

## The Department of Bible International MA Program

### Information for Graduate Students

#### Guidelines for registration for courses

Please read these instructions carefully, and follow them when registering for courses. It is advisable to print the instructions, and thus to make it easier for you when registering.

#### 1. The Course Clusters

The requirements of the department are divided into course groups, where you are required to study a number of courses of each group and thus accumulate the amount of credit points, each track in accordance with its requirements.

The course clusters are for example:

- Bible: Prerequisite Courses for a master's degree – Mandatory
- Bible: Prerequisite Courses for a master's degree – Elective
- Bible - Master's degree with thesis - Elective - 4 credit hours
- Bible: Master's degree with thesis - Seminars – 4 credit hours Bible - Master's degree with thesis - Language - 4 credit hours

#### Explanation of the Terms "Mandatory" and "Elective"

**Mandatory:** The courses included in this cluster are mandatory for those who were required to take them.

**Elective:** This category includes several courses, and the word "Elective" refers to an internal choice between the courses in the cluster, when there is no preference for one course over another.

In any case, it is mandatory to study at least one course from the cluster, up to the maximum hours indicated for each cluster. It all depends upon the course of study.

At the bottom of each cluster, you will find how many credit points you are required to take in the cluster (minimum credit points and maximum credit points ).

#### Special Requirements for the program

##### 1. Prerequisite courses

- It is mandatory to register and complete the prerequisite courses in the first year of study.
- Students accepted without a requirement of prerequisite courses can disregard these clusters: Bible: Prerequisite Courses for a master's degree – Mandatory; Bible: Prerequisite Courses for a master's degree – Elective (these clusters may not appear on the screen either).
- Students accepted with a requirement of prerequisite courses: if they are given a specific course name that they must study for example "The Literature of the Bible" or "Bibliographical Tools" - these courses appear in the " Prerequisite Courses for a master's degree – Mandatory " cluster , and they must enroll in these courses.

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- Students accepted with a requirement of prerequisite courses, and have received a letter where they have only the number of prerequisite hours (such as 4 hrs or 6 hrs), but the course topics are elective, should choose the courses from the " Bible: Prerequisite Courses for a master's degree – Elective" cluster, and register for courses as hours required of them in the letter of acceptance.
- Students accepted with a requirement of prerequisite courses - of one course, for example "The Literature of the Bible" and another 4 hours - elective, must register for courses both from the "Bible: Prerequisite Courses for a master's degree – Mandatory" cluster, and from the "Bible: Prerequisite Courses for a master's degree – Elective" cluster.

## 2. Clusters of courses according to the various Tracks

### **With Thesis Track: 12 hours**

#### Cluster of Master's degree with thesis - Elective - 4 hrs

In this cluster all the courses of a master's degree appear and you are required to choose from them 4 hours, in which you will submit a "referat" paper at the end of the course.

#### Cluster Master's degree with thesis - Seminars - 4 hrs

In this cluster all the courses of a master's degree appear and you are required to choose from them 4 hours, in which you will submit a seminar paper.

Note: It is possible to submit seminar paper in the course from which you first enrolled as a **referat** course (submitting short research paper), and vice versa, all in coordination with the department.

#### Cluster Thesis-Track: Ancient language - 4 hrs

This cluster lists the three ancient languages you can choose from. You are committed to 4 hrs, i.e. in one ancient language at beginner's level from the Akkadian or Arabic or Greek.

#### Cluster Bible Degree Thesis Track

The code of the thesis appears in this cluster. You should register to this code from **the 3<sup>rd</sup> year onwards (after submitting research proposals).**

For this code the department enters the thesis score.

Please note: The number of hours specified for each cluster is the maximum number per degree. Each year students will enroll in a number of courses in each cluster according to his/her choice in that year.

## Non-thesis track: 18 hours

### Cluster Non-Thesis Track Elective

This cluster lists all the master's degree courses, and you are required to choose from them:  
In the Non-Thesis track: 6-12 hrs (in annual or semester courses). You will submit a referat paper at the end of the course.

In this cluster you will find all the master's degree courses, and you are required to choose:

- In the Non-thesis track: 6 credits (3-6 courses), in which you will submit a seminar paper.

### Basic Studies in Judaism: 2 hrs (1 course)

**Jewish students** are required to take one course (2 credit hours ) from the department for Basic Jewish Studies

In the cluster "Basic Studies in Judaism " you will find a long list of courses in the fields of Talmud , philosophy and history of Israel . You need to choose only one course from the fields : Talmud , Philosophy , History of Israel.

**Non-Jewish students** should take instead of a course is Judaism,a general course in any field they want to

We hope this information sent to you will help you prepare your personal studying program. Although registration for the courses is via the Internet, on the days of registration you can contact the department secretaries, and get advice on how to organize your personal studying program. It is best to vacate at least a day or two before your window of time. We will be happy to assist you for further information and any questions that may arise.

### Reception Hours at the Office

Sunday – Thursday, 09:00 – 14:00.

Tel: 03-5318258; 03-5318229

Email: [Bible.dept@biu.ac.il](mailto:Bible.dept@biu.ac.il)

The Department of Bible wishes you a fruitful and enjoyable year!