

JAMB Christian Religious Studies 2023 Syllabus

General objectives

The aim of the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME) syllabus in Christian Religious Studies is to prepare the candidates for the Board's examination. It is designed to test their achievement of the course objectives, which are to:

- acquire the knowledge and understanding of the tenets of the Christian faith as contained in the Bible;
- interpret biblical teachings and themes;
- apply biblical teachings and tenets to life in society;
- evaluate the level of application of biblical teachings and tenets to life in society.

Sections of the syllabus

The syllabus is divided into four sections, namely:

- **Section A:** Themes from Creation to the Division of the Kingdom
- **Section B:** Themes from the Division of the Kingdom to the Return from Exile and the Prophets
- **Section C:** Themes from the four Gospels and Acts of the Apostles
- **Section D:** Themes from selected Epistles

Section A: Themes from Creation to the Division of the Kingdom

1. **The Sovereignty of God:**
 - God as Creator and Controller of the Universe (Gen. 1 and 2) cf. Amos 9:5-6; Is. 45:5-12 Ps. 19:1-6, Jer 18: 1-16, Rom 8: 28)
2. **The Covenant:**
 - The flood and God's covenant with Noah (Gen. 6:1-22; 7:1-24; 9:1-17)
 - God's covenant with Abraham (Gen. 11:31-32; 12:1-9; 17:1-21; 21:1-13; 25:19-26)
 - God's covenant with Israel (Ex. 19; 20; 24:1-11) cf. Deut. 28:1-19
 - The New Covenant (Jer. 31:31-34; Ezek 36:25-28)
3. **Leadership Qualities Examples of**
 - **Joseph** (Gen. 37:1-28; 41:1-57; 45:1-15)
 - **Moses** (Ex. 1; 2; 3; 4:1-17; 5; 12; Num.13:1-20; 14:1-19)
 - **Joshua** (Num. 13:21-33; 27:15-23; Josh. 1:1-15; 6; 7; 24:1-31)
 - **Judges** (Deborah - Judges. 4:1-24; Gideon: Judges 6:11-40; Samson: Judges 13:1-7, 21-25; 16:4-31)
4. **Divine Providence, Guidance and Protection**

- Guidance and Protection (Gen. 24:1-61; 28:10-22; 46:1-7; Ex. 13:17-22; 14:1-4; 10-31)
- (b) Provision (Gen. 21:14-18; 22:1-14; Ex. 16:1-21; 17:1-7; Num. 20:1-13; 1 Kings 17:1-16)
- 5. Parental Responsibility Examples of**
 - Eli and Samuel (1 Sam. 2:11-36; 3:2-18; 4:10-22; 8:15)
 - David (11 Sam. 13; 15:1-29; 18; 19:1-8)
 - Asa (1 Kings 15:9-15; 22:41-44; cf. Deut. 6:4-9; Prov. 4:1-10; 13:1; 24; 22:6; 23:13-14; 31:10-31)
- 6. Obedience and Disobedience**
 - 1. Obedience and Rewards: Examples of**
 - Abraham (Gen. 22:1-19)
 - Three Hebrew youth (Dan 3:1-30)
 - David (1 Sam. 30:1-20)
 - 2. Disobedience and Consequences Examples of**
 - Adam (Gen. 2:15-25; 3)
 - Collection of Manna (Ex. 16:22-30)
 - The Golden Calf (Ex. 32)
 - Moses (Num. 20:7-12; Deut. 34:1-6)
 - Saul (1 Sam. 10:1-16; 15:1-25; 16:14-23; 31:1-13)
- 7. A man after God's own heart**
 - The early life of David (1 Sam. 16:1-13; 17; 18:17-30; 22:1-5; 24:1-23; II Sam. 2:1-7; 3:1-39)
 - David's submission to the will of God (I Sam. 26:1-25, II Sam 12:15-25)
 - David's repentance and forgiveness (II Sam. 11; 12:1-15, cf. Ps. 51:130)
- 8. Decision-Making**
 - Reliance on a medium (I Sam. 28:3-25)
 - The wisdom of Solomon (I Kings 3:3-28; 4:29-34; 5:1-12; 8:1-53)
 - Unwise policies of Solomon and Rehoboam (I Kings 9:15-23; 11:1-40; 12:1-20)
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Section B: Themes from the Division of the Kingdom to the Return from Exile and the Prophets

