

## M706 Justice, Ecology and Poverty in the Old Testament and Today

<b>Code</b>	M706
<b>Title</b>	Justice, Ecology and Poverty in the Old Testament and Today
<b>Tutor</b>	Helen Miller
<b>School</b>	Moorlands College
<b>Owning Course</b>	MA Applied Theology
<b>Module Type</b>	Standard Taught Module
<b>Brief description</b>	This module equips students to engage with Old Testament texts with advanced awareness of the hermeneutical methods used, including reflection on how Christological approaches to the Old Testament inform interpretation. There is a focus on Genesis 1-3 as a foundational text for ascertaining a biblical perspective on the topics of justice, ecology and poverty. In addition, through critical engagement with biblical and liberation theology, this module enables students to assess how other parts of the Old Testament can inspire and guide appropriate Christian responses. In relation to justice, ecology and poverty today, this module enables students to engage critically with Christian and non-Christian perspectives on these issues, including an assessment of relevant strands of critical theory. The module also encourages students to reflect on how their own context informs their reading of the Old Testament and how particular Old Testament texts inform their practice in relation to the issues studied.
<b>Level of study</b>	Level 7
<b>CATS points</b>	30
<b>Approved base location</b>	Module validated for delivery at Moorlands College, Christchurch.
<b>Restrictions</b>	None
<b>Indicative syllabus</b>	This module covers a range of topics relating to: biblical hermeneutics in relation to Old Testament texts, including Christological approaches; liberation theology; biblical theology in relation to justice, ecology and poverty (with a focus on Genesis 1-3, relevant aspects of the Mosaic Law, and appropriate prophetic texts); Christian and non-Christian perspectives on specific current issues relating to justice, ecology and poverty, including relevant strands of critical theory.
<b>Learning outcomes</b>	A student passing this module should be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. demonstrate advanced methodological awareness in their interpretation of biblical text(s), including engagement with relevant debates regarding biblical hermeneutics;</li> <li>2. critically assess contrasting perspectives on a specific area relating to justice, poverty, or ecology, demonstrating alertness to the wider ideological frameworks in which those perspectives are located;</li> <li>3. reflect theologically and critically on a contemporary area of context and practice that relates to justice, poverty, or ecology, and discern and justify key features of an appropriate Christian response.</li> </ol>
<b>Learning and teaching activities</b>	<b>Scheduled learning and teaching activities:</b> 26 hours <b>Guided independent study:</b> 274 hours
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	Postgraduate: Standard Assessment: Mark/Grade

<b>Assessment</b>	<p>A: 30% Group Presentation 50 minutes</p> <p>B: 70% Assignment 4500 words</p>
<b>Special assessment requirements</b>	The module has an 80% attendance requirement.
<b>Indicative resources</b>	<p>Beale, G. K. <i>The Temple and the Church's Mission</i>. Leicester: Apollo; Downers Grove: IVP, 2004.</p> <p>Beed, Clive, and Cara Beed. "Conceptions of Capitalism in Biblical Theology." <i>ERT</i> 40.3 (2016): 264-80.</p> <p>Brueggemann, Walter. <i>Sabbath as Resistance: Saying No to the Culture of Now</i>. Louisville: Presbyterian Publishing, 2017.</p> <p>Burnside, Jonathan. <i>God, Justice and Society: Aspects of Law and Legality in the Bible</i>. New York: OUP, 2011.</p> <p>Echevarria, Miguel G. Jr. "Middleton and Wright Have We Loved, but Padilla and Escobar? North American Eschatologies and Neglected Latino Voices." <i>Southeastern Theological Review</i> 11, no. 2 (2020): 47–62.</p> <p>Kovalishyn, Miriam Kamell. "A Biblical Theology of Social Justice." <i>Crux</i> 55, no. 3 (2019): 30-39.</p> <p>Moo, Douglas J., and Jonathan A. Moo. <i>Creation Care: A Biblical Theology of the Natural World</i>. Grand Rapids: HarperCollins, 2018.</p> <p>Myers, Bryant L. <i>Engaging Globalization (Mission in Global Community): The Poor, Christian Mission, and Our Hyperconnected World</i>. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2017.</p> <p>Noble, Tim. <i>The Poor in Liberation Theology: Pathway to God or Ideological Construct?</i> London: Taylor &amp; Francis Group, 2014.</p> <p>Oredein, Oluwatomisin. "Distinction and Desire: Racial Reconciliation as a White Ecclesial Project." <i>American Baptist Quarterly</i> 36 (2017): 261–81.</p> <p>Padilla DeBorst, Ruth. "'At the Table Their Eyes Were Opened': Mission as Renouncing Power and Being Hosted by the Stranger." <i>International Bulletin of Missionary Research</i> 39 (2015): 198–202.</p> <p>Paynter, Helen. <i>Blessed are the Peacemakers: A Biblical Theology of Human Violence</i>. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2023.</p> <p>Paynter, Helen. <i>Telling Terror in Judges 19: Rape and Reparation for the Levite's Wife</i>. Milton: Taylor &amp; Francis Group, 2020.</p> <p>Rodd, Cyril S. <i>Glimpses of A Strange Land: Studies in Old Testament Ethics</i>. Edinburgh: T &amp; T Clark, 2001.</p> <p>Routledge, Robin. <i>Old Testament Introduction: Text, Interpretation, Structure, Themes</i>. London: IVP, 2016.</p> <p>Sloane, Andrew. <i>Tamar's Tears: Evangelical Engagements with Feminist Old Testament Hermeneutics</i>. Eugene: Pickwick Publications, 2012.</p> <p>Van Wijk-Bos, Johanna W. H. "Out of the Shadows: Genesis 38; Judges 4:17-22; Ruth 3." <i>Semeia</i> 42 (1988): 37–67.</p> <p>Watkin, Christopher. <i>Biblical Critical Theory: How the Bible's Unfolding Story Makes Sense of Modern Life and Culture</i>. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2022.</p> <p>Webb, William J. <i>Slaves, Women and Homosexuals: Exploring the Hermeneutics of Cultural Analysis</i>. Downers Grove: IVP, 2001.</p> <p>Wright, Christopher J. H. "The Use of the Bible in Social Ethics: Paradigms, Types and Eschatology." <i>Transformation</i> 1, no. 1 (1984): 11-20.</p> <p>Wright, Christopher J. H. <i>Old Testament Ethics and the People of God</i>. Nottingham: IVP, 2004.</p>
<b>Initial Intake Year</b>	September 2025
<b>Date of approval</b>	November 2024?
<b>Revision dates</b>	

<b>External Examiner</b>	Dr Andrew Rogers
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