

Reformed Episcopal Seminary Certificate: <u>Biblical Theology</u> (Level 1) - 18 Credits



Contents / Required Courses:

| BT 500 English Bible (3 credits) |
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| BT 506 OT Biblical Theology (3 credits) |
| NT 501 General Introduction to NT (3 credits) |
| NT 502 The Gospels (3 credits) |
| OT 501 Pentateuch (3 credits) |
| OT 503 Prophetic Books (3 credits) |

Course Descriptions:

- + **BT** 500 English Bible (3 credits): An overview of the Bible, both Old and New Testaments to increase basic biblical knowledge and understanding. This course is foundational in nature. It may be taken as an elective by those in the M.Div. program to further strengthen their Bible knowledge.
- + **BT** 506 **OT Biblical Theology** (3 **credits):** An introduction to the study of the content and method of Old Testament revelation. The development of the covenant concept and the history of redemption is traced from the Pentateuch through the prophets. The Biblical Theology of Geerhardus Vos is used as a text for this course.
- + NT 501 General Introduction to NT (3 credits): This course focuses on issues that relate to the New Testament as a whole. Students survey the background of the New Testament (Judaism, Hellenism, and the Roman Empire, with extensive use of primary sources) as the context for the advent of Christ and the beginnings of the Christian church. The New Testament is also studied as canon to determine how and why the writings were collected and preserved in the early church. Finally, students survey the history of New Testament study and criticism to modern times.
- + **NT 502 The Gospels (3 credits):** The four gospels are studied in English. Students investigate the origins of the gospels, noting early church traditions and modern theories. Special consideration is given to the structure of the synoptic gospels, the kingdom of God, interpreting the parables of Jesus, Johannine theology, and modern homiletical use of the gospels.
- + **OT 501 Pentateuch (3 credits):** The structure and authorship of the Books of the Law are treated against their historical setting. The biblical theology of the earliest epochs of redemptive history is examined considering the relationship between the Abrahamic and the Sinaitic covenants. Particular attention is paid to the evidence of the historical reliability of even the earliest of the covenantal documents.
- + OT 503 Prophetic Books (3 credits): Both Major and Minor Prophets are studied in canonical order of the English Bible. Familiarity and understanding of their messages are sought through an examination of the texts and their historical and sociological settings. Theological issues and principles of prophetic interpretation are considered.