



Queensland  
Theological College

An aerial photograph of a city skyline at dusk, with a teal wavy graphic overlay at the bottom. The city features numerous skyscrapers and buildings, with a mix of modern and older architecture. The sky is a mix of purple, pink, and blue, suggesting the time is either dawn or dusk. The teal overlay at the bottom has a wavy, organic shape that frames the text.

# OT789-4i & OT789-6i Reading & Preaching Ezekiel Unit Outline

## About this Unit Outline

This unit outline contains information essential to finding your way around the Old Testament Seminar Unit **Reading and Preaching Ezekiel**. It provides a structure for your learning, giving details of lecture topics, assessment requirements, and key resources.

**SEMESTER 2 INTENSIVE AUGUST 2019**

## Important notice

While every care has been taken to ensure accuracy in the information given below, **it is the personal responsibility of each student to check the current ACT Handbook**, copies of which may be found in the Library or online at the ACT website: [www.acttheology.edu.au](http://www.acttheology.edu.au)

It is very important that students plan their time carefully to ensure that reading and especially assignments receive adequate attention and so as to prevent a bottleneck of work at the end of the semester.

It is very important that all quoted material in assignments be properly footnoted and acknowledged. The attention of students is drawn to the ACT **Academic Misconduct Policy**, as well as ACT **Late Penalties Policy** and **Extensions Policy**, all of which are available on the ACT website. Failure to comply with the standards required will incur penalties as outlined in the relevant ACT Policies.

The attention of students is also drawn to the section in the current ACT Handbook, headed **“Guidelines for Essays in Coursework Units”** (see also the QTC Student Handbook). All essays and assignments should comply with these standards.

## Census Date: **Monday 09 September 2019**

This is the last day on which you may withdraw from the QTC **Reading and Preaching Ezekiel Intensive** units OT789-4i and OT789-6i without academic penalty (a Fail), or without being liable for the tuition fees. To make a change in your enrolment you must contact the QTC Registrar in writing: [registrar@qtc.edu.au](mailto:registrar@qtc.edu.au)

## Lecture Days and Times:

**Monday 26 August – Friday 30 August 9.30am – 3.30pm**

## Assessment Due Dates:

<b>Friday 23 August</b> 2019	(Book Review)
<b>Friday 04 October</b> 2019	(Expository Sermon)
<b>Friday 29 November</b> 2019	(Essay)

Assessments are to be submitted via QTC Moodle by **11.55pm** on the due date.

## Information about this unit

### Unit description

For most students of the Old Testament the book of Ezekiel is a riddle. A primary goal of this course is to unlock the keys to this mysterious book through a firsthand look at the biblical text and to recognize its significance for ministry in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### Learning outcomes

1. To become familiar with the nature of the Israelite prophetic institution within the context of its ancient Near Eastern religious and cultural environment, including the literary nature of prophecy, especially the influence of extra-Israelite forms of expression and ideology.
2. To gain a general familiarity with the content of the book of Ezekiel, at a suitable level for those who have already completed a theological qualification and who are serving in pastoral ministry and related roles.
3. To gain an appreciation for the Israelite prophets' sensitivity to the sociological context of their ministry and the variety of rhetorical methods they employed to seek to change the dispositions and actions of their audiences.
4. To gain an understanding of the significance of Ezekiel's message for the audience of his day and the influence of this prophet on later Israelite thought.
5. To comprehend the permanent relevance of the teachings of Ezekiel and to examine ways of integrating these into one's own theology and applying them to life.
6. To discover concepts in Ezekiel's writings that will assist one in developing a valid prophetic theology of ministry for today.
7. To be inspired and challenged by the example of Ezekiel, and to be strengthened in one's confidence in the authority of the biblical message.

### This Unit & the MA Course

This unit is taught at the MA (700) level, and if successfully completed, is worth 4 or 6 credit points towards the Australian College of Theology Master of Arts (Theology), Master of Arts (Ministry), and Master of Arts (Christian Studies) courses.

