

JAMB Christian Religious Studies (CRS) Syllabus

Last Updated: 2025

General Objectives

1. Acquire knowledge of the fundamental principles of Christianity as contained in the Bible;
2. Develop the fear of God and obedience to His commandments;
3. Attain moral and spiritual values for the development of individuals and the society;
4. Apply the teachings of Christianity to solve personal, social, economic and political problems.

A. THEMES FROM CREATION TO THE DIVISION OF THE KINGDOM

The Sovereignty of God

Content:

- 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

Learning Objectives:

1. define the term 'sovereignty'
2. analyze God's process of creation
3. interpret the sequence of creation
4. identify man's role in advancing God's purpose in creation

The Covenant

Content:

- 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)

Learning Objectives:

1. explain the concept of covenant
2. examine the importance and implication of the covenants
3. distinguish between God's covenants with Noah, Abraham and Israel
4. Distinguish between the old and the new covenants

The Call of Abraham

Content:

- Abraham's background (Gen. 11:31-32)
- The call (Gen. 12:1-9)
- The covenant (Gen. 12:1-3; 15:1-21; 17:1-22)
- The test of faith (Gen. 22:1-19)

Learning Objectives:

1. identify the background of Abraham's call
2. explain the significance of Abraham's call
3. analyze the nature of the covenant with Abraham
4. determine the significance of the test of faith

B. THEMES FROM THE DIVISION OF THE KINGDOM TO THE RETURN FROM EXILE

The Reign of King David

Content:

- David's anointing (1 Sam. 16:1-13)
- David's victory over Goliath (1 Sam. 17)
- David's flight from Saul (1 Sam. 18-30)
- David's reign in Hebron (2 Sam. 2:1-4)
- David's reign in Jerusalem (2 Sam. 5-6)
- The Davidic covenant (2 Sam. 7:1-17)

Learning Objectives:

1. identify the circumstances of David's anointing
2. analyze David's victory over Goliath
3. examine David's relationship with Saul
4. determine the significance of David's reign in Hebron and Jerusalem
5. explain the Davidic covenant

The Prophets and Their Messages

Content:

- Amos and social justice (Amos 2-5)
- Isaiah and divine holiness (Isaiah 6)
- Jeremiah and the new covenant (Jeremiah 31)
- Ezekiel and the valley of dry bones (Ezekiel 37)

Learning Objectives:

1. explain the role of prophets in Israel
2. identify the messages of major prophets
3. apply prophetic messages to contemporary society

C. THEMES FROM THE FOUR GOSPELS AND ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

The Birth and Early Life of Jesus

Content:

- The Annunciation (Luke 1:26-38)
- The Birth of Jesus (Luke 2:1-20)
- The Childhood of Jesus (Luke 2:41-52)

Learning Objectives:

1. interpret the birth narratives of Jesus
2. explain the significance of Jesus' early life

The Ministry of Jesus

Content:

- The Baptism and Temptation (Matthew 3-4)
- The Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7)
- Miracles of Jesus (healing, nature, raising the dead)
- Parables of Jesus (kingdom, love, prayer)

Learning Objectives:

1. explain the significance of Jesus' baptism and temptation
2. interpret the Sermon on the Mount
3. analyze the miracles and parables of Jesus

The Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus

Content:

- The Last Supper (Matthew 26:17-29)
- The Trial and Crucifixion (Matthew 26-27)
- The Resurrection and Appearances (Matthew 28; Luke 24; John 20-21)
- The Ascension (Acts 1:1-11)

Learning Objectives:

1. examine the events of the passion and death of Jesus
2. explain the significance of the resurrection
3. relate the ascension to the mission of the Church

D. THEMES FROM SELECTED EPISTLES

Paul's Epistles

Content:

- Romans: Righteousness by faith (Romans 1:16-17; 3:21-26)
- Ephesians: The Church as the body of Christ (Eph. 1:3-14; 4:1-16)
- Philippians: Joy in suffering (Phil. 1:12-30; 4:4-9)
- 1 John: Love and fellowship (1 John 1:1-7; 4:7-21)

Learning Objectives:

1. explain the theological themes in Paul's epistles
2. apply the teachings of Paul to contemporary Christian life
3. analyze the significance of the church in Pauline theology

The Teaching on Christian Living

Content:

- Love (1 Cor. 13)
- The fruits of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23)
- The gifts of the Spirit (1 Cor. 12:1-11)
- Marriage and family life (Eph. 5:22-33; Col. 3:18-21)

Learning Objectives:

1. explain the nature and importance of Christian love
2. identify the fruits of the Spirit and their significance
3. determine the proper use of spiritual gifts
4. apply biblical teachings to marriage and family life

Recommended Textbooks

1. Adeniyi, A. (2000). New Testament History and Literature. Ibadan: Spectrum Books.
2. Adeyemo, T. (2006). The Bible for Daily Living. Lagos: Scripture Union.
3. Biblical Staff (2001). The Bible (New International Version). Grand Rapids: Zondervan.
4. Guthrie, D. (1970). New Testament Introduction. London: Inter-Varsity Press.
5. Mbiti, J.S. (1992). The New Testament: An Introduction. Ibadan: Daystar Press.
6. Olowu, J. (2005). Christian Religious Studies for Senior Secondary Schools. Ibadan: Evans Brothers.