

Knowing Your Bible Specification

I. AWARD(S)

Students successfully completing all the requirements of the *Knowing Your Bible* (KYB) programme are awarded a KEDS Certificate in Biblical Studies (an internally-validated Bible college certificate). Upon completion of the *Knowing Your Bible* programme students also have the option to complete two further modules from the KEDS B.Th. programme, leading to the Advanced Certificate in Biblical Studies (also a KEDS award). Students completing the Advanced Certificate receive a Bible college certificate, together with a university transcript for the two advanced modules, which may then be put towards the B.Th. programme should a student choose to continue with their theological studies.

II. STRUCTURE

Each award/programme is structured as follows:

Certificate of Biblical Studies → 8 *Knowing Your Bible* modules

Advanced Certificate of Biblical → 8 *Knowing Your Bible* modules
+ two 10-credit B.Th. modules

III. AIMS AND OUTCOMES

The *Knowing Your Bible* programme has been designed for prospective students seeking to engage in challenging, in-depth and structured Bible study, but who either do not want to commit themselves to the amount of work associated with a degree-level programme, or else want to explore pursuing theological studies before committing to a full degree. There is also a strong focus on flexibility, allowing students to progress through the studies at their own pace, as well as providing challenging and interesting theological studies at a low cost to ensure maximum accessibility.

KYB students typically enrol to gain an in-depth knowledge of the Scriptures to enhance their personal Bible study; to be able to discuss with confidence what the Bible says with fellow Christians; to be better equipped for existing part-time or lay ministry; and/or to identify and challenge erroneous teachings within a church or ministry context.

IV. KNOWING YOUR BIBLE MODULE TITLES

KYB1 Introduction to the Bible
KYB2 Old Testament Survey
KYB3 World and Theology of the New Testament
KYB4 Survey of Biblical Interpretation
KYB5 Biblical Interpretation and Genre
KYB6 Major Doctrines of Christianity
KYB7 Biblical Prophecy
KYB8 Bible Polemics

V. CONTENT OF INDIVIDUAL MODULES

KYB1 Introduction to the Bible

- Revelation, Bible as the Word of God, inspiration, authority, theories of inerrancy, canon
- How the Bible was written, textual transmission, Bible translations and versions
- Utilising Bible tools (concordances, dictionaries, atlas, commentaries, word study tools, interlinear Bible)
- Introduction to biblical hermeneutics

KYB2: Old Testament Survey

- General survey of Bible history
- World of the Old Testament
- From Adam to Abraham
- Abraham to Egypt
- Enslavement, exodus, wanderings, conquest, Judges
- Saul, David and Solomon
- Schism: Northern and Southern Kingdoms
- Exilic and postexilic periods
- Inter-testamental period

KYB3 World and Theology of the New Testament

- World of the New Testament
- The Gospels (audience/purpose/distinct features of individual Gospels, Synoptic comparison)
- Book of Acts and the Church's early missionary endeavours
- Practical, doctrinal issues/problems within the early Church
- Life and Teachings of Jesus (Jesus the Jew, Sermon on the Mount, Jesus and the Law, Jesus and the Kingdom of God)
- Life and Teachings of Paul (Paul the Missionary, Paul and the Apostles, Paul and the Law, Paul the Jew)

KYB4 Survey of Biblical Interpretation

- Grammatico-historical interpretation (context, history, background, structure, linguistic issues)
- NT use of the OT, Jewish-Christian approaches
- Biblical theology: themes and canonical interpretation (e.g. covenant, Israel and the people of God, salvation history, kingship)
- Introduction to genre studies
- Applying exegesis in our lives and ministry

KYB5 Biblical Interpretation and Genre

- Narrative
- Legal (Torah)
- Psalms
- Poetry
- Wisdom
- Typology
- Prophecy
- Apocalyptic
- Parables
- Epistles

KYB6 Major Doctrines of Christianity

- Theology
- Christology
- Pneumatology
- Soteriology (Man, Sin, Salvation, Theories of Atonement)
- Ecclesiology
- Doctrine of Angels and Demons
- Individual Eschatology: The Afterlife, Heaven and Hell

KYB7 Biblical Prophecy

- Historical survey of the OT Prophets' calling and milieu
- The Prophets and Messianic expectations
- Apocalyptic literature in the Bible
- OT Prophets and the end times
- NT writings about the end times
- Four approaches to Revelation (preterist, futurist, historicist, symbolic)
- Different millennial views
- Different views of the Tribulation, Rapture and Day of the Lord

KYB8 Bible Polemics

- Baptism
- Universalism/what happens to the unevangelised?
- Women and ministry
- Why does God allow suffering?
- Do Christians exercise free will/openness of God
- Spiritual gifts
- Church government
- Ecumenism

VI. TEACHING/LEARNING METHODS AND RESOURCES

All studies are completed online through the school's innovative eCampus. A range of teaching and learning methods within the context of online/distance learning are utilised in this programme.

Each module typically consists of 6-8 study resources (audios, written notes, short videos), a reading list and additional resources (e.g. web links, Galaxie and other journal articles). The reading list consists of a main textbook or 3-4 journal articles (or a combination thereof).

Most modules are assessed through a written assignment utilising a range of different assessment types (e.g. multiple choice, short comment questions, book reviews, short essays, reflective writing, contribution to the eCampus forum). Several modules may be assessed by more than one piece of work. Students work through the material for each module before completing the assignments. The modules must be completed in order (though students can work on two or three modules simultaneously and submit then submit them in order or at the same time). KYB students also have access to tutors and various additional theological and pedagogical resources hosted on the eCampus. A list of recommended reading for each module is set out on individual module pages.

VII. MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM STUDY TIMES

i) Maximum length of study for the KYB Certificate in Biblical Studies is four years. Minimum length of study is one calendar year. Maximum length of study for the Advanced Certificate is five years and minimum is 18 months. Study times are calculated from the start date per student. KEDS accepts enrolments throughout the academic year.

ii) Students must complete a minimum of two modules per calendar year.

VIII. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

There are no formal academic admission requirements. Students must satisfy the Faculty that they are committed to the programme and can cope with the requirements of the programme. Admission is through completion of an application form and any requirements set out on the school's website as part of the admission process.

IX. PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

David Williams, B.Th., M.A.

(Tutor of Theology and member of the school's Academic Committee)