**MASTER OF ARTS DEGREES**

Alliance Theological Seminary offers biblically-grounded Master of Arts degrees. A requirement of the program is a summative exercise that demonstrates a comprehensive knowledge of the content/methodology of the chosen field of study.

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

**Master of Arts - Biblical Literature**
*Glen Shellrude, Ph.D., Director*

The M.A. (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. A second, non-language track is offered under the New Testament emphasis with the purpose of providing students with an enhanced understanding of biblical and theological studies for personal and/or pedagogical enrichment.

**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. (Language track students must demonstrate a solid grasp of biblical language in the above.)

**Program Assessment Plan**
The following assessments are used to assess program effectiveness.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Context</th>
<th>Location in Program</th>
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<td>1. Comprehensive Examination / Integrative Summative Project</td>
<td>NT / OT 799</td>
<td>Final semester</td>
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**Degree Requirements**
1. Satisfactory completion of 54 credit hours for the MA (Biblical Literature) and the MA in Intercultural Studies. A final grade point average of 2.5 or higher is required. Transfer students must take a minimum of 30 credit hours at ATS.
2. Passing grade of 85% on the Bible Tutor Proficiency Exam within the first two semesters of the program (see Bible Tutor Program).
4. Approval by faculty.
5. Complete payment of all financial obligations with ATS.

*The Bible Tutor Exam is not required at the Puerto Rico campus.

Old Testament Emphasis

First Year
OT 506  Biblical Hebrew I: Elements .......................... 3
OT 503  Reading the Old Testament (SUB: any OT course)* ... 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 (SUB: any NT course)*. 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 (SUB: any OT course)* ... 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 (SUB: any NT course)*. 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
**New Testament Emphasis (Non-language track)**

**First Year**
- OT 503  Reading the Old Testament (SUB: any OT course)*  ...  3
- OT 642 or 655  Psalms or Amos (English text) ........................................  3
- SF 505  Pers/Prof/Theol Foundations for Ministry .....................  3
- TH 601  Systematic Theology I: God & Humanity ......................  3
- NT 503  Reading the New Testament (SUB: any NT course)*  .  3
- NT 505  Hermeneutics ..........................................................  3
- OT 620  Pentateuch (English text) .............................................  3
- TH 602  Systematic Theology II: Christ & the Church .......  3
- TH 605  History of Christianity .............................................  3

**Second Year**
- OT 504  Hebrew Bible & the Eastern Mediterranean World ..  3
- NT 621 or 623  Matthew or Luke (English text) .......................  3
- NT 631 or 635  Romans or Galatians (English text) ....................  3
- NT 504  Greek Bible & the Western Mediterranean World .......  3
- Old Testament or New Testament Book Study .......................  3
- Old Testament or New Testament Book Study .......................  3
- Old Testament Elective ..........................................................  3
- New Testament Elective ..........................................................  3
- NT 799  Integrative Summative Project ...............................  3