

III. BIBLICAL & RELIGIOUS STUDIES

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Planning Your Academic Program

1. BIBL 202 must be taken before any other BIBL courses. Students who have taken BIBL 201, 203 or 204 prior to joining the department do not need to take BIBL 202.
2. BIBL 233 and BIBL 237 should be taken early in your program.
3. It is also recommended that you take THEO 238 (Christian Ministries Major) relatively early in your program, but not before you've completed BIBL 202.
4. Christian Ministries majors should take CHRM 210 or CHRM 220 in their sophomore year.
5. Christian Ministries majors will fulfill their ELI requirement via CHRM 391 or 393.
6. All majors are strongly encouraged to take Biblical Greek or Biblical Hebrew, either of which will satisfy the QuEST requirement for Modern Languages. Hebrew and Greek are offered alternate years.

Guidelines for Mathematical Sciences Courses

There is no specific math course required for BRS majors. Familiarity with digital technology is increasingly important for students in the humanities. Students interested in pursuing digital applications in the humanities should consider taking courses in CIS. The introductory CIS courses to consider include:

CIS 171 Problem Solving with Computers focuses on using computers and software to create reports, images, spreadsheets, web pages, and databases.

CIS 180 Introduction to Computer and Information Science covers both technical and social aspects of computing, including privacy, security, reliability, and ethics.

CIS 181 Introduction to Computer Programming in Python is the introductory programming course for both majors and non-majors.

For students interested in math, we recommend students enroll in MATH 101, MATH 102, or MATH 107 in their first year, unless they have had a pre-calculus course; then they should consider MATH 108. Statistical literacy is another important area of mathematical study, and STAT269 is a course that gives a good introduction to statistical methods and meets the QuEST requirement.

Sample 8-Semester Plans

Biblical and Religious Studies (B.A.) with Bible Concentration

Course #	Course name	Credits	Course #	Course name	Credits
First Year—Fall			First Year—Spring		
IDFY 101	First Year Seminar*	3	IDCR 151	Created and Called for Community (W)*	3
Varies	1 st Language* (GREK or HEBR recommended)	3	Varies	2 nd Language* (January Term)	3
Varies	Free Elective	3	THEO 238	Christian Theology I**	3
Varies	Mathematical Science* (CIS recommended)	3-4	Varies	1 st Social Science, History*	3
BIBL 202	Encountering the Bible for Majors**	3	Varies	Free Elective	3
			Varies	3 rd Language or Cross Cultural*	3
	TOTAL	15-16		TOTAL	18
Sophomore Year—Fall			Sophomore Year—Spring		
ENGL xxx	Literature*	3	BIBL 237	New Testament Literature for Majors	3
Varies	2 nd Social Science, History*	3	Varies	Free Elective	3
BIBL 233	Old Testament Literature for Majors	3	RELI 206 OR Varies	Religions of the World for Majors** OR Free Elective	3
RELI 344	History of Christianity	3	Varies	Wellness*	1
Varies	Free Elective	3	Varies	Free Elective	3
			COMM 105	Oral Communication* (January Term)	3
	TOTAL	15		TOTAL	16
Junior Year—Fall			Junior Year—Spring		
BIBL xxx	Bible Elective	3	BIBL 307 OR BIBL 381	Biblical Backgrounds OR Biblical Interpretation and Criticism	3
Varies	Laboratory Science*	3-4	BIBL 382 OR Varies	Topics in Biblical Theology OR Free Elective	3
Varies	Non-Western Studies*	3	BIBL 313	Selected Old Testament Books	3
THEO 305 OR Varies	Christian Theology of Religious Pluralism*** OR Free Elective	3	RELI 206 OR Varies	Religions of the World for Majors** OR Free Elective	3
Varies	Free Elective	3	Varies	Free Elective	3
	TOTAL	15-16		TOTAL	15
Senior Year—Fall			Senior Year—Spring		
THEO 305 OR Varies	Christian Theology of Religious Pluralism*** OR Free Elective	3	BIBL 307 OR BIBL 381	Biblical Backgrounds OR Biblical Interpretation and Criticism	3
THEO 487	Biblical and Religious Studies Seminar	3	Varies	Ethics, World Views or Pluralism*	3
Varies	Science, Tech and the World*	3	Varies	Arts*	3
Varies	Free Elective	3	BIBL 382 OR Varies	Topics in Biblical Theology OR Free Elective	3
Varies	Free Elective	3	Varies	Free Elective	3
	TOTAL	15		TOTAL	15
				TOTAL CREDITS	124- 126

