

MASTER OF ARTS IN BIBLICAL LITERATURE ADVANCED LANGUAGES CONCENTRATION

This degree is designed to prepare students for service in professional contexts, particularly careers in teaching, curriculum development, writing, missions outreach, and further academic study at the doctoral level.

Students learn to develop their linguistic abilities as they enhance their biblical language skills and acquire proficiency in cognate languages for biblical literature. The Advanced Languages Concentration develops tools of philology for better understanding the biblical languages and their cognate languages. A methodology of comparative linguistics is established as students master additional languages for biblical research. Studies include a variety of ancient Semitic languages.

The objectives of the Master of Arts in Biblical Literature with a concentration in Advanced Languages are to:

- Prepare students to identify and examine the major OT themes and formulate a coherent OT theology
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- Enable students to acquire proficiency in the use of Hebrew and Greek for the accurate translation and exegesis of the OT/NT
- Enable students to acquire proficiency in additional language(s) of the biblical era
- Prepare students to integrate coursework and knowledge of languages and critical exegetical methods for writing a thesis in the concentration of Advanced Languages

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I chose the MA in Biblical Literature with a concentration in Advanced Languages as a foundation for further PhD studies in Biblical Literature. The Biblical Literature degree at ORU requires the training in biblical languages, as well as in a thorough understanding of the literature and cultural context surrounding the biblical text, whose importance cannot be overstated. The vast academic knowledge of the theology professors, mixed with their spiritual wisdom and counsel, has guided me in my relationship with God and is preparing me for my future endeavors as an educator. (C.M.)

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- Promote a biblical-theological understanding of the person, work, and ministry of the Holy Spirit
- Enable students to articulate clearly their ministry/professional calling

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university or a college recognized by The Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE). Applicants whose degree is in a field other than Bible or Biblical Studies are required to complete up to 27 credit hours of prerequisite courses in addition to the degree requirements
- Cumulative undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 or higher
- For those whose language of instruction was not English, Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score of 550 paper-based, 213 computer-based, 79-80 internet-based or the IELTS (minimum band score of 7.0), and submit a score within the past two years

PREREQUISITES (24-27 CREDIT HOURS)

- Required for those who did not have biblical/theological courses in their undergraduate program

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS (52.5 CREDIT HOURS)

- ORU Distinctive Courses (3.5 credit hours)
- Assessments (1 credit hour)
- Advanced Language Cognate (36 credit hours)
- Theological/Historical Electives (12 credit hours)

ACCREDITATION

- Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada (ATS)
- The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association (NCA) of Colleges and Schools

Detailed information is available at gradtheology.oru.edu