QTC offers a regular series of MA units which provide the opportunity to complete the MA (Theology), as well as selected units towards the MA (Ministry). Further details regarding the MA in Theology at QTC are available at: <http://www.qtc.edu.au/master-of-masters-theology/>. It may be possible for students to apply the credit gained from completing this unit to MA-level qualifications beyond the Australian College of Theology (ACT). Students should contact the relevant non-ACT provider for details.

## Pre-requisites and Co-requisites

Students need normally to have previously completed the equivalent of at least three years of full-time theological study, such as a BTh, MDiv, BD, BMin, MMin, or equivalent, from the Australian College of Theology (ACT), Moore Theological College, or another recognized provider. Students who are enrolled in an ACT MDiv and have completed 64 credit points may enrol in this unit with the permission of QTC.

The unit is delivered as an ACT MA-level course, coded **OT789-4i** and **OT789-6i**.

### ELIGIBILITY FOR EACH STRAND OF THE UNIT

Students who have an ACT MDiv or ACT BTh (Hons) (or equivalent AQF Level 8 or 9 qualification) take OT789-4i - worth 4 credit points towards a 32 credit point MA.

Students who have an ACT BTh (or equivalent AQF Level 7 qualification) take OT789-6i – worth 6 credit points towards a 48 credit point MA.

If you are already enrolled for an MA under the previous ACT rules, then your course will need to be converted to one of these awards. Please contact us beforehand about this.

Please contact the QTC Registrar if you have any questions about which course or unit is appropriate for you. registrar@qtc.edu.au

The teaching will be the same for both units, but there is more pre-reading and there are longer assessment pieces for OT789-6i than for OT789-4i. Further details are listed in this unit outline.

## How this unit is organized & what we expect of you

Students will be expected to attend all lectures, with the lectures being held in Intensive mode: **Monday 26 August – Friday 30 August 2019**.

The unit will be taught through 25 teaching hours, with three teaching periods per day for each day of the intensive week. Each teaching day will commence at **9:30am** and conclude at **3.30pm**. Please arrive in good time each day for the commencement of lectures.

To complete the unit, students need to attend the Intensive classes with Professor Daniel Block, complete the set pre-reading, and submit all three assignments at a satisfactory level. The due dates for submission of the assessment items are listed in this unit outline. Full details regarding study at QTC and on matters such as using the QTC Library and applying for extensions on assessment due dates can be found in the QTC Student Handbook, available on the QTC website.

## Teaching staff

### LECTURER (Unit Coordinator)

Daniel I. Block  
Gunther H. Knoedler Emeritus Professor of Old Testament  
Wheaton College  
Wheaton, Illinois, USA

Prior to the Intensive, any general questions about the unit should be addressed in the first instance to QTC Registrar, at: [registrar@qtc.edu.au](mailto:registrar@qtc.edu.au)

## Other Key Contacts

### Registrar's office

Contact the Registrar's office for any queries about which unit to enrol in next, if you wish to change your enrolment, defer due to illness, family circumstances etc., or request an extension for your assessment (criteria apply).

P 07 3062 6939, extension 2  
E [registrar@qtc.edu.au](mailto:registrar@qtc.edu.au)

### Moodle functions and queries

Contact the Registrar or the Assistant Registrar for help if something on Moodle is not working, if you need help using Moodle etc.

P 07 3062 6939, extension 2  
E [registrar@qtc.edu.au](mailto:registrar@qtc.edu.au)

### Library/Resources

Contact the Librarian for help with finding resources for your assessment, finding full-text database articles, for help with logging into the library databases and catalogue, to request a chapter of a book or article emailed to you, to request a book posted to you, and for help with how to renew a book for longer or place a hold on a book currently out to another person.

