

# PURSUE A BIBLICAL STUDIES DEGREE

Discover a faith-focused degree with Briercrest College







Do you long to deepen your relationship with God through the study of His Word? A Biblical Studies degree is for those who have a passion to love God more deeply through the thoughtful and patient exploration of Scripture.

This program is the perfect option for students who want to:

- See their understanding of Scripture and love of God expand.
- Dig deep into the heart of Christian truth, belief, and practice.
- Discover the Bible's literary, historical, cultural, and theological dimensions.
- Connect the teachings of Scripture to their immediate context.
- Transform their ability to read the Bible by learning Biblical Greek or Hebrew.
- Think carefully with their peers, under the guidance of trusted professors, about faithful responses to the scriptural texts.

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Taking Biblical Studies gives students the skills and methods to interpret Scripture for life. Along with biblical research, ministry, and/or personal study, these skills are essential in many settings, including the local church, mission organizations, Bible colleges and seminaries, public or private schools, and government agencies.

### **PROGRAM FEATURES**

- Small, discussion-based classes.
- A solid foundation of biblical and theological courses, as well as liberal arts disciplines.
- Service and Experiential Learning
- Accredited degree through ABHE
- Provincially authorized as a university-level degree.

### **BIBLICAL STUDIES COURSES**

Choose from over 30 courses, including

- Introduction to the Old Testament
- Introduction to the New Testament
- Isaiah
- Jewish Backgrounds to Early Christianity
- John
- Romans
- Revelation
- Advanced Hermeneutics



# BIBLICAL STUDIES **UNIQUE PROGRAM FEATURES**

### **Intensive Language Learning**

Our innovative approach to teaching ancient languages give students the opportunity to engage in the life-giving study of Biblical Hebrew and/or Ancient Greek. Our Greek program begins with a semester of immersion—the only undergraduate program of its kind in North America. In 2025, for the first time, it will be held on the Greekspeaking island of Cyprus. Our goal in teaching both Greek and Hebrew is to help students internalize the language so that they read fluently, for understanding, as we do in our own language, and ultimately to read scriptural texts attentively and wisely.

"Our goal is to provide a first-rate liberal arts education that is unlike other liberal arts programs in that the core of what we are studying relates to the core of our faith—the Bible. At Briercrest we teach ancient Greek and Hebrew in ancient Greek and Hebrew, as you would learn a modern language. This distinctive communicative approach to learning Greek and Hebrew is one of the program's real strengths. While learning a foreign language can be intimidating, the social dynamic of intense learning in community with professors and fellow students is fantastic, and then by the end of it you're reading texts in the original language. It consistently transforms the way people read the Bible."

—Dr. David Miller, Associate Professor of New Testament and Early Judaism



# 5-YEAR ACADEMIC PATHWAY

The Biblical Studies 4 + 1 academic pathway combines **Briercrest's Biblical Studies four-year Bachelor of Arts** courses with Master of Arts Courses, allowing students to add master's qualifications to their bachelor's degree in just one additional year.

The 4 + 1 academic pathway offers the quickest, most costeffective, and most extensive route to a bachelor's degree and master's qualification at Briercrest.

Students will receive the same comprehensive education, recognized as excellent graduate-level ministry training, with some of today's most well-respected Canadian scholars in biblical studies, theology, and ministry.

### **HOW IT WORKS**

Through a combination of college courses eligible for advanced standing in the seminary and "shared credit" seminary courses taken to fill college and seminary requirements at the same time, students will complete language prerequisites and up to 40 credit hours that count toward their MA program during the 120 credit hours of the Briercrest College degree. This will enable students to concentrate on writing an MA thesis during their final year of the 4 + 1 academic pathway.





University-level degree in a Bible college environment.

### SCRIPTURE INTERPRETATION

You will learn to think carefully about the complexities of biblical composition, about how the Church has read the Scriptures theologically, and about the diversity of interpretation that characterizes the present field. You will learn to read widely, closely, and wisely, so nurturing your love for God and your neighbor.

