

Biblical Studies

Overview

The B.A. in Biblical Studies aims to equip and prepare students personally and professionally to lead lives of Christian witness and ministry in church and society. Our goals are that graduates be conversant with the Bible's content and message and that they use the Scriptures devotionally, as well as theologically, in their daily lives. We expect them to articulate the Christian faith effectively. The department seeks to foster and assist students' growth in faith and worship, in the use and understanding of Scripture, in Christian discipleship, and in a posture of listening, respect, and service toward others.

Biblical Studies offers the following programs of study:

Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies

Associate of Biblical Studies

Certificate of Professional Studies in Biblical Studies

Quo Vadis? Grow in Christ and Discover Your Deeper Purpose

Associate in Ministry theological education requirement courses

Enrichment studies

These programs offer opportunities for studying the Scriptures, the heart of the Trinity education encounter.

Major in Biblical Studies (40 Credits)

| | | |
|----------|------------------------------------|-----|
| PHIL 201 | Introduction to Philosophy | [4] |
| HIST 210 | Church and Western Civilization | [4] |
| or | | |
| HIST 310 | Reformation History | [4] |
| RELI 306 | Biblical Studies Practicum | [2] |
| RELI 322 | History of Ancient Israel | [2] |
| RELI 323 | Prophetic Literature (or RELI 423) | [2] |
| RELI 331 | Luke-Acts | [2] |
| RELI 332 | Pauline Literature | [2] |
| RELI 343 | History of Christian Thought | [4] |
| or | | |

| | | |
|----------|----------------------------------|-----|
| ICUL 450 | Biblical Theology of Mission | [2] |
| RELI 371 | Apocalyptic Literature | [2] |
| RELI 490 | Seminar in Biblical Hermeneutics | [3] |
| RELI 491 | Integrative Biblical Seminar | [3] |

Sub-total [30-32]

Electives in the major [8-10]

Additional credits in Biblical Studies or Theology (RELI), or Biblical Languages (Greek or Hebrew), to make up a total of 40 for the major.

Total Required Credits [40]

Note: The required Philosophy and History, along with English Composition, fulfill the Humanities requirement for the B.A. degree in Biblical Studies.

For the Social and Behavioral Science component, the B.A. degree in Biblical Studies requires COMM 101 and either PSYC 101 or SOCI 101.

Minor in Biblical Studies (36 Credits)

A minor in Biblical Studies consists of the following:

The twenty-credit Trinity Core: RELI 101, 102, 103, 104, 201, and 202

Twelve additional credits in RELI courses:

At least six of these twelve must come from the following list of two-credit courses (or from their 400-level original-language equivalents):

| | |
|----------|---------------------------|
| RELI 322 | History of Ancient Israel |
| RELI 323 | Prophetic Literature |
| RELI 324 | Wisdom Literature |
| RELI 331 | Luke-Acts |
| RELI 332 | Pauline Literature |
| RELI 336 | Hebrews/General Epistles |
| RELI 337 | Johannine Literature |
| RELI 371 | Apocalyptic Literature |

In the normal course sequence, two of these are offered each semester. The remainder of the twelve credits may come from any other Trinity RELI courses.

Associate of Biblical Studies (64 Credits)

Overview

An Associate of Biblical Studies (ABS) is a two-year degree, comprised of courses in biblical studies, religious studies, and general studies to inform personal faith and provide a distinctive biblical foundation for life. The ABS degree prepares students for transfer to a bachelor's degree program either at Trinity or another institution. A total of 60 credits are required to earn an ABS degree.