P 07 3062 6939, extension 3  
E [library@qtc.edu.au](mailto:library@qtc.edu.au)

## Unit timetable: topics & teaching and learning activities

Session	Time	Topic
<b>MONDAY</b> 26 August	9:30-10:30 10:50-12:40 1:30-3:30	1. Introducing Ezekiel & The Unit 2. Introductory Lectures: a. Ezekiel: The Prophet and His Times b. Ezekiel: The Prophet and His Methods
<b>TUESDAY</b> 27 August	9:30-10:30 10:50-12:40 1:30-3:30	Introductory Lectures (Cont.) c. Ezekiel: The Prophet and His Book d. Ezekiel: The Prophet and His Message 3. Expository Lectures: a. Ezekiel the Visionary (1:1-3:27; 8:1-11:25)
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 28 August	9:30-10:30 10:50-12:40 1:30-3:30	b. Ezekiel the Watchman (3:16-21; 33:1-9; 6:1-14; 7:1-27) c. Ezekiel the Dramatist (4:1-5:17; 12:1-16)
<b>THURSDAY</b> 29 August	9:30-10:30 10:50-12:40 1:30-3:30	d. Ezekiel the Debater (11:1-12; 11:14-21; 12:21-25; 12:26-28; 18:1-32; 24:1-14; 33:10-20; 33:23-29) e. Ezekiel the Prosecutor (16:1-63; 20:1-44; 22:1-31; 23:1-49)
<b>FRIDAY</b> 30 August	9:30-10:30 10:50-12:40 1:30-3:30	f. Ezekiel the Messenger of Good News (5:3; 11:14-21; 16:60-63; 17:22-24; 28:24-26; 34-48)

## Pre-Intensive Reading

**The Pre-Reading is to be completed by Friday 23 August 2019.**

Students will be required to sign a declaration that the Pre-Reading has been completed.

Please note that **the first piece of assessment is based on the pre-reading**, and is due for submission on the Friday evening immediately prior to the Intensive week, **Friday 23 August** (at 11:55pm).

### PRE-READING FOR STUDENTS OF OT789-4i:

For OT789-4i, the required pre-reading is **300** pages:

1. Read aloud the entire book of Ezekiel from a modern translation. Note: While for detailed study a version based on "formal equivalence theory" (e.g., NAS, ESV) is preferable, for this exercise a version that is based on "dynamic equivalence theory" (e.g., NLT, NIV, NRSV) is more helpful.
2. Read the following collections of essays on the book of Ezekiel:
  - a: Block, Daniel I. *By the River Chebar: Historical, Literary, and Theological Studies in the Book of Ezekiel*. Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2013. (please read all nine essays in the volume)
  - b: Block, Daniel I. *Beyond the River Chebar: Studies in Kingship and Eschatology in the Book of Ezekiel*. Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2013. (please read the first chapter and one other chapter of your choice from this volume).

Total of the above readings: approximately 300 pages (depending on Bible version used).

### PRE-READING FOR STUDENTS OF OT789-6i:

For OT789-6i, the required pre-reading is **400** pages:

1. Read aloud the entire book of Ezekiel from a modern translation. Note: While for detailed study a version based on "formal equivalence theory" (e.g., NAS, ESV) is preferable, for this exercise a version that is based on "dynamic equivalence theory" (e.g., NLT, NIV, NRSV) is more helpful.
2. Read the following collections of essays on the book of Ezekiel:
  - a: Block, Daniel I. *By the River Chebar: Historical, Literary, and Theological Studies in the Book of Ezekiel*. Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2013. (please read all nine essays in the volume)
  - b: Block, Daniel I. *Beyond the River Chebar: Studies in Kingship and Eschatology in the Book of Ezekiel*. Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2013. (please read the first chapter and five other chapters of your choice from this volume).

Total of the above readings: approximately 400 pages (depending on Bible version used).

**NOTE:** that two print copies of the above texts are available in the **QTC Library**, both books are available as ebooks for unlimited users through QTC and a small number of additional print copies are available for purchase for approx. A\$44-57. Contact the QTC Librarian, Annette McGrath for more information or to purchase: [amcgrath@qtc.edu.au](mailto:amcgrath@qtc.edu.au)

## OT789-4i (4 Credit Point Unit) Assessments

Assessments are submitted online via Moodle

In order to pass the unit, you must submit all assessment pieces and attain a mark of at least 50% for the unit as a whole.

Unless an extension has been applied for and granted in accordance with the **Late Penalty** Policy found in the QTC Handbook, where a student submits an assessment past its due date, the assessment marks will be reduced at the rate of **3%** of the total possible marks for the Assessment item **per calendar day**, up to 14 days late.

