

BIBLICAL & THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

Department of **BIBLICAL & THEOLOGICAL STUDIES**

Mission Statement

University of Northwestern puts the Lord Jesus Christ and His Word at the center of all activities. The Scriptures are the integrating core for all academic programs. This commitment means that (1) the Bible is the most urgent concern of persons who study and work at the university, (2) the Bible provides answers to some of humanity's basic questions and establishes a theological frame of reference for education at the university and (3) the Bible defines principles and standards for determining the purpose for which all learning is to be used.

Therefore, the purpose of the Department of Biblical & Theological Studies is to promote the central place of the Scriptures as the theological frame of reference for the curriculum. The department seeks to teach students the Bible as “the whole counsel of God,” focused on the Lord Jesus Christ and to train them to interpret and apply biblical content; to help students develop a life submitted to Christ and ordered by biblical ethics so that they can be steadfast spiritually in the midst of life's incongruities and trials; to equip students to develop a biblical worldview; to expose students to ministry in the church and to the world; and to enhance a climate of love and respect for one another in the learning environment.

Zondervan/University of Northwestern Awards

With the intent of inspiring students in their studies, Zondervan Publishing House initiated annual award programs to recognize outstanding achievement in the study of biblical Greek, biblical Hebrew and theology. University of Northwestern has entered into a participation agreement with Zondervan, according to which the Biblical & Theological Studies Department establishes selection criteria and the university presents these awards at the yearly Honors Convocation. The winners receive the prize of a Zondervan product, a commemorative item and the recognition of having his/her name engraved on a perpetual plaque displayed in the Berntsen Library. Northwestern has an additional Ancient & Classical Languages Award for an advanced language student each year. For more information, contact the chairperson of the Department of Biblical & Theological Studies.

Accelerated (Dual Degree) Graduate Program

Undergraduate students in our department may apply to add a graduate degree with as little as one additional year of study.

Accelerated MATS

The department offers an accelerated pathway from the Biblical and Theological Studies major into the Master of Arts in Theological Studies (MATS). Students will save time and tuition by integrating two existing programs. Overlapping credits are applied toward both the undergraduate degree and graduate degree. Students complete 14 credits of graduate coursework within their undergraduate major. After graduating with their B.A. degree, students then complete the remaining 22 graduate credits in the evening or online. Accelerated graduate program requirements are listed following the Biblical and Theological Studies major description.

This B.A./MATS program is designed to prepare men and women for ministry in a church, para-church, or academic setting. Students complete advanced courses in theological methods, biblical interpretation, theology, and biblical languages.

The program may culminate with the writing of an optional thesis guided by a faculty mentor that contributes to one of three fields of study: Old Testament Studies, New Testament Studies, or Theological Studies. By the end of this program, students will have improved skills in research, critical thinking, project management, and writing. This preparation is especially helpful for students who are considering doctoral studies.

The total program requires 147 credits (125 credits for the B.A., 22 remaining credits for the MATS). Upon completion of all undergraduate requirements, the B.A. in Biblical & Theological Studies is awarded. This B.A. degree must be completed prior to enrollment in the MATS program. Upon completion of the remaining graduate requirements, the MATS degree is awarded. B.A. requirements are specified on pages 47–48 (40 credits must be in 3000- or 4000-level courses).

Policies

Students wishing to enroll in the accelerated M.A. in Theological Studies program must first be admitted to UNW and then apply for the accelerated program through the Biblical & Theological Studies Department during or after their sophomore year. Graduate-level courses taken within the undergraduate program must be completed with a grade of C or better in order to fulfill graduate degree requirements. Upon completion of the undergraduate degree, students apply to Graduate Studies and then complete the remainder of their graduate degree. Requirements for the MATS are listed in the graduate school catalog.

Biblical & Theological Studies Major Bachelor of Arts

The Biblical & Theological Studies major is designed to provide in-depth study and preparation in Bible and related areas and subjects. It is intended for students who wish to pursue graduate studies in preparation for teaching, for those who desire a solid pre-seminary program, or for persons who wish to gain a high proficiency in biblical studies. The degree is granted upon completion of credits specified on pages 47–48 (40 credits must be in 3000- or 4000-level courses).

- **Biblical Thinking & Living** theology requirement in core curriculum: BIB4360 or 4825.

Required Courses	28 cr	Select from the following	6 cr
BIB4365	Historical Theology 4	Courses with ACL, BIA, BIB, or PHI prefixes*	
BIB4460	Biblical Theology 4	ICS2015	World Religions 4
BIB4835	Seminar in Theological Method [OCE] 4	ICS3215	Contemporary Religious Movements 2
BIA3235	Second Temple Judaism 4	LIN2226	Introduction to Linguistics. 4
BIA3236	Biblical Customs and Geography 4	LTH4155	Literary Theory 2
BIA4837	Seminar in Exegetical Method [WCE] 4	MCH3125	Theology of Worship 2
HIS3125	History of the Christian Church from Apostolic Times to the Present. 4	MIN1007	Ministry Foundations 4
		PAS4305	Communicating the Biblical Message 4
		Foreign Language	16 cr
		ACL2001	Elementary Greek I 4
		ACL2002	Elementary Greek II 4
		ACL3201	Intermediate Greek I 4
		ACL3202	Intermediate Greek II 4

WCE = WRITTEN COMMUNICATION EMPHASIS.
 OCE = ORAL COMMUNICATION EMPHASIS.
 SEE PAGE 48 FOR EXPLANATION AND PREREQUISITES.

