



*Study  
where  
you  
are —*

*with Moore College*

PRELIMINARY  
THEOLOGICAL CERTIFICATE

# Subject guide

# Subjects

Study from where you are in the world. Deepen your spiritual knowledge in an online setting, connect to a vibrant online community, and access a library of course notes, videos and other useful resources right at your fingertips. We have four modes of study to suit your needs, lifestyle and schedule.

## SUBJECT KEY



Study online



Study face-to-face\*



Study by correspondence



Available through Moore Access

\* Please refer to the evening lectures timetable for available units — not all units available each term.

## PTC COURSE STRUCTURE

**Level One:** Six core units

**Level Two:** Four core units. Two electives of your choice

**Level Three:** Four core units. Two electives of your choice.



## Introduction to the Bible

BIBLICAL THEOLOGY 1

**Introduction to the Bible** shows how the great themes of the Bible fit together into one story that spans both the Old and New Testaments. At the centre of the story is of course Jesus and this subject shows how God planned to redeem his people, which begins with promises to Abraham and continues through the fortunes of the nation of Israel, reaches its climax at the cross.



## Promise to Fulfilment

BIBLICAL THEOLOGY 2

**Promise to Fulfilment** focuses on training students in a method for reading the Bible well, paying particular attention to placing each interpreting each passage of the Bible in light of its place in the single overarching story that binds the Bible together as a whole. The passages chosen for particular attention represent a range of different genres and each come at a key stage in God's unfolding plan of redemption.





PTC LEVEL 1  
CORE UNIT



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CORE UNIT



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## Pentateuch

OLD TESTAMENT 1

### Pentateuch (Old Testament 1)

Covers the first five books of the Old Testament, examining some of the foundational events in the Bible such as creation, the fall, the promises to Abraham, exodus from Egypt and the giving of the Law. The great themes of sin, covenant, redemption, sacrifice and blessing all emerge from this examination and the subject shows how these point forward to the work of Christ.



## Mark

NEW TESTAMENT 1

### Mark (New Testament 1)

This study of **Mark (New Testament 1)** takes a systematic approach to reading through the Gospel of Mark, in the process answering the two central questions that Mark poses to his readers: 'Who is Jesus?' and 'What did Jesus come to do?'. Attention is paid to locating the identity and work of Jesus in the context of the Old Testament expectations of the Messiah and showing how Jesus fulfils those expectations.



## Knowledge of God

DOCTRINE 1

### Knowledge of God (Doctrine 1)

Focuses on what we can know about God based on what he has revealed of himself to us in Scripture. An important part of this subject is examining the nature and authority of Scripture itself, in which the concept of covenant is central. In addition to examining God's sovereignty, power and Trinitarian nature, the subject also looks at the ideas of repentance, salvation and judgement.



## Ephesians

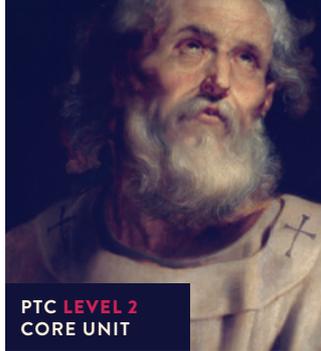
### This study of Ephesians

systematically works through Paul's letter to the Ephesians, showing that God's intention is to unify all things in Christ. While we wait for this intention to be completely fulfilled, God has already provided a living demonstration of this unity in the church, in which the fundamental distinction between Jew and Gentile has now been overcome. The subject unpacks the implications of this unity for individuals, the church and the whole creation.





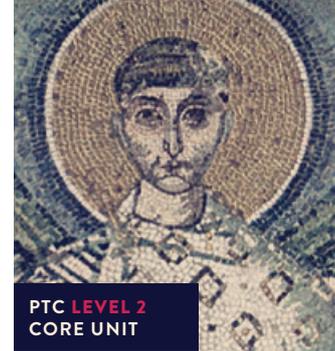
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## Former Prophets

OLD TESTAMENT 2

In the **Former Prophets (Old Testament 2)** we examine the experience of Israel from original conquest of the Land to her eventual exile, as recounted in the books of Joshua, Judges, 1 & 2 Samuel and 1 & 2 Kings. This period provides us with a glimpse of what it means for God's people to live securely in God's place, guided by his king and prophets and so informs how we understand the Kingdom of God and the New Testament promise of an eternal inheritance.