Requirements

A total of 64 credits are required to earn an Associate of Biblical Studies. Five components make up the degree:

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| 1. Trinity Core | [24 credits] |
| RELI 101 Faith and Discipleship | [4] |
| RELI 102 Vocation & Formation I | [2] |
| RELI 103 Altar and Street | [4] |
| RELI 104 Vocation & Formation II | [2] |
| RELI 201 Creation and New Creation | [4] |
| RELI 202 Light of the World | [4] |
| RELI 106, 206 Service Learning Practicum | [4 total] |
| 2. College Preparation | [1 credit] |
| PSYC 100 | |
| 3. General Studies Component | [24-28 credits] |
| a. Humanities [12 credits] | |
| The following 3 courses are required: | |
| ENGL 101, PHIL 201, HIST 210 | |
| b. Fine Arts (2 credits): | |
| At least 2 credits from the following: | |
| ARTD 201, ARTD 206, ARTD 210, MUSI 101, MUSI 270, MUSI 270, MUSI 290, THEA 210 | |
| c. Social and Behavioral Sciences | [4 credits] |
| One of the following: | |
| COMM 101, SOCI 101, PSYC 301 | |
| d. Mathematics or Natural Sciences | [6-8 credits] |
| At least 6 credits from the following: | |
| MATH 105, MATH 205, MATH 301, NSCI 201, NSCI 220, NSCI 310 | |

4. Biblical Studies

[6 credits]

6 additional credits from 300-level RELI courses.

Certificate of Professional Studies (30 Credits)

Requirements

A Certificate of Professional Studies (CPS) is a post-baccalaureate concentration in biblical and professional studies and is restricted to students who have already earned a bachelor's degree. The certificate is not a degree, but rather certifies that the student has completed academic study beyond a bachelor's degree. (Credits are not graduate level.)

Trinity offers the following certificates:

Biblical Studies (30 credits)

Children, Youth & Family Ministry (30 credits)

Early Childhood Education (34 credits)

Intercultural Studies (30 credits)

Students design their course of study with a faculty advisor. Detailed requirements for a CPS are listed under the appropriate department.

1. Biblical Studies Component (20 credits):

A minimum of 20 credits in biblical studies and biblical theology (RELI), or biblical languages (Greek or Hebrew), including at least one course in each of the following areas. Courses marked with an asterisk fulfill requirements in more than one category.

a. Old Testament:

| | | |
|----------|----------------------------|-----|
| RELI 322 | History of Ancient Israel | [2] |
| RELI 323 | Prophetic Literature | [2] |
| RELI 324 | Wisdom Literature | [2] |
| RELI 103 | *Altar and Street | [4] |
| RELI 201 | *Creation and New Creation | [4] |
| RELI 202 | *Light of the World | [4] |

b. Gospels or Acts:

| | | |
|----------|-------------------------|-----|
| RELI 331 | Luke-Acts | [2] |
| RELI 337 | Johannine Literature | [2] |
| RELI 101 | *Faith and Discipleship | [4] |
| RELI 202 | *Light of the World | [4] |

c. Epistles:

| | | |
|----------|------------------------------|-----|
| RELI 332 | Pauline Literature | [2] |
| RELI 336 | Hebrews and General Epistles | [2] |
| RELI 103 | *Altar and Street | [4] |
| RELI 201 | *Creation and New Creation | [4] |

d. Biblical Theology:

| | | |
|----------|----------------------------------|-----|
| RELI 343 | History of Christian Thought | [4] |
| RELI 431 | Contemporary Theology | [3] |
| RELI 490 | Seminar in Biblical Hermeneutics | [3] |
| RELI 491 | Integrative Biblical Seminar | [3] |

Note: The six courses of the Trinity Core by themselves also satisfy the 20 credits required for the Biblical Studies Component of the CPS:

| | | |
|----------|---------------------------|-----|
| RELI 101 | Faith and Discipleship | [4] |
| RELI 102 | Vocation and Formation I | [2] |
| RELI 103 | Altar and Street | [4] |
| RELI 104 | Vocation and Formation II | [2] |
| RELI 201 | Creation and New Creation | [4] |
| RELI 202 | Light of the World | [4] |

2. Service Learning Practicum Component [2]

| | | |
|---------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| RELI 306, 406 | Biblical Studies Practicum | [1 per semester] |
|---------------|----------------------------|------------------|

3. Electives

Students take additional courses as electives to reach the minimum 30 credits required.

