

## **CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

*(May not be taken with Islamic Religious Studies and /or  
West African Traditional Religion)*

### **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

At the end of the three year course of study, the candidate will be expected to;

1. have knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the religious, cultural, historical and social background of the biblical materials prescribed to be studied;
2. understand the nature of biblical moral lessons in the selected passages/themes from the Bible and the extent of their relevance and possible application to present day social, political, religious and cultural life and existence;
3. identify difficulties involved in the application of healthy attitudes, concepts and skills acquired from the Bible in ensuring peaceful co-existence and national development;
4. demonstrate adequate preparation for higher education through critical thinking and independent work.

### **SCHEME OF EXAMINATION**

There will be two papers, Papers 1 and 2, both of which will be a composite paper to be taken at one sitting.

**PAPER 1:** Will consist of fifty multiple choice objective questions all of which must be answered within 1 hour for 40 marks.

**PAPER 2:** Will consist of nine essay-type questions. Candidates will be required to answer four questions within 2 hours for 60 marks.

The questions will be arranged in sections as follows:

**Section A:** Themes from the Old Testament - four questions.

**Section B:** Themes from the Synoptic Gospels and the Acts of the Apostle - three questions.

**Section C:** Themes from selected Epistles - two questions.

Candidates will be required to answer four questions in all, choosing at least one question from each section and the fourth question from **either** Section A **or** Section B.

The Revised Standard Version of the Bible will be used in setting of questions.

## **DETAILED SYLLABUS**

### **SECTION A**

Themes from the Old Testament

| S/N | CONTENTS                                                                                                                         | NOTES                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.  | <b>The Sovereignty of God</b><br>(a) God, the Creator<br>(b) God, the Controller of the universe                                 | Gen. 1; 2                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 2.  | <b>Leadership roles</b><br>(a) Joseph<br><br>(b) Moses<br><br>(c) Joshua<br>(d) Deborah                                          | Gen. 37; 1-28, 41: 1-57, 45: 1-15<br><br>Exodus 1;2;3;4:1-17;5: 1-5, 22-23; 6: 28-30, 7; 1-7; 14;32: 1-14<br>Numbers 13:1-33; 14: 1-19<br><br>Numbers 27: 15-23<br>Joshua 1: 1-9<br><br>Judges 4 |
| 3.  | <b>Parental Responsibility</b><br>Eli and Samuel                                                                                 | 1 Sam 2: 11-36; 3:1-18; 4: 10-22; 8: 1-5                                                                                                                                                         |
| 4.  | <b>Consequences of Saul's disobedience</b>                                                                                       | 1 Samuel 15: 1-26; 16: 14-23; 31: 1-13                                                                                                                                                           |
| 5.  | <b>Submission to the will of God</b><br>(a) David's submission to the will of God<br>(b) David's sin, repentance and forgiveness | 1 Sam 26;<br>2 Sam 12: 15-25                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 6.  | <b>Making Decisions</b><br>(a) Solomon's wisdom                                                                                  | 1 Kings 3: 3-28; 4: 29-34; 5: 1-12; 8                                                                                                                                                            |

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|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|     | (b) The unwise decision of Solomon and Rehoboam                                                               | 1 Kings 9; 15-23; 11: 1-13; 12:1-20                                                   |
| 7   | <b>Supremacy of God</b><br>(a) Religious tensions during Ahab's reign<br>(b) Elijah at Mount Carmel           | 1 Kings 16: 29-34; 17: 1-7; 18: 1-19<br>1 Kings 18: 17-46                             |
| 8   | <b>Greed and its effects</b><br>(a) Ahab<br>(b) Gehazi                                                        | 1 Kings 21: 1-29<br>2 Kings 5                                                         |
| 9.  | <b>Religious reforms</b><br>The reign of King Josiah                                                          | 2 Kings 22; 23: 1-30                                                                  |
| 10. | <b>Concern for one's Nation</b><br>(a) The condition of the nation<br>(b) Response to the state of the nation | 2 Kings 24; 25:1-17<br>Nehemiah 1; 2: 9-20; 4<br>Ezra 1; 4; 5: 1-2; 6: 13-22; 7: 1-10 |
| 11. | <b>Faith in God</b><br>(a) Faith and courage<br>(b) Faith and power                                           | Daniel 3<br>Daniel 6                                                                  |
| 12. | <b>Nature of God</b><br>(a) True religion and social justice – Amos<br>(b) God's divine love – Hosea          | Amos 2: 6-8; 4; 5: 1-24; 7: 10-17; 8<br>Hosea 1; 2; 3; 6                              |

