

BGST This Week



BIBLICAL GRADUATE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Issue No. 07

20 – 26 Feb 2012

IMPORTANT NOTICE: REVISION TO BGST COURSE ASSIGNMENTS POLICY

Dear Students,

With effect from **21 Nov 2011**, BGST has implemented the following course assignment policies to encourage our students to complete their assignments within the stipulated deadlines.

Essentially, we are (i) granting an 'amnesty' of 4.5 months for students to submit all previously uncompleted and overdue assignments, no matter how many years they go back; and (ii) introducing a 1- or 3-month deadline for the submission of all future assignments, with the possibility of one further 3-month extension. In more detail:

First, all students with outstanding assignments from courses taken in the **Academic Year (AY) 2010 or earlier** (i.e., courses taken before end Jun 2011) will have up to **31 Mar 2012** to submit their assignments. Thereafter, **all courses with incomplete assignments will be converted from Credit to Audit status**. This conversion, however, will not affect the student's GPA.

Second, for **AY2011 Term 1 and 2 courses (Jul – Dec 2011)** that students have just completed, the usual 1 or 3 months deadline for foreign (full-time) and local students respectively will still apply (please refer to your lecturers for the specific course deadlines). If a student is unable to complete his/ her assignment on time, a further 3 months deadline extension will be granted automatically. In this case, there will not be a penalty for the specific overdue assignment(s). At the end of this deadline extension, however, **no further extensions will be allowed**. The status of the incomplete course will be converted from Credit to Audit. This conversion will not affect the student's GPA.

Third, for courses commencing from **AY2011 Term 3 onwards (i.e., Jan 2012 onwards)**, the 1- and 3-month deadline for foreign (full time) and local students respectively will still apply. After the first deadline, foreign (full time) students will be granted a further of 1 month while local students will be granted a 3 months deadline extension automatically. **The specific overdue assignment, however, will incur a penalty of a 1/3 of a grade deduction**. For example, an overdue essay submitted by the end of the 6th month, will be downgraded from B+ to B. At the end of this deadline extension, **no further extensions will be allowed**. The status of the incomplete course will be converted from Credit to Audit. This conversion will not affect the student's GPA.

It should be pointed out that BGST's policies with regard to submission of assignments are considerably more generous than those of other theological schools in Singapore. We are not introducing these new guidelines out of a desire to put pressure on our students, but because we feel that our lenience in past years may have actually done a disservice to many students, by giving the impression that we are not as concerned as we should be that our students should submit assignments and complete their courses. We want all students to enjoy their studies at BGST; we believe that working at assignments can be one of the most satisfying and useful parts of a student's education; and by introducing these new policies we want to emphasize how important it is to us that students successfully complete their assignments.

Moreover, should there be unavoidable or unexpected circumstances that may prevent you from completing your assignments on time, you can appeal for a course extension and/or a waiver of the penalty by submitting a '*Course Extension Form*' and/or a '*Waiver of Overdue Assignment Penalty Form*' respectively. These forms may be submitted to Ms Lucy Ong at assignments@bgst.edu.sg.

For the submission of assignments and other queries regarding the above policy changes, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Lucy Ong at the email given above.

Philip Satterthwaite,
Principal, BGST

Human Development & Spiritual Formation (ECF501, 3cr)

Day/Time	:	Year 2012, Wednesday, 7.15 – 10.15pm
Dates	:	(<i>New commencement date</i>) Feb 29, Mar 7, 21, 28, Apr 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2
Venue	:	37 Jalan Pemimpin, #06-05 Blk B, Clarus Center, S577177 Tel: 6227-6815
Fees	:	\$375 (for credit); \$260 (by audit)

ABOUT THE LECTURERS

Dr Ng Peh Cheng is an Adjunct Lecturer at BGST. Prior to this she has been a faculty member of BGST and Singapore Bible College. She holds degrees in Theology from SBC (BTh), in Christian Education and Cross-cultural Communications from Wheaton College and Wheaton Graduate School (BA, MA), in Education (Curriculum & Instruction) from Michigan State University (PhD) and in Social Research from the National University of Singapore (Grad Dip). She is the Associate Secretary of the Commission in Accreditation and Educational Development (CAED) with Asia Theological Association. The years of teaching in a government school, churches and theological institutions have given her the knowledge and experience to integrate Scripture with social science research to guide the practice of education in the church and para-church. She is a member of Kampong Kapor Methodist Church.