1. * Meets QuEST requirement
2. **Meets QuEST and Major requirements
3. ***Fulfills Writing Enriched course requirement for Major

Biblical and Religious Studies (B.A.) with Religion Concentration

Course #	Course name	Credits	Course #	Course name	Credits
First Year—Fall			First Year—Spring		
IDFY 101	First Year Seminar*	3	IDCR 151	Created and Called for Community (W)*	3
Varies	1 st Language* (GREK or HEBR recommended)	3	Varies	2 nd Language* (January Term)	3
Varies	Free Elective	3	THEO 238	Christian Theology I**	3
Varies	Mathematical Science* (CIS recommended)	3-4	Varies	1 st Social Science, History*	3
BIBL 202	Encountering the Bible for Majors**	3	Varies	Free Elective	3
			Varies	3 rd Language or Cross Cultural*	3
	TOTAL	15-16		TOTAL	18
Sophomore Year—Fall			Sophomore Year—Spring		
ENGL xxx	Literature*	3	BIBL 237	New Testament Literature for Majors	3
Varies	2 nd Social Science, History*	3	Varies	Free Elective	3
BIBL 233	Old Testament Literature for Majors	3	RELI 206 OR Varies	Religions of the World for Majors** OR Free Elective	3
RELI 344	History of Christianity	3	Varies	Wellness*	1
Varies	Free Elective	3	RELI 355 OR Varies	Christianity in North America OR Free Elective	3
			COMM 105	Oral Communication* (January Term)	3
	TOTAL	15		TOTAL	16
Junior Year—Fall			Junior Year—Spring		
RELI xxx	Religion Elective (RELI 228,229, 333, or 334)	3	RELI xxx OR RELI 329	Religion Elective (RELI 228,229, 333, or 334) OR Christianity in Africa**	3
Varies	Laboratory Science*	3-4	RELI 366 OR Varies	Topics in Religion OR Free Elective	3
THEO 305 OR Varies	Christian Theology of Religious Pluralism*** OR Free Elective	3	RELI 355 OR Varies	Christianity in North America OR Free Elective	3
Varies	Free Elective	3	RELI 206 OR Varies	Religions of the World for Majors** OR Free Elective	3
Varies	Free Elective	3	Varies	Free Elective	3
	TOTAL	15-16		TOTAL	15
Senior Year—Fall			Senior Year—Spring		
THEO 305 OR Varies	Christian Theology of Religious Pluralism*** OR Free Elective	3	RELI xxx OR RELI 329	Religion Elective (RELI 228,229, 333, or 334) OR Christianity in Africa**	3
THEO 487	Biblical and Religious Studies Seminar	3	Varies	Ethics, World Views or Pluralism*	3
Varies	Science, Tech and the World*	3	Varies	Arts*	3
Varies	Free Elective	3	RELI 366 OR Varies	Topics in Religion OR Free Elective	3
Varies	Free Elective	3	Varies	Free Elective	3
	TOTAL	15		TOTAL	15
				TOTAL CREDITS	124-126

1. * Meets QuEST requirement
2. **Meets QuEST and Major requirements
3. ***Fulfills Writing Enriched course requirement for Major

