

MASTER OF ARTS BIBLICAL LITERATURE

This program is structured to inform the student of the broad spectrum of hermeneutical and exegetical perspectives, tools, and methods to interpret biblical content responsibly and perceptively. In order to better interpret Old and New Testament content, the curriculum helps students develop a working knowledge of biblical languages.

The objectives of the Master of Arts in Biblical Literature are to:

- Provide students with a basic knowledge of biblical languages (Hebrew/Greek) for accurate translation of Scripture
- Instruct students to employ critical methods of exegesis from an informed theological-hermeneutical perspective for sound interpretation of the text
- Prepare students to identify and examine the major OT themes and formulate a coherent OT theology
- Prepare students to identify and examine the major NT themes and formulate a coherent NT theology
- Enable students to relate the critical study of Scripture in its cultural context to selected contemporary contexts
- Prepare students to use biblical critical tools and methods and to integrate coursework in the writing of an advanced research MA thesis in OT/NT
- Promote a biblical-theological understanding of the person, work, and ministry of the Holy Spirit
- Enable students to articulate clearly their ministry/professional calling
- Enable students to demonstrate academic expertise in a specialized area of OT/NT studies and to integrate knowledge of Biblical background, content, themes, and cognate texts in a coherent OT/NT theology for contemporary application in ministry/vocation

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university or a college recognized by the 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 21 credit hours of prerequisite courses in addition to the degree requirements
- Cumulative undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 or higher
- Miller Analogies Test (MAT) minimum score of 396 or Graduate Record Exam (GRE) minimum combined score of 900 for verbal and quantitative sections
- 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 (18-21 CREDIT HOURS)

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS (52 CREDIT HOURS)

- ORU Requirements (7 credit hours)
- Biblical Literature Concentration Studies (33 credit hours)
- Theological/Historical Cognate (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: www.gradtheology.oru.edu