

Master of Arts - Biblical Literature

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(Old Testament and New Testament Emphases)

The Master of Arts (Biblical Literature) with Old Testament and New Testament emphases is a 54-credit curriculum that builds upon a strong foundation in biblical studies. In addition to course study, students must sit for a comprehensive examination to satisfy the summative experience requirement of the degree. Students should consult their faculty advisor for important procedures and schedule of deadlines.

Please Note: Comprehensive Exams are required to assess the student's understanding of the broader information and issues in the field of Old or New Testament study. Students must obtain the questions that cover this material from their M.A. faculty advisor no later than the semester preceding the intended semester of graduation.

Purpose

The purpose of the M.A. (Biblical Literature) degree with Old Testament & New Testament emphases is to provide students with a sufficient biblical and theological foundation for continuing research at the doctoral level and other professionally-related opportunities.

Student Learning Goals

- Students will build a historical and cultural framework for interpreting the Bible in general and their testament of emphasis in particular.
- Students will gain a command of the formation, content, and critical questions related to the literature of their testament of emphasis.
- Students will be able to trace the development of biblical theology as a discipline and to understand recent theological approaches to their testament of emphasis.
- Students will be able to employ solid exegetical and hermeneutical methodology in interpreting the text of their testament of emphasis. Students must demonstrate a solid grasp of biblical language in the above.

Program Assessment Plan

The following assessments are used to assess program effectiveness.

Assessment	Context	Location in Program
1. Theological Essays	TH601 Systematic Theology 1	First Year
2. Exegesis Final Paper	OT/NT 604 Hebrew/Greek Exegesis	Second Year
3. Comprehensive Examination: Summative Project & Exit Interview	OT/NT/TH 799 Comprehensive Examination	Final Semester

General Prerequisites

1. A baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university.
2. A minimum grade point average of 2.5.

Degree Requirements

1. Satisfactory completion of 54 credit hours for the designated program*.
2. A final grade point average of 2.5 is required.
3. Transfer students must take the last 30 credits at ATS.
4. Successful completion of the comprehensive examination
5. Complete payment of all financial obligations with ATS.
6. All credits applied must have been earned within 10 years of awarding the degree.

Old Testament Emphasis

First Year

OT 506	Biblical Hebrew I: Elements	3
OT 503	Reading the Old Testament*	3
TH 601	Systematic Theology I: God & Humanity	3
SF 505	Pers/Prof/Theol Foundations for Ministry	3
OT 507	Biblical Hebrew II: Readings.....	3

NT 503	Reading the New Testament*	3
TH 602	Systematic Theology II: Christ & the Church	3
TH 605	History of Christianity.....	3
Old Testament Elective		3

Second Year

OT 504	Hebrew Bible & the Eastern Mediterranean World	3
OT 610	Old Testament Theology	3
OT 742 or 755	Psalms or Amos (Hebrew text).....	3
OT 604	Biblical Hebrew III: Exegesis	3
OT 720	Pentateuch (Hebrew text)	3
Old Testament Elective		3
Old Testament Elective		3
New Testament or Theology Elective.....		3
OT 799	Comprehensive Exam	3

New Testament Emphasis

First Year

NT 506	New Testament Greek I: Elements.....	3
OT 503	Reading the Old Testament*	3
SF 505	Pers/Prof/Theol Foundations for Ministry	3
TH 601	Systematic Theology I: God & Humanity	3
NT 507	New Testament Greek II: Readings.....	3
NT 503	Reading the New Testament*	3
TH 602	Systematic Theology II: Christ & the Church	3
TH 605	History of Christianity.....	3
New Testament Elective		3

Second Year

NT 611	New Testament Theology.....	3
NT 721 or 723	Matthew or Luke (Greek text)	3
NT 731 or 735	Romans or Galatians (Greek text)	3
NT 604	New Testament Greek III: Exegesis	3
NT 504	Greek Bible & the Western Mediterranean World.....	3
New Testament Elective		3
New Testament Elective		3
Old Testament or Theology Elective		3
NT 799	Comprehensive Exam	3