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;

- have knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the religious, cultural, historical and social background of the biblical materials prescribed to be studied;
- 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;
- identify difficulties involved in the application of healthy attitudes, concepts and skills acquired from the Bible in ensuring peaceful co-existence and national development;
- 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

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| 1.  | **The Sovereignty of God**  
God, the Creator  
God, the Controller of the universe | Gen. 1; 2 |
| 2.  | **Leadership roles**  
Joseph  
Moses  
Joshua  
(d) Deborah | Gen. 37; 1-28, 41: 1-57, 45: 1-15  
Exodus 1;2;3;4:1-17;5: 1-5, 22-23; 6: 28-30, 7; 1-7; 14;32: 1-14  
Numbers 13:1-33; 14: 1-19  
Numbers 27: 15-23  
Joshua 1: 1-9 |
| 3.  | **Parental Responsibility**  
Eli and Samuel | 1 Sam 2: 11-36; 3:1-18; 4: 10-22; 8: 1-5  
1 Samuel 15: 1-26; 16: 14-23; 31: 1-13 |
| 4.  | **Consequences of Saul’s disobedience** | 1 Sam 26; 2 Sam 12: 15-25 |
| 5.  | **Submission to the will of God**  
David’s submission to the will of God  
David’s sin, repentance and forgiveness | 1 Kings 3: 3-28; 4: 29-34; 5: 1-12; 8 |
| 6.  | **Making Decisions**  
Solomon’s wisdom  
The unwise decision of Solomon and Rehoboam | 1 Kings 9; 15-23; 11: 1-13; 12:1-20  
1 Kings 16: 29-34; 17: 1-7; 18: 1-19  
1 Kings 18: 17-46 |
| 7   | **Supremacy of God**  
Religious tensions during Ahab’s reign  
Elijah at Mount Carmel | 1 Kings 21: 1-29  
2 Kings 5 |
| 8   | **Greed and its effects**  
Ahab  
Gehazi | 2 Kings 22; 23: 1-30  
2 Kings 24; 25;1-17 |
9. The reign of King Josiah

**Concern for one’s Nation**

10. The condition of the nation

Response to the state of the nation

**Faith in God**

11. Faith and courage

Faith and power

**Nature of God**

12. True religion and social justice – Amos

God’s divine love – Hosea

Nehemiah 1; 2: 9-20; 4
Ezra 1; 4; 5: 1-2; 6: 13-22; 7: 1-10

Daniel 3

Daniel 6

Amos 2: 6-8; 4; 5: 1-24; 7: 10-17; 8
Hosea 1; 2; 3; 6

**SECTION B**
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| 1.  | **Baptism and Temptation of Jesus**  
The Baptism  
The Temptation | Matthew 3:13-17  
Mark 1: 9-11; Luke 3: 21-22  
Matthew 4: 1-11;  
| 2.  | **The Call and Demands of Discipleship** | Matthew 4: 18-25; 8: 18-22; 9:9-13;  
| 3.  | **Jesus’ Teaching on forgiveness** | Matthew 6: 12,14-15; 18:21-35 |
| 4.  | **The Trials of Jesus**  
Jesus at Gethsemane  
Peter’s Denials  
Condemnation of Jesus | Matthew 26:36-56; Mk 14: 32-52;  
Matthew 26: 69-75;  
Mark 14: 66-72; Luke 22: 54-62 |
| 5.  | **The Crucifixion, Burial and Resurrection of Jesus**  
Crucifixion and burial  
The Resurrection | Matthew 28:1-10  
| 7.  | **The Holy Spirit and the Mission to the Gentiles**  
The Holy Spirit at Pentecost  
Mission to the Gentiles | Acts 2  
Acts 9; 11:1-18  
SECTION C

Themes from selected Epistles

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<td><strong>The Epistles of James</strong></td>
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<td>Faith and Works</td>
<td>James 1: 2-27; 2:14-26</td>
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<td>Impartiality</td>
<td>James 2:1-13</td>
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<td>Effective Prayers</td>
<td>James 1: 2-8; 5:13-18</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td><strong>The Epistle of 1 Peter</strong></td>
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<td>Good Citizenship</td>
<td>1 Peter 2:13-17</td>
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<td>Christians Living among non-Christians</td>
<td>1 Peter 2:1-25</td>
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<td>Interpersonal Relationship among Christians</td>
<td>1 Peter 5:1-11</td>
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SUGGESTED READING LIST/REFERENCES

1. GENERAL

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

2. (a) OLD TESTAMENT


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
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title and Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pobee, John S</td>
<td>Matthew and Mark for Schools</td>
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