Ser Choon graduated from Regent College, Vancouver, Canada, where he completed his Master in Theology (Spiritual Theology) under Dr James Houston. His ministry experiences include pastoring a church, serving in mission mobilization with OMF (Singapore), serving as the Dean of Students and teaching courses on Christian Spirituality in the context of local theological institutions. Currently, he is the Director of Trinity Life Centre, a ministry that he started in July 2004. His vision is to serve the Christian community through conducting spiritual retreats, teaching seminars on spiritual formation and holistic Christian living by drawing upon the richness of the spiritual traditions of the Christian Church down through the centuries.

SYNOPSIS

This course examines the relationship between human development, faith development & spiritual growth. The focus is on the implications of this relationship for creating ministry experiences that facilitate Christian maturity.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To provide an overview of selected theories of human development (cognitive, moral, psycho-social, etc.) across the life-span.
2. To interact with these theories and examine their influence on the spiritual formation of persons and doing educational ministry to best promote development.
3. To critique and integrate these theories to form a Biblical understanding of human development and spiritual maturity.

Chapel News

Quek Tze-Ming will be leading a time of prayer on 22 February 2012 for Chapel.

Please note that BGST Chapel will be held at Telok Ayer Chinese Methodist Church (235 Telok Ayer Street) on 29 February 2012 at 12.30pm. Dr Philip Satterthwaite will be leading Chapel and speaking on the topic, "Christianity & Culture." If you are working in town, do consider joining us.

Faculty News

Dr Satterthwaite has had an article on 'Violence in the Bible' published in the most recent edition of *Church and Society in Asia Today* (14.3, for December 2011).

Dr Tay will be teaching on the topic "Worship and the Sacraments" at Telok Ayer Chinese Methodist on 26 February 2012 (10.45am). This is the third in a series of four lectures on the theme, "Roots that Refresh: Appreciating the Protestant Tradition."

Courses Commencing in Terms 3 & 4, 2011-2012

BIBLICAL STUDIES

New Testament Foundations II ***(NT102, 3cr) (MCS/MDiv core)***

Mar 2, 9, 23, 30, Apr 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18
(Fri, 7.15-10.15pm)

Venue: [Clarus Centre](#)

Lecturer: Dr Oh Boon Leong

Old Testament

The Gospel According to Moses: A Study of Deuteronomy (OT 351, 1.5cr)

Mar 12, 13, 14, 15, 16; (7.15 – 10.15pm)

Venue: [Clarus Centre](#)

Overseas Guest Lecturer: Dr Daniel Block

Ezekiel (OT367, 1.5cr);(Group Tutorial)

by Dr Daniel Block/Tutor: Dr Andrew Lee

Apr 13, 20, 27, May 4; (Fri, 7.15-9.15pm)

Venue: [Prinsep St Presbyterian Church](#)

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Human Development & Spiritual Formation ***(ECF501, 3cr)***

(New commencement date) Feb 29, Mar 7, 21, 28, Apr 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2; (Wed, 7.15-10.15pm)

Venue: [Clarus Centre](#)

Lecturer: Dr Ng Peh Cheng & Mr John Chong Ser Choon

Spirituality for Christian Formation ***(ECF503, 3cr)***

Mar 27, Apr 3, 10, 17, 24, May 8, 15, 29, Jun 5, 12; (Tue, 7.15-10.15pm);

Venue: [Telok Ayer CMC](#)

Lecturer: Mr Chong Ser Choon

COUNSELLING, PREACHING & TEACHING

The Craft of Teaching (ECF511, 1.5cr)

Mar 19, 26, Apr 2, 9, 16 (Mon, 7.15-10.15pm)

Venue: [Clarus Centre](#)

Lecturer: Dr Ng Peh Cheng

The course schedule for Semester 2, year 2011-2012 is now available.

For more information, please visit our website:

<http://bgst.edu.sg/courses-and-events>