- 1. Greed and its effects Examples of**
 - Ahab (I Kings 21:1-29; 22:1-40; II Kings 9:30-37)
 - Gehazi (II Kings 5:1-27 cf (Josh 7)
- 2. The Supremacy of God**
 - Religious tension and the power of God on Mount Carmel (I Kings 16:29-34; 17:1-7; 18; 19:1-18)
- 3. Religious reforms in Judah**
 - Cleansing of the Temple (II Kings 22) Renewal of the Covenant (II Kings 23:1- 30)
- 4. Concern for Judah**

- The fall of Jerusalem (II kings 24; 25:1-17) Condition of Judah (Neh. 1:1-11; Ezra 1:1- 11) Response to the state of Judah (Neh. 2; 4:1- 23 Ezra 3:4; 5; 6; 7)
- 5. **Faith, Courage and Protection**
 - Examples of Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego (Dan. 3:1-30: 6:1-28)
- 6. **God's message to Nineveh**
 - Jonah and his message (Jonah 1; 2; 3 and 4)
- 7. **Social justice, True religion and Divine love**
 - Social justice and true religion (Amos 2:6- 8; 4; 5:1-25; 6:1-14; 7:10-17; 8:4-14) cf James 1:19-27
 - Divine love and human response (Hosea 1; 2; 3; 4; 6:1-11; 14)
- 8. **Holiness and Divine call** (Isaiah 6:1-13; Ezek. 2; 3:1-11; Jer. 1:4-10)
- 9. **Punishment and Hope** (Jer. 3:11-18; 32:26-35; Ezek. 18; 37:1-14; Isaiah 61, Jer 4: 5-8)

Section C: Themes from the four Gospels and the Acts of the Apostles

- 1. **The birth and early life of Jesus**
 - John, the forerunner of Jesus (Lk. 1:5-25; 57-66; 3:1-20; 7:18-35; Mk. 1:1-8; 6:14-29; Mt. 3:1-12; Matt.11:2-19; Jn. 1:6-8; 19-37; 3:22-36)
 - The birth and boyhood of Jesus (Mt. 1:18- 25; 2; Lk. 1:26-45; 2)
- 2. **The baptism and temptation of Jesus** (Mt. 3:13-17; 4:1-11; Mk. 1:9-13; Lk. 3:21-22; 4:1-13)
- 3. **Discipleship**
 - The call of the first disciples (Mt. 4:18-22; 9:9-13; Mk. 1:16-20; 2:13-17; Lk. 5:1-11; 27-32) The demands of discipleship (Mt. 8:19-22; Lk. 9:57-63; 14:25-33)
- 4. **Miracles**
 - 1. **Nature miracles**
 - Stilling the storm (Mt. 8:23-27; Mk. 4:35-41; Lk.8:22-25)
 - Feeding of the five thousand (Mt. 14:13-24; Mk. 6:30-44; Lk. 9:10-17; Jn. 6:1-13)
 - Walking on the sea (Mt. 14:22-26; Mk. 6:45-52; Jn. 6:16-21)
 - Changing water to wine (Jn. 2:1-11)
 - 2. **Miracles of resuscitation**
 - The raising of Lazarus (Jn. 11:1-45)
 - The raising of Jairus' daughter (Lk. 8:41-42, 49-56; Mk. 5:21-43)
 - The raising of the widow's son at Nain (Lk. 7:11-17)
 - 3. **Healing miracles**
 - The lepers (Mt. 8:1-4; Mk. 1:40-45; Lk. 5:12-16; 17:11-19)
 - The paralytic at the pool (Jn. 5:1-17)
 - The centurion's servant (Mt. 8:5-13; Lk. 7:1-10)
 - The blind (Jn. 9:1-12; Mk. 10:46-52; Lk. 18:35-43)
 - 4. **Exorcism**

- The Gerasene (Gadarene) demoniac (Mt. 8:28-34; Mk. 5:1-20; Lk. 8:26-39)
- The epileptic boy (Mk. 9:14-29; Lk. 9:37-43a; Mt. 17:14-21)