## Acts

NEW TESTAMENT 2

This study of **Acts (New Testament 2)** illustrates how the spread of the gospel in the early decades of the church was directed by the risen Christ. In particular, this subject shows how the spread of the gospel fulfilled the Old Testament expectations about God's blessing the whole world through his people the Jews. Particular attention is paid to how the ministries of Peter and Paul took God's plan to bless all people to a new stage.



## Christ and His Work

DOCTRINE 2

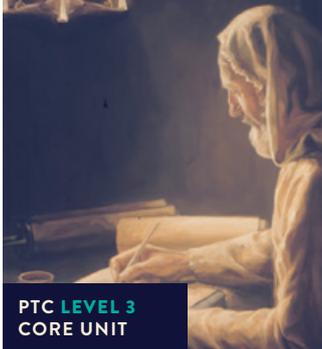
**Christ and His work (Doctrine 2)** focuses on what we know about the identity of Christ and what he accomplished, especially on the cross. This includes introducing students to theological approaches to understanding how Christ's humanity relates to his divinity, showing how understanding this is important for understanding what Christ did in his death and resurrection. Included in the investigation of the cross is an examination of the nature and effects of sin.



## Early Church History

**Early Church History** covers the history of the church through its first five centuries, introducing students to the theological debates that ultimately led to the formal statements of Christian faith contained in the great creeds. This period also displays the many practical challenges the church faced as a minority population in a context that often presented Christians with a choice between holding to their faith and death.





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## Latter Prophets

OLD TESTAMENT 3

The **Latter Prophets (Old Testament 3)** introduces the ‘writing’ prophets God sent to Israel leading up to, during and after the exiles that Israel experienced. In the prophets students encounter a wide range of topics and literary styles. Prominent in this material are warnings about coming judgement and promises of future redemption and blessing, although a special emphasis is placed on the promise of a new covenant that finds its fulfilment in the gospel.



## Pauline letters

NEW TESTAMENT 3

The **Pauline Letters (New Testament 3)** collects together Paul’s letters (other than Romans, which is covered separately) and introduces students to the distinctive language, theology and style of the Apostle to the Gentiles. It covers the wide range of theological issues found in Paul’s work such as ethical guidance about proper Christian conduct, teaching on church leadership and governance, theological reflections on the nature of Christ and the expositions of the relationship of Law and grace.



## The Church

DOCTRINE 3

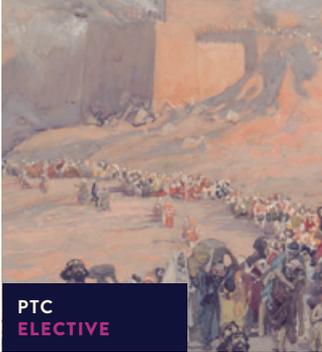
The **Church (Doctrine 3)** focuses on the doctrine of the Church along with some aspects of worship directly connected to it. The overarching theme is the place of the Church in the purposes of God, which leads to discussions of the fundamental nature of the Church, along with fellowship within it, and continuity of it. The aspects of worship of particular relevance to these discussions are the Lord’s Supper and Baptism.



## Reformation Church History

**Reformation Church History** covers the history of the church during the period of the reformation. It introduces students to the late medieval religious context from which the reformation grew and draws attention to the theological importance of the reformation led by Martin Luther. It also covers the Catholic response to the reformation along with the connection between political and theological reform, especially in Switzerland and Tudor England.





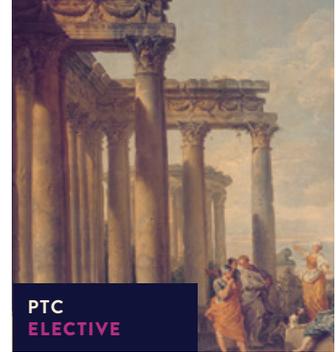
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## Wisdom and Exile

OLD TESTAMENT 4

**Wisdom and Exile (Old Testament 4)** focuses on those sections of the Old Testament devoted to the perennial questions and concerns of God's people at any time. This includes books devoted to living well in God's world (the Hebrew concept of 'wisdom') as well as liturgical literature that helps us see how to bring our whole lives, both joyous and painful, before God and finally the Old Testament works that explicitly look forward to the 'end times'.