* MAY NOT INCLUDE COURSES USED TO MEET CORE CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS.

Course Requirements for Accelerated Biblical and Theological Studies/MATS

Students who are accepted into the accelerated MATS program will substitute the following graduate-level courses into the undergraduate degree to fulfill major or core curriculum requirements.

- **Biblical Thinking & Living** theology requirement in core curriculum: BIB4360 or 4825.

Undergraduate Courses	16 cr	Graduate Courses	14 cr
BIA3235	Second Temple Judaism 4	BIA5015U	Biblical Hermeneutics. 4
BIA3236	Biblical Customs and Geography 4	BIA5021U	Apologetics 2
BIB4365	Historical Theology 4	BIB6312U	Biblical Theology of the Old and New Testaments . . 4
BIB4835	Seminar in Theological Method [OCE] 4	HIS5019U	History of Christianity 4
		Foreign Languages	24 cr
		ACL2001	Elementary Greek I 4
		ACL2002	Elementary Greek II 4
		ACL2011	Classical Hebrew I 4
		ACL2012	Classical Hebrew II 4
		ACL3201	Intermediate Greek I 4
		ACL3202	Intermediate Greek II [WCE] 4

Ancient & Classical Languages Minor 16 cr

Required Courses: ACL3201, 3202; 8 additional credits of courses with ACL prefix excluding ACL2001 and 2002.

BIBLICAL & THEOLOGICAL STUDIES**Science and Theology Minor 20 cr**

- **Two courses (8 credits)** with BIO, CHE, PHY, or SCI prefix
- **8 credits selected from** BIA/BIB prefix (2–4 credits); BIO4841 (2–4 cr); BIO4995 (2–4 credits); PHI3035; PHI3805 (Topics); SCI1008; one additional BIO-, CHE-, PHY-, or SCI-prefix course (4 credits)
- **SCI3037**

Bible (Second Major)

This is not a stand-alone major and exists only and explicitly as a second major for current Traditional Undergraduate and Dual Enrollment students. See page 44.

Required Courses 30 cr

BIA1007	Christian Thinking & Living (or BIB1826 Honors)	. 2
BIA1015	Interpreting Scripture (or BIA1827 Honors)	. 2
BIB2005	Survey of the Old Testament (or BIB2827 Honors)	. 4
BIB2008	Survey of the New Testament (or BIB2826 Honors)	. 2
	Theological Philosophy (see page 42)	. 4
	Bible Exposition	. 10

Students may also apply any of the following language courses to this category: ACL2001, 2002, 2011, 2012, 3201, 3202

Select one of the following:

BIB4360	Systematic Theology (or BIB4825 Honors)	. . . . . 4
BIB4365	Historical Theology	. . . . . 4
BIB4460	Biblical Theology	. . . . . 4

Students may apply 2 credits from the following Leadership (LDR) courses or select 2 additional credits with any BIB or BIA prefix.

LDR1015	Leadership for Transformation (or LDR1825 Honors)	. 4
LDR4425	Leading with Courage and Calling (or LDR4825 Honors)	. 2

Bible Minor 16 cr

Required Courses: BIA1007 (or BIA1826); BIA1015 (or BIA1827); BIB2005 (or BIB2827); BIB2008 (or BIB2826); Theological Philosophy course (see page 42) (2 cr); BIB4360 (or BIB4825) or BIB4365 or BIB4460.

Philosophy Major Bachelor of Arts

The Philosophy major is designed to develop capacities and desires for sustained and careful thinking about fundamental questions regarding the world and life and for extended critical conversation regarding others' worldviews, the truth of basic beliefs and logical relations between beliefs. It is also designed to develop a set of skills needed for these. All of this is rooted in a background of historic Christian theology, in particular the basic truth that God is acting according to plan for his purpose in Christ. Students completing this major will, therefore, possess intellectual abilities important for life as a whole, beyond the knowledge and skills required for any particular profession. The degree is granted upon completion of credits specified on pages 47–48 (40 credits must be in 3000- or 4000-level courses).

- **Theological Philosophy** requirement in core curriculum: PHI2055.

