

10. Master of Arts in Biblical Studies (MA-BS)

a. Program Goals

The Master of Arts in Biblical Studies degree program aims to equip lay leaders in teaching the bible or leading bible study ministry. It provides an advanced graduate degree for interpreting the Bible as sacred literature through an in-depth exploration of the various genres of the scriptures. After completion, students would acquire: i) the meaning of the foundational event to the identity formation of the first audience as God's people; ii) an understanding of the biblical worldview as a foundation and discernment for Christian theology and spiritual formation; iii) approaches to reading different genres of the Bible.

b. Requirements for Admission

Admission requirements shall include: i) a bachelor's degree or equivalent from an institution recognized by LTS; ii) applicants must have been baptized for at least one year prior to application for study; iii) previous service experience in local churches or mission organizations; iv) applicants should have the interests, aptitudes, and vision of bible teaching ministry; v) the ability to engage in graduate-level study for academic pursuits and personal development. For application, see VII. Enrollment Procedures.

c. Area of Emphasis

Old Testament

New Testament

d. Program Content

Students are required to take 15 credits of foundational theological training, 9 credits of biblical language, 9 credits of biblical studies (including 3 credits in foundational events and theological themes, 3 credits in community rules, and 3 credits in exegetical approach), and 9 credits of free electives.

i) Common Core Courses

	credits
OT1000 Introduction to the Old Testament	3
NT1000 Introduction to the New Testament	3
CT1000 Introduction to Christian Ethics	3
MC1000 Introduction to Missiology	3
DM2009 Dogmatics (Module A)	3
subtotal	15

ii) Guided Electives

Emphasis on Old Testament

	credits
LHb1001-1003 Biblical Hebrew I, II, III	9
1 course on Pentateuch/Theological Theme	3
1 course on Prophets	3

1 course on Biblical Interpretation	3
subtotal	18

Emphasis on New Testament	credits
LGk1001-1003 Biblical Greek I, II, III	9
1 course on Narratives/Theological Theme	3
1 course on Epistles	3
1 course on Biblical Interpretation	3
subtotal	18

iii) Free Electives	credits
3 courses	9

Total Credits Required for Graduation	42
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e. Credits

Full-time students in the MA-BS program normally take a maximum of 18 credits in each semester.

Conditions	Credit Exemption
i) graduate of graduate certificate or graduate diploma or a master's degree programs in the Theological Education by Extension	a maximum of half of the earned credits with a grade of 'B+' or above
ii) a bachelor's degree holder with a major in Christianity	a maximum of 18 credits on the foundational theological training

f. Duration

This program requires two academic years. The time allowed for completion of the program may not exceed six years.

g. Requirements for Graduation

- i) Students must complete the program requirements with a GPA of 2.50 or above; and
- ii) satisfactorily meet the standard or requirements of LTS.

h. Further Study

If a MA-BS program student wishes to transfer to the Master of Divinity (MDIV) program at LTS, with or without applying for the conferral of the degree, a maximum of 27 credits may be counted toward that degree. If the degree is conferred, exemptions cannot exceed one-half of the credits earned for that award. Students are required to undertake a minimum of two and a half academic years of study in the MDIV program. For the relevant application, see VI. I. Changes in Registration.

If a MA-BS degree holder with a Bachelor of Theology degree continues to study for the Master of Divinity with Theological Degree (MDIV-T) program at LTS, a maximum of half of the earned credits can be exempted.

If a MA-BS degree holder continues to study for the Master of Arts program in a specific emphasis (MA-BS in another emphasis/MA-CC/MA-CM/MA-CS/MA-SD) or Master of Arts in Theology (MA-T) program at LTS, a maximum of 18 or 21 credits can be exempted respectively.