Biblical and Religious Studies (B.A.) with Theology Concentration

Course #	Course name	Credits	Course #	Course name	Credits
First Year—Fall			First Year—Spring		
IDFY 101	First Year Seminar*	3	IDCR 151	Created and Called for Community (W)*	3
Varies	1 st Language* (GREK or HEBR recommended)	3	Varies	2 nd Language* (January Term)	3
Varies	Free Elective	3	THEO 238	Christian Theology I**	3
Varies	Mathematical Science* (CIS recommended)	3-4	Varies	1 st Social Science, History*	3
BIBL 202	Encountering the Bible for Majors**	3	Varies	Free Elective	3
			Varies	3 rd Language or Cross Cultural*	3
	TOTAL	15-16		TOTAL	18
Sophomore Year—Fall			Sophomore Year—Spring		
Varies	Free Elective	3	BIBL 237	New Testament Literature for Majors	3
Varies	2 nd Social Science, History*	3	Varies	Free Elective	3
BIBL 233	Old Testament Literature for Majors	3	RELI 206 OR Varies	Religions of the World for Majors OR Free Elective	3
RELI 344	History of Christianity	3	Varies	Wellness*	1
Varies	Free Elective	3	Varies	Free Elective	3
			COMM 105	Oral Communication* (January Term)	3
	TOTAL	15		TOTAL	16
Junior Year—Fall			Junior Year—Spring		
THEO 343 OR 354	Contemporary Theology OR Theology and Gender**	3	THEO 338	Christian Theo. III: Peace, Justice, Rec...	3
Varies	Laboratory Science*	3-4	RELI 321, 329, or 332	Christianity in Latin America** OR Christianity in Asia** OR Christianity in Africa**	3
PHIL 101/102	Philosophy*	3	ENGL xxx	Literature*	3
Varies	Free Elective	3	THEO 366 OR Varies	Topics in Theology OR Free Elective	3
THEO 305 OR Varies	Christian Theology of Religious Pluralism*** OR Free Elective	3	RELI 206 OR Varies	Religions of the World for Majors OR Free Elective	3
	TOTAL	15-16		TOTAL	15
Senior Year—Fall			Senior Year—Spring		
THEO 305 OR Varies	Christian Theology of Religious Pluralism*** OR Free Elective	3	THEO 366 OR Varies	Topics in Theology OR Free Elective	3
THEO 487	Biblical and Religious Studies Seminar	3	Varies	Arts*	3
Varies	Free Elective	3	Varies	Science, Tech and the World*	3
THEO 343 OR 354	Contemporary Theology OR Theology and Gender**	3	Varies	Free Elective	3
Varies	Free Elective	3	Varies	Free Elective	3
	TOTAL	15		TOTAL	15
				TOTAL CREDITS	124-126

1. * Meets QuEST requirement
2. **Meets QuEST and Major requirements
3. ***Fulfills Writing Enriched course requirement for Major

Biblical and Religious Studies (B.A.) with World Christianity Concentration

Course #	Course name	Credits	Course #	Course name	Credits
First Year—Fall			First Year—Spring		
IDFY 101	First Year Seminar*	3	IDCR 151	Created and Called for Community (W)*	3
Varies	1 st Language* (GREK or HEBR recommended)	3	Varies	2 nd Language* (January Term)	3
Varies	Free Elective	3	THEO 205	Introduction to Christian Theology**	3
Varies	Mathematical Science* (CIS recommended)	3-4	Varies	1 st Social Science, History*	3
BIBL 202	Encountering the Bible for Majors**	3	Varies	Free Elective	3
			Varies	3 rd Language or Cross Cultural*	3
	TOTAL	15-16		TOTAL	18
Sophomore Year—Fall			Sophomore Year—Spring		
Varies	Free Elective	3	BIBL 237	New Testament Literature for Majors	3
Varies	2 nd Social Science, History*	3	Varies	Free Elective	3
BIBL 233	Old Testament Literature for Majors	3	RELI 206 OR Varies	Religions of the World for Majors** OR Free Elective	3
RELI 344	History of Christianity	3	CHRM 220 OR Varies	Intro to Christian Mission OR Wellness	1-3
Varies	Free Elective	3	Varies	Free Elective	3
	TOTAL	15		TOTAL	13
Junior Year—Fall			Junior Year—Spring		
ENGL xxx	Literature*	3	RELI 321, 329, OR 332	Christianity in Latin America OR Christianity in Asia OR Christianity in Africa	3
Varies	Laboratory Science*	3-4	Varies	Arts*	3
COMM 105	Oral Communication*	3	RELI 366 OR Varies	Topics in Religion OR Free Elective	3
Varies	Free Elective	3	CHRM 220 OR Varies	Intro to Christian Mission OR Wellness	1-3
THEO 305 OR Varies	Christian Theology of Religious Pluralism*** OR Free Elective	3	RELI 206 OR Varies	Religions of the World for Majors** OR Free Elective	3
	TOTAL	15-16		TOTAL	13
Senior Year—Fall			Senior Year—Spring		
THEO 305 OR Varies	Christian Theology of Religious Pluralism*** OR Free Elective	3	RELI 366 OR Varies	Topics in Religion OR Free Elective	3
THEO 487	Biblical and Religious Studies Seminar	3	Varies	Ethics, World Views or Pluralism*	3
Varies	Science, Tech and the World*	3	Varies	Free Elective	3
Varies	Free Elective	3	RELI 321, 329, OR 332	Christianity in Latin America OR Christianity in Asia OR Christianity in Africa	3
Varies	Free Elective	3	Varies	Free Elective	3
	TOTAL	15		TOTAL	15
				TOTAL CREDITS	124-126