Your essays must also be within 10% of the required word limit and your ability to meet this requirement will also be taken into account in determining your mark. Essays which are longer than 10% over than the word limit will incur a **Word Limit Penalty of 10%** of the total possible marks for the assessment piece, and may be returned to the student for revision.

ASSESSMENT TASKS	DESCRIPTION
<p><b>Assignment 1</b> <b>(Pre-Intensive)</b> <b>1000 words</b> <b>Worth 15% of the total marks.</b> <b>DUE Friday 23 August 2019</b></p>	<p><b>Pre-Intensive Assignment:</b> Write a <b>short review</b> of the essays/chapters which you read as part of your set -re-reading (above, from <i>By the River Chebar</i> and <i>Beyond the River Chebar</i>) in which you demonstrate that you have grasped some of the key ideas developed, and identify ways in which the essays aid in developing a prophetic theology of ministry.</p>
<p><b>Assignment 2</b> <b>2500 words</b> <b>Worth 35% of the total marks.</b> <b>DUE Friday 4 October 2019</b></p>	<p>Prepare an <b>expository sermon</b> on a specific text from Ezekiel (2500 words) selected in consultation with the unit lecturer. Your sermon should show evidence of thoughtful interaction with suitable commentaries and other material on Ezekiel encountered during the unit.</p>
<p><b>Assignment 3</b> <b>3500 words</b> <b>Worth 50% of the total marks.</b> <b>DUE Friday 29 November 2019</b></p>	<p>Write a <b>3500 word essay on a key theological concept</b> developed in the book of Ezekiel that relates especially to ministry, in conversation with relevant scholarly literature on Ezekiel. Please select one of the following theological concepts as the subject of your essay:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The importance for pastoral ministry of a proper view of God (chaps. 1-2)</li> <li>The essence of pastoral ministry (chap. 34)</li> <li>How to respond to "failure" in ministry (chaps. 2-3)</li> </ol> <p>Your assignment should describe how the book of Ezekiel articulates and develops the theological concept in question, how it relates pastorally to Ezekiel's context, and lastly how it might be applied to contemporary ministry today.</p>

## OT789-6i (6 Credit Point Unit) Assessments

Assessments are submitted online via Moodle

In order to pass the unit, you must submit all assessment pieces and attain a mark of at least 50% for the unit as a whole.

Unless an extension has been applied for and granted in accordance with the **Late Penalty** Policy found in the QTC Handbook, where a student submits an assessment past its due date, the assessment marks will be reduced at the rate of **3%** of the total possible marks for the Assessment item **per calendar day**, up to 14 days late.

Your essays must also be within 10% of the required word limit and your ability to meet this requirement will also be taken into account in determining your mark. Essays which are longer than 10% over than the word limit will incur a **Word Limit Penalty of 10%** of the total possible marks for the assessment piece, and may be returned to the student for revision.

ASSESSMENT TASKS	DESCRIPTION
<p><b>Assignment 1 (Pre-Intensive)</b>  <b>1500 words</b>  <b>Worth 15% of the total marks.</b>  <b>DUE Friday 23 August 2019</b></p>	<p><b>Pre-Intensive Assignment:</b>  Write a <b>short review</b> of the essays/chapters which you read as part of your set -re-reading (above, from <i>By the River Chebar</i> and <i>Beyond the River Chebar</i>) in which you demonstrate that you have grasped some of the key ideas developed, and identify ways in which the essays aid in developing a prophetic theology of ministry.</p>
<p><b>Assignment 2</b>  <b>2500 words</b>  <b>Worth 35% of the total marks.</b>  <b>DUE Friday 4 October 2019</b></p>	<p>Prepare an <b>expository sermon</b> on a specific text from Ezekiel (2500 words) selected in consultation with the unit lecturer. Your sermon should show evidence of thoughtful interaction with suitable commentaries and other material on Ezekiel encountered during the unit.</p>
<p><b>Assignment 3</b>  <b>4000 words</b>  <b>Worth 50% of the total marks.</b>  <b>DUE Friday 29 November 2019</b></p>	<p>Write a <b>4000 word essay on a key theological concept</b> developed in the book of Ezekiel that relates especially to ministry, in conversation with relevant scholarly literature on Ezekiel. Please select one of the following theological concepts as the subject of your essay:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The importance for pastoral ministry of a proper view of God (chaps. 1-2)</li> <li>The essence of pastoral ministry (chap. 34)</li> <li>How to respond to "failure" in ministry (chaps. 2-3)</li> </ol> <p>Your assignment should describe how the book of Ezekiel articulates and develops the theological concept in question, how it relates pastorally to Ezekiel's context, and lastly how it might be applied to contemporary ministry today.</p>

