

# Master of Arts BIBLICAL STUDIES

With the Reformers, we cry, “Sola scriptura,” acknowledging that Scripture alone is our authority over the life of faith. As students prepare for both ecclesiastical and secular vocations, we believe there is no better foundation than a thorough knowledge of God’s Word. At Westminster Seminary California, the study of Scripture is founded upon an understanding of the biblical languages, Greek and Hebrew, equipping graduates with the tools to study the Bible in the language of its authors, thus enhancing their ability to properly exegete and apply the Word of God.

Women and men develop understanding and skills in interpreting the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments through the Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) program. Graduates should be able to apply their knowledge of the biblical languages, historical circumstances, and literary and theological interrelationships to exegete Scripture accurately. They should also analyze contemporary trends in biblical interpretation with discernment. Graduates of this program are prepared to pursue graduate research programs in Old or New Testament studies; or, with further practical training, to use their biblical knowledge in such ministries as teaching, missions, counseling, or lay church leadership. This program is not meant to prepare candidates for ordination to the ministry of the Word. The degree is conferred upon the completion of the prescribed program, which requires two years of full-time study or a longer period of part-time study. The courses prescribed for this emphasis should be followed in the sequence indicated in the chart on the following page.



## PURPOSES

- Enable students to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to correctly interpret the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments
- Prepare students to read and exegete the Greek and Hebrew text
- Prepare graduates for graduate research opportunities in Old or New Testament studies; or, with further practical training, to use their biblical knowledge in such ministries as teaching, missions, counseling, or lay church leadership

## OBJECTIVES

- Apply knowledge of the biblical languages, historical circumstances, and literary and theological interrelationships to exegete Scripture accurately
- Analyze contemporary trends in biblical interpretation with discernment

## ALUMNI TESTIMONIAL

*“The Biblical Studies program at WSC offered me an experience akin to watching a black and white movie in full color for the first time. I gained new eyes that recognize Christ in all of Scripture and new ears that hear his story as the answer to life’s ultimate questions.”*

**BRENDA JUNG, M.A.B.S.**

## MASTER OF ARTS: BIBLICAL STUDIES COURSE REQUIREMENTS

<b>26 Credits</b> Biblical Studies <b>2 Credits</b> Church History <b>2 Credits</b> Historical Theology <b>10 Credits</b> Systematics & Apologetics <sup>2</sup>	<b>1 Credit</b> Practical Theology <b>10 Credits</b> Elective <b>51 Credits</b> Total Degree Units <b>72 Credits</b> Total Credits Including Propaedeutic <sup>3</sup>
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		FIRST YEAR			SECOND YEAR			
		CREDITS	CODE	COURSE NAME	CREDITS	CODE	COURSE NAME	
SUMMER		4	NT400	Greek I				
		<b>4</b>	<b>Total Summer Credits</b>					
FALL		3	NT401	Greek II	4	NT601	Gospels & Acts	
		3	OT400	Hebrew I	2	NT701	General Epistles & Revelation	
		1	PT400	Grad. Theo. Writing <sup>1</sup>	2	OT403	Hebrew IV	
		1	PT502	Theo. Bibliography	3	OT600	Pentateuch	
		4	ST501	Intro to Theology and Apologetics	3	OT701	Psalms & Wisdom	
					3		ELECTIVE	
		<b>12</b>	<b>Total Fall Credits</b>			<b>17</b>	<b>Total Fall Credits</b>	
WINTER		1	NT402	Greek III	4		ELECTIVE	
		1	OT401	Hebrew II				
		2		ELECTIVE				
		<b>4</b>	<b>Total Winter Credits</b>			<b>4</b>	<b>Total Winter Credits</b>	
SPRING		2	NT403	Greek IV	2	HT/ST615	Reformed Conf. & Catechism	
		3	NT500	NT Interpretation	3	NT602	Pauline Epistles	
		4	OT402	Hebrew III	3	OT601	Historical Books	
		2	OT500	Biblical Theology & Canon	3	OT702	Prophetical Books	
		3		ELECTIVE	6		ELECTIVE	
		<b>14</b>	<b>Total Spring Credits</b>			<b>17</b>	<b>Total Spring Credits</b>	
		15	Total Degree Credits			36	Total Degree Credits	
		34	Total with Propaedeutic <sup>3</sup>			38	Total with Propaedeutic <sup>3</sup>	

<sup>1</sup> May be waived, see page 72.

<sup>2</sup> At least 6 credit hours of electives must be taken in systematic theology. Students must take either ST602 or ST701 to complete this requirement.

<sup>3</sup> Credit hours required in Hebrew, Greek, and writing are not included in the degree units as they are considered propaedeutic.