1. * Meets QuEST requirement
2. **Meets QuEST and Major requirements
3. ***Fulfills Writing Enriched course requirement for Major

Christian Ministries (B.A.) with Cross Cultural Ministry Concentration

Course #	Course name	Credits	Course #	Course name	Credits
First Year—Fall			First Year—Spring		
IDFY 101	First Year Seminar*	3	IDCR 151	Created and Called for Community (W)*	3
Varies	1 st Language* (GREK or HEBR recommended)	3	Varies	2 nd Language* (January Term)	3
Varies	Free elective	3	THEO 238	Christian Theology I**	3
Varies	Mathematical Science* (CIS recommended)	3-4	Varies	European of US History*	3
BIBL 202	Encountering the Bible for Majors**	3	COMM 105	Oral Communication*	3
CHRM 099	Opportunities in Christian Ministries	1	Varies	3 rd Language or Cross Cultural*	3
TOTAL		15-16	TOTAL		18
Sophomore Year—Fall			Sophomore Year—Spring		
ENGL xxx	Literature*	3	BIBL 237	New Testament Literature for Majors	3
THEO 223	Global Christian Theology	3	THEO 338	Christian Theology III	3
BIBL 233	Old Testament Literature for Majors	3	CHRM 242	Christian Spirituality	3
RELI 344	History of Christianity	3	CHRM 220	Introduction to Christian Mission	3
THEO 239	Christian Theology II***	3	CHRM 227 OR Varies	Pre-Field Experience for CC Ministry OR Free Elective	3
			CHRM 338	Teaching for Christian Ministries	3
TOTAL		15	TOTAL		18
Junior Year—Fall			Junior Year—Spring		
BIBL 312	Selected NT Books	3	CHRM 227 OR Varies	Pre-Field Experience for CC Ministry OR Arts	3
Varies	Laboratory Science*	3-4	CHRM 352 OR Varies	Topics in Cross-Cultural Ministry OR Free Elective	3
THEO 305 OR Varies	Christian Theology of Religious Pluralism OR Free Elective	3	SOCI 212	Cultural Anthropology**	3
CHRM 320	Biblical Theology of Mission	3	RELI 206 OR Varies	Religions of the World for Majors or Wellness*	1-3
CHRM 393 OR Varies	Post-Field Experience for CC Ministry OR Non-Western Studies	3	PHIL 101	Problems in Philosophy*	3
TOTAL		15-16	TOTAL		13-15
Senior Year—Fall			Senior Year—Spring		
CHRM 493	Christian Ministries Seminar	3	CHRM 352 OR Varies	Topics in Cross-Cultural Ministry OR Free Elective	3
THEO 305 OR Varies	Christian Theology of Religious Pluralism OR Free Elective	3	Varies	Ethics, World Views or Pluralism*	3
Varies	Science, Tech and the World*	3	CHRM 227 OR Varies	Pre-Field Experience for CC Ministry OR Arts*	3
COMM 342	Intercultural Communication	3	CHRM 391	Practicum	3
CHRM 393 OR Varies	Post-Field Experience for CC Ministry OR Non-Western Studies*	3	RELI 206 OR Varies	Religions of the World for Majors or Wellness*	1-3
TOTAL		15	TOTAL		15
				TOTAL CREDITS	124-126