## Apostolic Writings

NEW TESTAMENT 4

**Apostolic Writings (New Testament 4)** provides an overview of the non-Pauline letters of the New Testament. As a result it introduces students to the wide range of literary styles and theological concerns found in these letters, such as the Christian attitude to suffering, the relationship of Christ's sacrificial work to the Old Testament Law and the Christian expectation of the 'end times'. Special attention is given to the unique features of the Letter to the Hebrews, Revelation and 1 Peter.



## John

This study of **John** focuses solely on John's Gospel, drawing out what is distinctive about this Gospel both in terms of content and style. Among the distinctive features of John that are drawn out through the close reading of the text that warrant special attention are the concepts of 'life' and 'discipleship'. Specifically, what does it mean to 'live' or 'abide' in Jesus, and what does being a disciple of Jesus actually require?



## Romans

**Romans** examines Paul's most important theological work, his Letter to the Romans. Students will be introduced to Paul's thinking on the concepts such as sin, grace, Law, judgement, predestination, salvation and blessing. As a central concern of Paul's in this work is the ongoing place of the Jews in God's plans students are also introduced to Paul's thought on this important issue.





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## Christian Worship

**Christian Worship** explores how we can best worship God with a particular emphasis on how we should think about what happens when we gather together in worship. We begin by tracing the origins of worship through the Old Testament sacrificial system, moving on to consider the changes brought to worship by the gospel. With this groundwork laid the subject considers topics such as the use of music and liturgy in public worship gatherings.



## Prayer Book

**Prayer Book** explores the liturgy of the Anglican churches, and especially the role of the Prayer Book in providing a structure for that liturgy. The subject has an historical aspect, tracing the development of the Prayer Book from the pre-Reformation form and noting the political and cultural forces that informed this development. It also has a theological aspect, using theological concepts to explain why the Prayer Book has the precise form it does.



## Apologetics

**Apologetics** is written with the conviction that it is more than just intellectual and philosophical debate. Apologetics involves people's whole beings. Modern apologists need to be concerned with how people feel toward Christ and the gospel as well as how they think about Christ and the gospel. As a result the subject provides outlines of standard apologetic arguments along with practical help guidance on the correct attitude and behaviour that must accompany those arguments.



## Ethics

**Ethics** explores the foundations of Christian ethics, first through the examination of the grace found in the gospel and extending from there to consider the status of moral rules in general, the importance of motivation and the role of conscience in ethical decision-making. The course address both the positive and negative aspects of Christian ethics and once a solid theoretical foundation has been laid, examines some contemporary ethical issues from a Christian standpoint.



# PTC

## A FLEXIBLE ACADEMIC COURSE

For over 70 years, the Preliminary Theological Certificate has equipped lay people for ministry in their local churches and communities. Around the world the PTC has been used to train pastors and teachers in over 80 countries. The PTC is designed for people who want to grow in their personal knowledge of Christ's word, and want the flexibility of choosing whether the assessment is online or paper-based. Its flexible structure means this is an ideal course for anyone wanting a self-paced introduction to theology – either online or by correspondence with textbooks. Moore Access gives you a sampler of what you can expect in the PTC through a 12 month subscription to the online resources.

For more information about distance study, or finding the right course to suit your needs and lifestyle, please visit our website:

[moore.edu.au/study](https://moore.edu.au/study)



## THE PTC Story

### Our beginnings

What began in the 1940s as a tool to train lay preachers for the Anglican Diocese of Sydney has grown. Moore College now has, on average, around 5,000 students in more than 50 countries studying with us each year. Archdeacon T.C. Hammond (then Principal of Moore College) started training a small group of lay preachers in 1941. Twenty four people sat for the first exam!! From this small beginning the demand for solid Bible teaching grew. The original course material was a copy of the lecture notes used by T.C. Hammond and sent to those who could not attend the lectures in Newtown. From these humble beginnings the Moore College External Studies Department began.

### Our future

For some time Moore College has been investing in technological changes that will enhance the learning experience for their distance education students. With people all over the world engaging in our distance courses, including over 50,000 people having used Introduction to the Bible, we have brought all the Moore Distance courses under the Preliminary Theological Certificate, and broadened the study options of the PTC. The one thing that hasn't changed is our commitment to providing the best possible theological education for lay people around the world.