## Guide to Assessments

### *What are we looking for?*

#### General Remarks

All students are expected to avail themselves of the guidelines for written assignments provided in the ACT Handbook (consult the table of contents) and in the QTC Student Handbook.

All written work for this course for this course should conform to the guidelines of the *SBL Handbook of Style* (with the exception of Australian spelling conventions).

Any Hebrew and Greek cited must be typed in a Unicode font; SBL BibLit is commended as one font covering Hebrew, Greek, and Roman Unicode ranges, but is not required. It is freely available from the SBL website: [http://sbl-site.org/educational/BiblicalFonts\\_SBLBibLit.aspx](http://sbl-site.org/educational/BiblicalFonts_SBLBibLit.aspx)

The appended bibliography is offered as a starting point for research in completing assessments for this course; students are expected to engage the works listed there, but not limit themselves to these resources.

Do note carefully the **number of words required** for each assessment item, depending on whether you are enrolled for OT789-4i or OT789-6i.

In order to pass this unit, you must gain a mark of at least 50% for the unit as a whole. All assignments should be submitted via the QTC Moodle website: <http://www.qtc.edu.au/moodle/>. Students will be provided with a Moodle account and details of how to access and use this account before the Intensive commences.

#### Expository Sermon

This assessment engages the last two seminar objectives listed above. Students are expected to show a thorough and detailed engagement of the details of the text chosen for exposition, with strong support from good secondary literature (especially on disputed points of interpretation). While the focus of this assignment is on exegesis and interpretation, as a sermon it must drive home the theological point of the selected passage for a contemporary audience.

#### Essay

The essays are intended to provide hands on experience in fulfillment of the objectives for the seminar listed above. By grappling with the assigned topics, students have opportunity to explore theological themes and exegetical issues raised by the Book of Ezekiel, and develop their understanding of the themes in conversation with the work of earlier interpreters. Students are expected to show thorough knowledge of the primary literature and engage deeply and sympathetically with a broad range of secondary literature that bears on their chosen topic, including both more advanced commentaries and relevant monographs.

## Learning resources

### Textbooks for Pre-Reading:

Block, Daniel I. *By the River Chebar: Historical, Literary, and Theological Studies in the Book of Ezekiel*. Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2013.

Block, Daniel I. *Beyond the River Chebar: Studies in Kingship and Eschatology in the Book of Ezekiel*. Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2013.

### Select Bibliography

#### Commentaries on Ezekiel (\* commentaries you should consult first)

Alexander, Ralph H. 'Ezekiel'. Pages 641-924 in *The Expositor's Bible Commentary. Revised Edition. Volume 7*. Edited by Tremper Longman III and David E. Garland. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2010. [224.077 EXP]\*

Allen, Leslie C. *Ezekiel 1-19*. WBC 28. Dallas: Word, 1994. [224. 4077 ALL 1]

\_\_\_\_\_. *Ezekiel 20-48*. WBC 29. Dallas: Word, 1990. [224. 4077 ALL]

Blenkinsopp, Joseph. *Ezekiel*. IBC. Louisville: John Knox, 1990. [224.4 BLE]

Block, Daniel I. *The Book of Ezekiel Chapters 1-24*. NICOT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1997. [224.4077 BLO]\*

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Book of Ezekiel Chapters 25-48*. NICOT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1997. [224.4077 BLO]\*

Bowen, Nancy R. *Ezekiel*. AOTC. Nashville: Abingdon, 2010. [224.407 BOW]

Cook, Stephen L. *Ezekiel 38-48*. Yale Anchor Bible. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2018.