### **CRITICAL THINKING**

Your Biblical Studies classes will naturally help you learn how to read the Bible closely and thoughtfully learning to make valuable connections between Scripture and other disciplines. In all of this, you will be learning to think carefully, creatively, and critically.

### **VOCATIONAL PREPARATION**

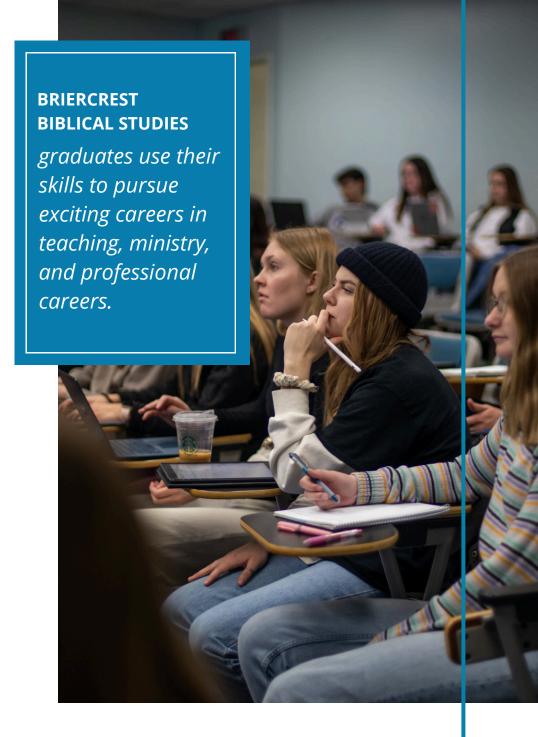
Your classes will prepare you for a vocation even as they prepare you for life. You will learn to write in a variety of modes and will practice other skills (such as communicating orally, weighing evidence, solving complex problems, working fruitfully with a diversity of people) that are important to a wide range of career paths.

# CAREER PATHWAYS

A degree in Biblical Studies leads most obviously to vocations that require consistent interaction with the biblical text, including pastoral ministry and teaching.

The BA Biblical Studies degree also opens the door to a wide range of career paths within and beyond traditional church and parachurch roles. The program's marked emphasis on close reading, language proficiency, written communication, critical thinking, and research prepares its graduates for careers in fields as diverse as church ministry, social work, education, law, business, and communications.

Since all Biblical Studies majors complete a four-course language sequence in either Hebrew or Greek in Briercrest's innovative ancient-language program (with some opting to study both languages and the large majority completing more language study than the program requires), the program provides outstanding preparation for graduate study in biblical studies (but also in theology, pastoral ministry, Bible translation, etc.).



# WHAT OUR GRADUATES SAY

A Briercrest Biblical Studies degree opens doors to various careers and jobs. Hear alumni and students describe the workplace preparation they experienced in their Briercrest degrees.

"The foundational skills I developed during this degree, such as the ability to read a text closely and critically, as well as facility with the biblical languages, gave me a leg up in graduate school and continue to serve me well in my current work."

"The years I spent in Biblical Studies at Briercrest were some of the most formative of my life. They prepared me to think critically, communicate carefully, study rigorously, and follow fully."

"The Biblical Studies program gave me an excellent foundation of biblical knowledge. More importantly, it provided me with the tools for a lifetime of careful engagement with the text of Scripture."

# Assistant Professor in New Testament and Early Christianity Endoluminal, and General Surgery

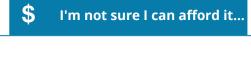
# **NEXT STEPS**

Have questions? Click on the questions for more information



We love visitors!
Come for an Experience
Briercrest event or book a
campus tour.

Come Visit Us!



It is a big commitment! We have scholarships and awards to help.

View Finance Options



How do I apply?

How exciting! Let's get you started.

Go to Application



Yes!
We want to give you credit
for what you've already
learned, too.

Get Info on Transferring



How does Briercrest College compare to a university?

Great question!
At Briercrest, you will receive a university recognized degree.

View Our Accreditation



I'd like more information about Briercrest College!

No problem! Let's connect you to our academic advisers.

Request More Info

# BRIERCREST COLLEGE

briercrestcollege.ca

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