pravieši*. Rīga: Profesora Roberta Feldmaņa fonds, 2015.
- J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*. Vol. 1. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books

### ***Internet sources***

<https://gudribassakums.lv/category/i-svetie-raksti/>  
<https://gudribassakums.lv/2013/05/13/starp-diviem-pasaules-uzskatiem-bibeles-un-rietumu-1-dala/>  
<https://gudribassakums.lv/2013/05/06/bibele-ka-lieciba-summa/>  
<http://bikerudraudze.lv/bibeles-stundas-2/>  
<https://www.blueletterbible.org/study.cfm>  
<https://biblehub.com/>