## SECTION B

Themes from the Synoptic Gospels and the Acts Of The Apostles

| S/N | CONTENTS                                                                                                           | NOTES                                                                                                                                                   |
|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.  | <b>Baptism and Temptation of Jesus</b><br>(a) The Baptism<br><br>(b) The Temptation                                | Matthew 3:13-17<br>Mark 1: 9-11; Luke 3: 21-22<br><br>Matthew 4: 1-11;<br>Mark 1: 12-13; Luke 4:1-13                                                    |
| 2.  | <b>The Call and Demands of Discipleship</b>                                                                        | Matthew 4: 18-25; 8: 18-22;<br>9:9-13 ;<br>Mark 1: 16-20; 2: 13-17;<br>Luke 5: 1-11; 9: 57-63; 14: 25-33                                                |
| 3.  | <b>Jesus' Teaching on forgiveness</b>                                                                              | Matthew 6: 12,14-15;<br>18:21-35                                                                                                                        |
| 4.  | <b>The Trials of Jesus</b><br>(a) Jesus at Gethsemane<br><br>(b) Peter's Denials<br><br>(c) Condemnation of Jesus  | Matthew 26:36-56; Mk 14: 32-52;<br>Matthew 26: 69-75;<br>Mark 14: 66-72; Luke 22: 54-62<br>Matthew 26:47-75<br>Mark 14: 53-72; Luke 22: 66-71; 23: 1-12 |
| 5.  | <b>The Crucifixion, Burial and Resurrection of Jesus</b><br>(a) Crucifixion and burial<br><br>(b) The Resurrection | Matthew 27: 32-66<br>Mark 15: 16-47;<br>Luke 23: 26-56<br><br>Matthew 28:1-10<br>Mark 16: 1-14; Luke 24: 1-35                                           |
| 6.  | <b>Fellowship in the Early Church</b>                                                                              | Acts 1:15-26; 2:41-47;<br>4:32-37; 5:1-11; 6:2-6                                                                                                        |

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|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 7. | <b>The Holy Spirit and the Mission to the Gentiles</b><br>(a) The Holy Spirit at Pentecost<br>(b) Mission to the Gentiles | Acts 2<br>Acts 9; 11:1-18                       |
| 8. | <b>Opposition to the Gospel Message</b>                                                                                   | Acts 4:1-31; 5:17-42; 6:8-9;<br>7:1-10; 12:1-24 |

### SECTION C

Themes from selected Epistles

| S/N | CONTENTS                                                                                                                                               | NOTES                                                           |
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| 1.  | <b>The Epistles of James</b><br>(a) Faith and Works<br>(b) Impartiality<br>(c) Effective Prayers                                                       | James 1: 2-27; 2:14-26<br>James 2:1-13<br>James 1: 2-8; 5:13-18 |
| 2.  | <b>The Epistle of 1 Peter</b><br>(a) Good Citizenship<br>(b) Christians Living among non-Christians<br>(c) Interpersonal Relationship among Christians | 1 Peter 2:13-17<br>1 Peter 2:1-25<br>1 Peter 5:1-11             |

### SUGGESTED READING LIST/REFERENCES

#### 1. GENERAL

- (i) The Holy Bible (Revised Standard Version)
- (ii) New Clarendon Bible Series
- (iii) Bright, John: History and Religion of Israel
- (iv) Anderson, B. W.: The Living World of the Old Testament
- (v) Kee, H. C. & Young: The Living World of the New Testament
- (vi) Cambell, D. B. J.: The Synoptic Gospels
- (vii) New Bible Commentary – Cambridge.

#### 2. (a) OLD TESTAMENT

Quarcoopome, T. N. O. : History and Religion of Israel AUP, Ibadan, 1986.

Dickson, Kwesi

- i. History and Religion of Israel  
Darton L & T 1968
- ii. From the Institution of the Monarchy to the  
fall of the Northern Kingdom

**(b) NEW TESTAMENT**

Guy, H. A.

- 1 The Life of Christ
2. The Acts of the Apostles

Pobee, John S Matthew and Mark for Schools

Dickson K .A The Gospel According to Luke (Accra,  
Asempa Publishers)

Awolabi Joshua Simple Approach to Christian Religious  
Knowledge Elis Association ,Lagos 2011