Required Courses 24 cr

PHI2006	Fundamentals of Logic	. . . . . 2
PHI2016	Ethics	. . . . . 4
PHI2055	Introduction to Theological Philosophy (SEE THEOLOGICAL PHILOSOPHY REQUIREMENT ABOVE)	. . . . . 4
PHI3025	Philosophy of Religion [WCE]	. . . . . 4
PHI3035	Metaphysics	. . . . . 2
PHI3057	Christian Apologetics	. . . . . 2
PHI3145	The Nature of Knowledge [OCE]	. . . . . 2
PHIX805	Topics in Philosophy	. . . . . 4

Select two of the following:

PHI3011	History of Philosophy: Ancient	. . . . . 2
PHI3012	History of Philosophy: Medieval	. . . . . 2
PHI3013	History of Philosophy: Modern	. . . . . 2
PHI3014	History of Philosophy: Contemporary	. . . . . 2

Select from the following 8 cr

Must select at least one PHI-prefix course

Any course with PHI prefix*		
ART3365	Aesthetics	. . . . . 2
BIB4835	Seminar in Theological Method	. . . . . 4
LTH4155	Literary Theory	. . . . . 2
PSY4306	History and Philosophy of Psychology	. . . . . 4
SCI3037	Science and Theology	. . . . . 4

Foreign Language 8 cr

Must achieve second semester of first-year language sequence or higher. See page 45.

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SEE PAGE 48 FOR EXPLANATION AND PREREQUISITES.

*MAY NOT INCLUDE COURSES USED TO MEET CORE CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

Philosophy Minor 16 cr

Required Courses: Select 16 credits from PHI-prefix courses.

Associate of Arts & Bible (60 cr)

The Associate of Arts and Bible program is designed to prepare the graduate for transfer to an upper-level degree program at Northwestern or another institution. The degree is granted upon completion of 60 credits as specified here. Students complete credits from Northwestern's Core Curriculum with a focus on biblical studies.

Biblical Thinking & Living 20 cr

- BIA1007 Christian Thinking & Living (or BIB1826 Honors) .2
 BIA1015 Interpreting Scripture (or BIA1827 Honors) or
 MIN2016 Biblical Interpretation for Study2
 BIB2005 Survey of the Old Testament (or BIB2827 Honors) .4
 BIB2008 Survey of the New Testament (or BIB2826 Honors) .2
 Theological Philosophy (see page 42)2

Select one of the following:

- BIB4360 Systematic Theology (or BIB4825 Honors)4
 BIB4365 Historical Theology4
 BIB4460 Biblical Theology4

Select additional BIB, BIA, or ACL credits4

Leadership & Professionalism 4 cr

- LDR1015 Leadership for Transformation (or LDR1825 Honors) .4

Effective Communication 7 cr

- ENG1105 Composition (or ENG1825 Honors)4
 SPE1075 Public Speaking (or SPE1825 Honors)3

Critical Thinking & Information Literacy 2 cr

- ENG2205 Critical Thinking & Writing (or ENG2825 Honors) . . .2

Cultural & Global Engagement 6 cr

- HIS1005 Historical Perspectives on Culture, Belief
 & Civilization (or HIS1825 Honors)4
 Approved Cultural & Global Engagement Course or Modern
 World Language2

Creative Expression 4 cr

Art, Music, Theater, Film, Literature (select from list on page 43)

A MAXIMUM OF 2 CREDITS IN MUSIC ENSEMBLES OR THE1045 MAY APPLY

Scientific & Quantitative Literacy 8 cr

Mathematics, Natural Science, Social Science

MUST INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE MATHEMATICS AND ONE NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE

Selectives 9 cr

Select any 1000-level or higher courses to bring the total credits earned to at least 60.

Certificate in Bible (30 cr)

The certificate in Bible is designed for those desiring concentrated training in the Word of God. It assists students to become established in the faith, rooted and grounded in the Word and fortified with answers to humanity's primary questions regarding life's purpose and destiny. It provides tools for continuing Bible study and for effective Christian witness. It is of value to professionals seeking a concentrated study of the Bible to support both personal and professional ministry roles.

Required Competency

Competency in reading and composition must be demonstrated in one of four ways. Any credits earned to demonstrate competency do not count as part of the 30 credits needed for the certificate.

1. By English coursework successfully completed at another college or university
2. By scoring high enough on a CLEP English composition examination to qualify for ENG1105 credit according to University of Northwestern credit-by-exam criteria.
3. By an ACT English or ACT English/Writing score of 25 or higher or an SAT Writing and Language score of 32 or higher.
4. If none of the above methods apply, by completing ENG1105* (or ENG1825 Honors). Additionally, as student may be required to complete RDG0009 and/or ENG0009.

*NON-NATIVE SPEAKERS OF ENGLISH MAY SUBSTITUTE LAN1105 FOR ENG1105.

Required Courses 30 cr

- BIA1007 Christian Thinking & Living (or BIB1826 Honors) .2
 BIA1015 Interpreting Scripture (or BIA1827 Honors)2
 BIB2005 Survey of the Old Testament (or BIB2827 Honors) .4
 BIB2008 Survey of the New Testament (or BIB2826 Honors) .2
 Theological Philosophy (see page 42)4
 Bible Exposition10

Students may also apply any of the following language courses to this category: ACL2001, 2002, 2011, 2012, 3201, 3202

Select one of the following:

- BIB4360 Systematic Theology (or BIB4825 Honors)4
 BIB4365 Historical Theology4
 BIB4460 Biblical Theology4

Students may apply 2 credits from the following Leadership (LDR) courses or select 2 additional credits with any BIB or BIA prefix.

- LDR1015 Leadership for Transformation (or LDR1825 Honors) .4
 LDR4425 Leading with Courage and Calling (or LDR4825 Honors) .2