

Program Overview

The Master of Arts in Biblical Studies is a distinctive offering designed to prepare students to become ministry leaders in non-profit organizations and churches. This comprehensive degree equips students with the knowledge, character, skills, and vision required for a lifetime of ministry. The MABS is subject to all the same entrance requirements as other MCS programs in that an undergraduate degree is required for admission. Prospective students without an undergraduate degree may qualify for admission by fulfilling MCS protocols.

| Curriculum Overview | | Tuition & Fees Overview | |
|--|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| 52 | Academic Hours | \$5200 | Total Cost of Tuition |
| <i>There are 26 required classes.</i> | | <i>The student is not charged for the combined total of 8 Credit hours for Internship and Mentorship.</i> | |
| 8 | Field-Based Ministry Formation Hours | \$2785 | Total Cost of all Fees |
| <i>Practical application in supervised environments. (This includes 270 experience hours and 20 mentored hours.)</i> | | <i>This estimated cost includes all books, technology costs, one-time fees, and per-class fees.</i> | |
| 60 | Total Credit Hours | \$7985 | Total Cost of Entire Program |

Program Timeline

MCS is committed to delivering all required courses for each program within a four-year window or less. If a student misses a required course, they may talk with an MCS staff member to discuss possible solutions. Students are individually responsible for the completion of their Field-Based Ministry Formation hours.

The MABS is a stackable degree that is aligned with our Master of Divinity (M.Div.). Students who have been awarded the MA in Biblical Studies may continue their studies in pursuit of a “higher” Master’s degree, such as an M.Div. Each student, regardless of their chosen program of study, receives a Certificate of Biblical Studies upon their completion of 30 credit hours.

MCS will offer an estimated 10-14 courses a year as follows:

- **Every Fall** - 4 to 5 courses
- **Every Spring** - 4 to 5 courses
- **Every Summer** - 2 to 3 courses

Program Learning Objectives

Knowledge

- **Original Language Exegesis** - Students will gain expertise in using tools for the original languages to exegete all genres of Scripture and provide hermeneutically precise homiletics.
- **Theological Analysis** - Students will use graduate-level research, interpretation, and writing skills to analyze theological, cultural, and historical themes in a persuasive manner.
- **Cultural Engagement** - Students will critically evaluate models for cultural analysis, intelligence, and engagement in light of Reformed theology, dominant culture assumptions, and global/minority perspectives, according to each student's ministry emphasis.
- **Reformed Theology** - Students will demonstrate a biblical, covenantal perspective to interact with historical and cultural theology, biblical and systematic theology, or exegetical and practical theology – according to each student's chosen theological emphasis.

Character

- **Spiritual Growth** - Students will examine and assess areas of personal spiritual growth and weakness in light of classroom assignments and discussions, according to each student's field-based ministry track.
- **Ethical Decision Making** - Students will evaluate current ethical issues in light of biblical and theological teaching and will present biblical perspectives in response to issues faced by those they lead.
- **Christ-like Character** - Students will demonstrate Christ-like character formation in spiritual maturity, emotional intelligence, and compassionate leadership through engagement with mentors (2 credit hours) and internship (6 credit hours) supervisors.

Skills

- **Leadership Skills** - Students will complete a ministry internship wherein they implement pertinent ministry skills learned from mentors, professors, and classroom assignments, according to each student's field-based ministry track.
- **Ministry Skills** - Students will apply classroom lectures to present-day ministry teaching.
- **Research and Communication Skills** - Students will prepare and deliver various oral presentations, including lectures and exercises on biblical texts, as applicable.

Vision

- **Ministry Vision** - Students will refine their ministry vision and determine their next steps in ministry after seminary through spiritual direction and hands-on service alongside experienced mentors and coaches.
- **Ministry Philosophy** - Students will formulate their philosophy of ministry in light of a kingdom vision for the church locally and globally.