

BA in Biblical Studies

39 units

The biblical studies major (<https://www.apu.edu/theology/programs/biblical-studies-major/>) combines a broad background in philosophy, Christian theology, and ministry with a solid foundation in the Bible. Graduates are furnished with a biblical basis for Christian ministry and evangelism and are prepared for graduate study in the Bible and Christian theology.

Career Opportunities

This major provides students with tools for continued education at a seminary or university. Graduates have also assumed positions in churches and Christian organizations where knowledge and understanding of the Scriptures are essential.

Requirements

A minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA is required in all courses for the major.

NOTE: Only one correspondence course may be counted toward the major or minor and only with permission from the department.

Code	Title	Units
Required Courses		
SOT 200	Understanding the New Testament: Christ, Redemption, Community, New Creation ¹	3
or SOT 241	Understanding the New Testament through a Latinx Lens	
or SOT 242	Understanding the New Testament through an Africana Lens	
SOT 444	Women in the Biblical Tradition	3
Select one of the following:		3
SOT 451	Senior Seminar: Biblical Theology and Ethics	
SOT 421	Senior Seminar: Church and Society	
PHIL 496	Senior Seminar	
SOT 483	Senior Seminar: Theology and Social Issues	
SOT 212	Studying and Teaching the Bible	3
SOT 4xx	Any 400-level Biblical Studies Course	3
Select one of the following:		3
SOT 373	Contemporary Christian Theology	
Any 400-level Theology course		
Select one of the following:		3
SOT 260	World Religions ²	
SOT 348	Biblical Lands and Cultures ³	
SOT 446	Global Biblical Interpretation ³	
Select one of the following:		3
SOT 371	Church History: Apostolic Era to the Eve of the Reformation	
SOT 372	Church History from the Eve of the Reformation to the Present	
HUM 325	Core Texts in Christianity	
Select one of the following:		3
PHIL 303	Reasons for Faith: Exploring the Rationality of the Existence of God and Christianity	
PHIL 315	History of Ancient Philosophy	
PHIL 316	Medieval Philosophy	
PHIL 320	History of Early Modern Philosophy	
PHIL 325	History of 19th and 20th Century Philosophy	
HUM 324	Core Texts in Philosophy ⁴	
Select 12 units of upper-division ancient languages or biblical studies courses from the following:		12
SOT 401A	Ancient Languages	
SOT 301G	Intermediate Greek I	
SOT 302G	Intermediate Greek II	
SOT 401G	Greek Readings	

SOT 301H	Intermediate Hebrew I
SOT 302H	Intermediate Hebrew II
SOT 401H	Hebrew Readings
SOT 340	The Rise of the King: I and II Samuel ³
SOT 341	Old Testament Prophets ³
SOT 342	Ruth and Esther ³
SOT 343	Psalms and Wisdom ³
SOT 344	Life and Teachings of Jesus ³
SOT 345	The Gospel and Letters of John ³
SOT 346	Romans and Galatians ³
SOT 347	Thessalonian and Corinthian Epistles ³
SOT 348	Biblical Lands and Cultures ³
SOT 349	Near Eastern Archaeology
SOT 351	Archaeological Field Excavation
SOT 440	Prison and Pastoral Epistles
SOT 441	Old Testament World
SOT 442	New Testament World
SOT 443	Biblical Apocalyptic
SOT 445	History of Biblical Interpretation
SOT 446	Global Biblical Interpretation ³
SOT 447	Postcolonial Biblical Interpretation
SOT 448	Biblical Studies Capstone Course: Old Testament Theology (if not taken above)
SOT 449	Biblical Studies Capstone Course: New Testament Theology (if not taken above)
SOT 497	Readings
SOT 498	Directed Research

Students may substitute one of the ancient languages or biblical studies electives above with one of the following religious studies courses:

SOT 361	Judaism: A Story of Hope
SOT 362	Islam: The Way of Submission
SOT 363	Hinduism: Karma, Dharma, and Yoga
SOT 364	East Asian Religions and Mindfulness

Total Units

39

- ¹ Meets the APU Core: Understanding the New Testament general education requirement.
- ² Meets the APU Core: Intercultural Competence general education requirement.
- ³ Meets the APU Core: Upper-Division Bible general education requirement.
- ⁴ Meets the APU Core: Humanities: Philosophy general education requirement.

Program Learning Outcomes

Program Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete this program shall be able to:

1. Explain current methodological approaches used to study the Christian Scriptures.
2. Explain how history and culture influence the interpretation of the Christian Scriptures.
3. Write an acceptable Biblical Studies research paper or prepare an equivalent project.
4. Articulate how scripture, tradition, experience, and reason shape our Christian worldview.
5. Articulate biblically responsible perspectives on gender, race, and ethnic and cultural diversity.

Upper-Division Course Options

Many programs within the School of Theology require students to take one or more courses of upper-division electives, often represented as "SOT 3xx or 4xx Upper-Division [Biblical Studies] course," where [Biblical Studies] may be substituted with a specific discipline within the school.

The following is a list of all School of Theology courses that meet upper-division requirements within School of Theology academic programs. Consult with your advisor or faculty for specific questions.

Upper-Division Biblical Studies (Old Testament)	SOT 340
	SOT 341
	SOT 342
	SOT 343
	SOT 348
	SOT 349
	SOT 351
	SOT 441
	SOT 448
Upper-Division Biblical Studies (New Testament)	SOT 344
	SOT 345
	SOT 346
	SOT 347
	SOT 440
	SOT 442
	SOT 449
Upper-Division Biblical Studies (General)	SOT 443
	SOT 444
	SOT 445
	SOT 446
	SOT 447
	SOT 451
	SOT 495*
	SOT 497*
	SOT 498*
Upper-Division Theology	SOT 370
	SOT 371
	SOT 372
	SOT 373
	SOT 470
	SOT 471
	SOT 472
	SOT 473
	SOT 474
	SOT 475
	SOT 476
	SOT 477
	SOT 478
	SOT 479
	SOT 480
	SOT 481
	SOT 482
	SOT 483
	SOT 495*
	SOT 497*
	SOT 498*
Upper-Division Ministry	SOT 310
	SOT 311
	SOT 312
	SOT 313

	SOT 314
	SOT 315
	SOT 316
	SOT 317
	SOT 318
	SOT 319
	SOT 410
	SOT 411
	SOT 412
	SOT 413
	SOT 414
	SOT 415
	SOT 416
	SOT 417
	SOT 418
	SOT 419
	SOT 421
	SOT 422
	SOT 423
	SOT 424
	SOT 425
	SOT 426
	SOT 427
	SOT 495*
	SOT 497*
	SOT 498*

* Students must complete a Course Substitution form (https://formstack.apu.edu/workflows/transfer_credit_course_sub/?sso=68153e4da698b) in order for SOT 495, SOT 497, or SOT 498 to count as an upper-division requirement for a major or minor.