

# British Bible School Syllabus

## Psalms (OLD09)



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### Overview

This module introduces the student to the structure, character and contents of this Hebrew songbook. A number of selected Psalms are examined within their historic and theological contexts.

This is one of our Old Testament Modules forming part of our *Applied Biblical Studies* course. Students working towards a British Bible School award will receive 5 Module Credits upon completion of all given assignments.

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### Module content

- The Book of Psalms will be introduced within the context of Hebrew poetry in general, and as a part of the literature of the nation of Israel.
- The structure and content of the Book of Psalms will be explored with a view to gaining a greater familiarity with this significant section of Scripture.
- A number of Psalms will be studied by means of providing an introduction to this ancient collection.
- The various genres into which the Psalms might be categorised will be examined at length, and various examples of each will be explored during the course of the term.
- Opportunities for personal reflection will be given throughout the duration of the Module.

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### Module outline

Unit 1 – Hebrew poetry

Unit 2 – A general introduction to the Psalms

Unit 3 – Exploring each genre of Psalm

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### Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this module the student will:

- be familiar with the basic characteristics of Hebrew poetry
- have a good understanding of the nature and content of the Book of Psalms
- recognise and understand the principal genres of Psalms found within the book
- be familiar with the role of the Psalms within the New Testament Scriptures
- have a good understanding of a number of key Psalms found throughout the book.

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## Student assignments and expectations

Students will be expected to:

- Attend all classes where possible
- Be familiar with using Zoom and actively/visibly engage with others online in the class
- Contribute to online discussions as appropriate
- Complete all additional assignments outside of class time

In order to complete all Learning outcomes and attain Module credit towards British Bible School certification, students are expected to complete all additional student assignments. These will be varied in nature, consisting of reading, analysis, commenting and short essays/articles.

Assignments will generally be issued on a weekly basis, with at least a week given to complete. The final assignment will be issued towards the end of the twelve week period, along with the agreed deadline for submission.

For further guidance, please consult the Student Handbook available on our website.

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## Learning and assessment

*Applicable to entire Module OLD09 – including completion of additional assignments.*

| Assignment                             | Time allocation | Outcome              |
|--|-----------------|----------------------|
| Online class presentations/discussions | 24 hours        | 12 x 2 hour sessions |
| Weekly assignments                     | 12 hours        | As assigned          |
| Final assignment (including reading)   | 14 hours        | 1,500 words          |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>50 hours</b> |                      |

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## Cost

The cost for the Module is £30 (waived for *Friends of the Bible School*). This should be paid online.

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## Details of Module

**Times:** Tuesday evenings, from 7.30 to 9.30 p.m.

**Dates:** 27<sup>th</sup> September to 20<sup>th</sup> December 2022 (with one week off mid-term, t.b.c.)

**Location:** Zoom – details will be made available to registered students

**Teacher:** John Griffiths

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## **Class schedule (provisional)**

### **I. Hebrew poetry**

- A. Poems and Poetry: The Characteristics of Hebrew Poetry

### **II. A general introduction to the Psalms**

- A. The Origin and Development of the Book of Psalms
- B. Gateway to the Psalms

### **III. Exploring each genre of Psalm**

- A. Praising our Creator
- B. Cursing My Enemies
- C. The Messianic Psalms
- D. The Steadfast Love of the Lord
- E. The Penitential Psalms
- F. Psalms of Trust and Confidence
- G. The Psalms and the Law of God
- H. The Songs of Ascents
- I. Psalms of Praise

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## **Additional notes**