Cooper, Lamar E. *Ezekiel*. NAC 17. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1994.

Craigie, Peter C. *Ezekiel*. Daily Study Bible. Edinburgh: St. Andrews, 1983. [224. 4077 CRA]

Darr, Katheryn Pfisterer. "The Book of Ezekiel." *The New Interpreter's Bible*, 6:1073–1607. Nashville: Abingdon, 2001.

Duguid, Iain M. *Ezekiel*. NIV Application Commentary. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1999. [224.4077 DUG]

Eichrodt, Walther. *Ezekiel: A Commentary*. OTL. London: SCM, 1970. [224. 4077 EIC]

Goldingay, John. *Lamentations and Ezekiel for Everyone*. Old Testament for Everyone. London: SPCK; Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2016.

Greenberg, Moshe. *Ezekiel 1-20: A New Translation*. AB 22. Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1983. [224.4077 GRE]\*

\_\_\_\_\_. *Ezekiel 21-37: A New Translation*. AB 22A. New York: Doubleday, 1997. [224.4077 GRE]\*

Jenson, Robert W. *Ezekiel*. Brazos Theological Commentary on the Bible. Grand Rapids, Brazos, 2000. [224.407 JEN]

Joyce, Paul M. *Ezekiel: A Commentary*. LHBOTS 482. New York: T&T Clark, 2007. [224.407 JOY]

Milgrom, Jacob and Daniel I. Block. *Ezekiel's Hope: A Commentary on Ezekiel 39-48*. Eugene,

OR: Cascade, 2012.

Odell, Margaret S. *Ezekiel*. SHBC. Macon, GA: Smyth & Helwys, 2005.\*

Stevenson, Kenneth, and Michael Glerup, eds. *Ezekiel, Daniel*. ACCS 13. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2008. [224.407 EZE]

Sweeney, Marvin A. *Reading Ezekiel: A Literary and Theological Commentary*. Reading the Old Testament. Macon, GA: Smyth & Helwys, 2013.\*

Taylor, John B. *Ezekiel: An Introduction and Commentary*. TOTC 22. London: Tyndale, 1969. [224.407 TAY]\*

Thompson, David L. *Ezekiel*. Cornerstone Biblical Commentary 9. Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House, 2010.

Tuell, Steven S. *Ezekiel*. NIBCOT. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2009. [224.07 TUE]

Wright, Christopher J. H. *The Message of Ezekiel* (see above)\*

Zimmerli, Walther. *Ezekiel 1: A Commentary on the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel, Chapters 1-24*. Hermeneia. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1979. [224. 4077 ZIM]

\_\_\_\_\_. *Ezekiel 2: A Commentary on the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel, Chapters 25-48*. Hermeneia. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1983.

### Other Works

Block, Daniel I. *Beyond the River Chebar: Studies in Kingship and Eschatology in the Book of Ezekiel*. Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2013. [224.406 BLO]

\_\_\_\_\_. *By the River Chebar: Historical, Literary, and Theological Studies in the Book of Ezekiel*. Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2013. [224.406 BLO]

Davis, Ellen F. *Swallowing the Scroll: Textuality and the Dynamics of Discourse in Ezekiel's Prophecy*. BLS 21. Sheffield: Almond, 1989 [224.406 DAV]

Lyons, Michael A. *An Introduction to the Study of Ezekiel*. T&T Clark Approaches to Biblical Studies. London/New York: Bloomsbury T&T Clark, 2015

Renz, Thomas. *The Rhetorical Function of the Book of Ezekiel*. VTSup 76. Leiden; Boston: Brill, 2002 [224.4066 REN]

## ACT Standards: Grades

Grades in assessment instruments are awarded in the following categories-

Grade	Score	GPA
Fail (F)	0-49%	0
Pass (P)	50-57%	1
Pass+ (P+)	58-64%	1.5
Credit (C)	65-74%	2
Distinction (D)	75-84%	3
High Distinction (HD)	85+%	4