

**Baptist Union of Great Britain**  
**TRAINING FOR LAY PASTORS AND PREACHERS**

**Course Descriptors**

**READING AND USING THE BIBLE**  
**(This is taught over two modules, at the same Teaching Centre)**

***Aims***

The aims of this module are:

- To introduce and differentiate between the different kinds of biblical literature.
- To consider key issues in interpreting biblical texts, including their relationship to their historical context.
- To enable participants to reflect on the meaning of the biblical story for our contemporary context.

***Description***

This module introduces participants to the diversity of biblical literature. It enables them to engage critically with it, relate it to its historical context and explore how their own context affects their reading of the text. By looking at the whole picture and at selected texts, they will have the opportunity to reflect on its meaning for their own lives, the ministry and mission of their churches, and the life of their communities.

***Learning Outcomes***

By the end of this module, participants should be able to demonstrate:

- An understanding of the different ways of reading and using the bible
- An ability to read and interpret texts, with particular attention to their context.
- The significance of the biblical story for the living of our own lives, and for the life and mission of the Church.

***Assessment***

There will be four assignments to be completed. It is expected that at least two of these will be a written piece of work (1200-1500 words) on a theme central to the area of learning covered in this module. The others may be the preparation of a 'journal', to include a variety of ways that illustrate the participant's engagement with the issues covered in this module (eg book review, poetry, case study).