5. The Parables

1. Parables of the kingdom

- The sower (Mt. 13:1-23; Mk. 4:1-20)
- The weeds (Mt. 13:24-30; 36-43)
- The drag-net (Mt. 13:47-50)
- The wedding garment (Matt. 22:1-14)

2. Parables about love of God (Mt. 18:12-14; Lk. 15:1-32)

3. Parables about love for one another (Lk. 10:25-37; 16:19-31)

4. Parable about wealth: The rich fool (Lk. 12:13-21)

5. Parables on prayer (Lk. 18:2-14)

6. Sermon on the Mount (Mt. 5; 6; Lk. 6:17-26)

7. Mission of the disciples

- The mission of the twelve (Mt. 10:5-15; Mk. 6:7-13; Lk. 9:1-16)
- The mission of the seventy (Lk. 10:1-24)

8. The Great Confession (Mt. 16:13-20; Mk. 8:27-30; Lk. 9:18-22)

9. The Transfiguration (Mt. 17:1-13; Mk. 9:2-13; Lk. 9:28-36)

10. The Triumphal Entry and the cleansing of the Temple (Mt. 21:1-17; Mk. 11:1-19; Lk. 19:29-48)

11. The Last Supper (Mt. 26:17-30; Mk. 14:10-26; Lk. 22:7-23; Jn. 13:2-38)

12. The trials and the death of Jesus

- **The trials and the death of Jesus**

- the High Priest (Mt. 26:36-75; Mk. 14:53-72 Lk. 22:66-71)
- Pilate (Mt. 27:11-26; Mk. 15:1-15; Lk. 23:1-5; 13-25; Jn. 18:28-40; 19:1-16)
- Herod (Lk. 23:6-12)

- **Crucifixion and burial of Jesus (Mt. 27:32-66; Lk. 23:26-56; Mk. 15:16-47; Jn. 19:17-42)**

13. Resurrection, appearances and ascension of Jesus (Mt. 28:1-20; Mk. 16:1-20; Lk. 24:1-53; Jn. 20:1-31; Acts 1:1-11)

14. Jesus' teachings about Himself

- The Bread of Life and the Living Water (Jn. 4:7-15; 6:25-58)
- The Light of the World (Jn. 1:4-8; 3:19-21; 8:12; 9:1-5; 12:35-36; 1 Jn. 1:5-7)
- The Door, the Lamb and the Good Shepherd (Jn. 1:29-34; 10:1-18)
- The True Vine (Jn. 15:1-11)
- The Resurrection (Jn. 11:25)

15. Love

- God's love for man (Jn. 3:16-18)
- Love for one another (Jn. 13:34-35; 15:12-13; 1 Jn. 4:7-21, 1 Cor 13)

16. Fellowship in the Early Church

- Communal living (Acts 1:15-26; 2:41-47; 4:32-37)

- Problems of communal living and solutions (Acts 5:1-11, 6:1-6)
- 17. The Holy Spirit and the mission of the Church**
 - The Pentecost (Acts 1:8; 2:1-41)
 - The mission of the Church (Acts 8:4-40)
- 18. Opposition to the Gospel message**
 - The arrest and imprisonment of Peter and John (Acts 3; 4:1-22; 5:17-42 12:1-24)
 - The martyrdom of Stephen (Acts 6:8-15; 7)
 - Persecution by Saul (Acts 8:1-3; 9:1-2 cf. Gal. 1:11-17)
 - Persecution of Paul (Acts 16:11-40; 19:23-41; 21:27-36 cf 2 Cor:11:23-33)
- 19. Mission to the Gentiles**
 - Conversion of Saul (Acts 9:1-30; 22:4-21; 26:9-18)
 - Conversion of Cornelius (Acts 10:1-48)
 - The commissioning and mission of Paul (Acts 13; 14:1-20)
 - The Council of Jerusalem (Acts 15:1-35; Gal. 2:1-21)