Quo Vadis? Grow in Christ and Discover Your Deeper Purpose

“Where are you going?” is the translation of the Latin *Quo Vadis?*, which calls young adults to reflect intentionally about their future. This program for undergraduates is a one-year certificate in “transforming spirituality and vocational discernment.” It is a time to:

- **Grow in Christ** by studying God’s Word; Earning accredited Bible credits; Engaging in spiritual formation with a year-long small group, facilitated by a faculty member;
- **Discover God’s will** through applying God’s Word; Growing in understanding of spiritual gifts; Honing gifts and vocational skills through Service Learning Practicum and community life;
- **Earn transferable college credits** by taking college writing or other courses to transfer to a bachelor’s degree elsewhere, or apply all credits to a bachelor’s degree at Trinity.

Requirements

1. Fall Semester: (12 credit minimum)

| | | |
|-----------|---|-----|
| Required: | | [9] |
| RELI 110 | Transforming Spirituality and Discernment I | [1] |
| RELI 101 | Faith and Discipleship | [4] |
| RELI 102 | Vocation and Formation I | [2] |
| | (in CTSD cohorts if available) | |
| RELI 106 | Service Learning Practicum | [1] |
| PSYC 100 | College Success Seminar | [1] |
| | (if less than 30 transfer credits) | |

Elective (strongly recommended): [4]
ENGL 101 English Composition [4]

Other recommended electives:
PHED 110 Total Fitness [1]
MUSI 290 Choir [1]
ICUL 210 [4]
or
ICUL 310 [2]

Jan Term:

Elective [4]

Spring Semester: [12 credit minimum]

Required: [8]
RELI 111 Transforming Spirituality and Discernment II [1]
RELI 103 Altar and Street [4]
RELI 104 Vocation and Formation II [2]
RELI 106 Service Learning Practicum [1]

Elective: 4 credits, any general education course [4]
Other recommended electives: 1 credit
MUSI 290 Choir [1]
MUSI 101 [2]
ICUL 211 [4]
or
ICUL 311 [2]

Enrichment Studies

Trinity Lutheran College believes in the value of lifelong learning and encourages individuals to pursue continued education for personal or professional development. Students who wish to take courses, but not receive a degree, are welcome to enroll in courses for personal enrichment.

ELCA Associate in Ministry Theological Education

Overview

Trinity Lutheran College offers courses that may fulfill the theological education requirements for becoming an Associate in Ministry (AIM). An AIM is a person recognized, commissioned, and called by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) as a lay minister in the area of social service, the arts, Christian education, youth ministry, administration, or other area of

specialized ministry. Requirements for commissioning include a bachelor's degree, basic theological education, 600 hours of approved supervised field experience, and approval for call by the ELCA.

Options for completing theological education

The following are suggested courses the college offers that may meet AIM theological education requirements. Interested persons must first contact their synod's candidacy committee to determine appropriate courses.

Biblical Studies – Old Testament

- RELI 103 Altar and Street
- RELI 201 Creation and New Creation
- RELI 202 Light of the World
- RELI 322 History of Ancient Israel
- RELI 323 Prophetic Literature
- RELI 324 Wisdom Literature

Biblical Studies – New Testament

- RELI 101 Faith and Discipleship
- RELI 103 Altar and Street
- RELI 201 Creation and New Creation
- RELI 202 Light of the World
- RELI 331 Luke-Acts
- RELI 332 Pauline Literature
- RELI 336 Hebrews and General Epistles
- RELI 337 Johannine Literature

Lutheran Theology & Confessional Writings

(none currently offered)

Introductory Systematic Theology

- RELI 343 History of Christian Thought

Lutheran Church History (including North American context)

- HIST 210 The Church & Western Civilization
- HIST 310 Reformation History
- RELI 431 Contemporary Theology

Options for completing specialized studies and field experience

AIM candidates may also complete specialized studies in Christian education, youth ministry, intercultural studies, administration, or music and worship through courses offered at Trinity. Interested persons must first contact their synod's candidacy committee to determine appropriate courses.

If approved by a synod candidacy committee, students may accrue supervised field experience hours through Trinity's Service Learning Practicum or Field Experience program while earning college credit.