

MASTER OF ARTS IN BIBLICAL LITERATURE JUDAIC-CHRISTIAN STUDIES CONCENTRATION

This degree is designed to prepare students for service in professional contexts, particularly careers in teaching, curriculum development, writing, missions outreach, and further academic study at the doctoral level.

The Judaic-Christian studies concentration enables students to develop sound hermeneutical tools, as well as linguistic and interpretive skills. This concentration will provide a better understanding of the Jewish roots of Christianity and will explore the spiritual life of ancient Israel and the faith experience of the early Church.

The objectives of the Master of Arts in Biblical Literature with a concentration in Judaic-Christian Studies are to:

- Provide students with a basic knowledge of biblical languages (Hebrew/Greek) for accurate translation of Scripture
- Prepare students to identify and examine the major OT themes and formulate a coherent OT theology
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- Enable students to research rabbinic literature for comprehension of Jewish culture and its influence upon Christian faith and literature
- Familiarize students with the concepts and practices of Judaism in the period of the Second Temple as related to the ministry and teachings of Jesus and Paul
- Instruct students in critical methods of exegesis and tools for interpreting and appreciating the central themes of Scripture and related Judeo-Christian literature within the matrix of early Jewish and Christian communities
- Prepare students to use biblical critical tools and methods to write an advanced research MA thesis in OT/NT integrating Jewish literature and theology in the discipline of Judaic-Christian studies
- Promote a biblical-theological understanding of the person, work, and ministry of the Holy Spirit
- Enable students to articulate clearly their ministry/professional calling

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The Lord drew me back to ORU to pursue a graduate degree in Biblical Literature with a Judaic-Christian Studies concentration. My desire is to study the Word of God from the original languages, but also to discover the cultural mindset from which it was written. I believe that having this kind of context will give greater revelation into the Scriptures. (H.W.)

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ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university or a college recognized by 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
- 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 (21 CREDIT HOURS)

- Required for those who did not have biblical/theological courses in their undergraduate program

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS (52.5 CREDIT HOURS)

- ORU Distinctive Courses (3.5 credit hours)
- Judaic-Christian Studies Concentration (36 credit hours)
- Assessments (1 credit hour)
- 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 gradtheology.oru.edu