Section D: Themes from Selected Epistles

1. **Justification by Faith** (Rom. 3:21-24; 5:1-11; 10:1-13; Gal 2:16-21)
2. **The Law and Grace** (Rom. 4:13-25; 5:18-21; Gal. 3:10-14; 19-29; Rom 3:24)
3. **New life in Christ** (Rom. 6:1-4; 12-14; Col. 3:1-17; Gals. 5:16-26; II Cor. 5:16-19; I Thess. 4:1-8; Rom. 12)
4. **Christians as joint heirs with Christ** (Gal. 3:23-29; 4:1-7)
5. **Humility** (Phil. 2:1-11; I Pet. 5:5-11; James 4:10; Matt 23:12)
6. **Forgiveness** (Philemon; II Cor. 2:5-11; Matt 7:14-15)
7. **Spiritual gifts** (I Cor. 12; Rom. 12:3-18; I Cor. 14)
8. **Christian Giving** (Phil. 4:14-20; II Cor. 8:1-5; 9Cf. Matt 6:2-4)
9. **Civic responsibility** (Rom. 13; I Tim. 2:1-4; 1Peter 2:13-17)
10. **Dignity of labour** (II Thess. 3:6-15; Col. 3:23-25; Matt 20:1-16)
11. **The second coming of Christ**
 - The signs of the Coming of Christ (1 Thess. 4:13-18; II Thess. 2:1-12)
 - Preparation for His coming (I Thess. 5:1-11; II Pet. 3:1-13; Matt 25:31-46)
12. **Impartiality** (James 2:1-13; Luke 6:3; Acts 10:34-35; Matt 7:1-5)
13. **Effective prayer** (James 1:2-8; 4:1-3; 5:13-18 cf. Matt 6:5-13)
14. **Christian living in the community**
 - Interpersonal relationships among Christians (I Pet. 5:1-4; Rom. 12:3-21; 2 Pet. 1:3-11; Heb.13:1-21)
 - Christians living among non- Christians (I Pet. 2:3-25; Rom. 15:1-2)
 - Christian attitude to persecution (I Pet. 1:5-9; 4:1-19; 1 Pet. 3:13-22)
 - Relationship in the Christian family (Eph. 6: 1-9; Col. 3:18-21; I Pet. 3:1-7)
15. **Corruption** (1 Tim 6:6-11; 2 Tim 3:8; 2 Pet. 1:4-11; James 5:1-6)
16. **Sexual Immorality**
 - Prostitution (1Cor.6:16-20 cf. Prov.7:10-27;23:27-28)
 - Adultery and Fornication (Heb. 13:4, Eph. 5:3-10 cf. Matt 5:28-32; Deut. 22:22; Lev. 20:10)

- Homosexuality (Rom. 1:24-32 cf. Lev.18:21-30; 20:13)

Recommended texts for CRS

- Adetunji, P.G. et al (2000) *Exam Focus Christian Religious Knowledge* for WASSCE and SSCE Ibadan: University Press Plc.
- Adeyemo, I. O. et al (1998) *Christian Religious Knowledge for Secondary Schools Books 1 – 3*, Ibadan: Onibonoje
- Adeyinka, A. A. et al (1991) *Christian Religious Knowledge for Senior Secondary Schools, Book 1 – 3*, Lagos: Longman.
- Adigwe, H.A et al (2004) *Christian Religious Knowledge for Senior Secondary Schools*. Onitsha. Africana Publishers.
- Aghaeghuna, E. O. N. (1988) *Senior Secondary School Christian Religious Knowledge: Themes from Selected Epistles*, Vol 1 – III, Awka, Jet Publishers.
- Dopamu, A. et al (1990) *Christian Religious Knowledge for Senior Secondary Schools Books 1 – 3*, Lagos: Nelson. Ilori, J. A. et al (1980) *Christian Religious Knowledge for Senior Secondary Schools Books 1 – 3*, Ibadan: Evans.
- Izuchukwu, A.E. et al (1997) *Round-Up for Senior Secondary Certificate Examination Christian Religious Knowledge: A Complete Guide*. Lagos: Longman.
- Throckmorton, B.H, Jr. (ed) (1966) *Gospel Parallels: A Synopsis of the First Three Gospels*. New York; Thomas Nelson. *THE BIBLE: Revised Standard Version*, Stonechill Green: Bible Society Publishing House (1971).

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