4. * Meets QuEST requirement
5. **Meets QuEST and Major requirements
6. ***Fulfills Writing Enriched course requirement for Major

Christian Ministries (B.A.) with Congregational Ministry Concentration

Course #	Course name	Credits	Course #	Course name	Credits
First Year—Fall			First Year—Spring		
IDFY 101	First Year Seminar*	3	IDCR 151	Created and Called for Community (W)*	3
Varies	1 st Language* (GREK or HEBR recommended)	3	Varies	2 nd Language* (January Term)	3
Varies	Free Elective	3	THEO 238	Christian Theology I**	3
Varies	Mathematical Science* (CIS recommended)	3-4	Varies	1 st Social Science, History*	3
BIBL 202	Encountering the Bible for Majors**	3	COMM 105	Oral Communication*	3
CHRM 099	Opportunities in Christian Ministries	1	Varies	3 rd Language or Cross Cultural*	3
TOTAL		16-17	TOTAL		18
Sophomore Year—Fall			Sophomore Year—Spring		
ENGL xxx	Literature*	3	BIBL 237	New Testament Literature for Majors	3
Varies	2 nd Social Science, History*	3	THEO 338	Christian Theology III	3
BIBL 233	Old Testament Literature for Majors	3	CHRM 242	Christian Spirituality	3
RELI 344	History of Christianity	3	Varies	Wellness*	1
THEO 239	Christian Theology II***	3	CHRM 225	Field Experience in Christian Ministries	2
			CHRM 338	Teaching for CM (January Term)	3
TOTAL		15	TOTAL		15
Junior Year—Fall			Junior Year—Spring		
BIBL 312	Selected NT Books	3	CHRM 351 or CHRM 343	Topics in Congregational Ministries OR Introduction to Preaching	3
Varies	Laboratory Science*	3-4	RELI 355 OR Varies	Christianity in North America** OR Free Elective	3
Varies	Non-Western Studies*	3	CHRM 210	Theology of Ministry	3
CHRM 323 or Varies	Worship OR Free Elective	3	PHIL 101	Problems in Philosophy*	3
CHRM 243 or CHRM 330	Evangelism and Discipleship OR Organization and Leadership for Ministry	3	Varies	Free Elective	3
TOTAL		15-16	TOTAL		15
Senior Year—Fall			Senior Year—Spring		
CHRM 493	Christian Ministries Seminar	3	CHRM 351 or CHRM 343	Topics in Congregational Ministries OR Introduction to Preaching	3
CHRM 243 or CHRM 330	Evangelism and Discipleship OR Organization and Leadership for Ministry	3	RELI 355 OR Varies	Christianity in North America** OR Free Elective	3
Varies	Science, Tech and the World*	3	Varies	Arts*	3
CHRM 342	Pastoral Counseling	3	CHRM 391	Practicum	3
CHRM 323 or Varies	Worship OR Free Elective	3	Varies	Free Elective	3
TOTAL		15	TOTAL		15
				TOTAL CREDITS	124- 126

1. * Meets QuEST requirement
2. **Meets QuEST and Major requirements
3. ***Fulfills Writing Enriched course requirement for Major

Christian Ministries (B.A.) with Youth Ministry Concentration

Course #	Course name	Credits	Course #	Course name	Credits
First Year—Fall			First Year—Spring		
IDFY 101	First Year Seminar*	3	IDCR 151	Created and Called for Community (W)*	3
Varies	1 st Language* (GREK or HEBR recommended)	3	Varies	2 nd Language* (January Term)	3
Varies	Free Elective	3	THEO 238	Christian Theology I**	3
Varies	Mathematical Science* (CIS recommended)	3-4	Varies	European or US History*	3
BIBL 202	Encountering the Bible for Majors**	3	COMM 105	Oral Communication*	3
CHRM 099	Opportunities in Christian Ministries	1	Varies	3 rd Language or Cross Cultural*	3
		TOTAL			18
Sophomore Year—Fall			Sophomore Year—Spring		
ENGL xxx	Literature*	3	BIBL 237	New Testament Literature for Majors	3
HDFS 101	Foundations of Marriage and Family**	3	THEO 338	Christian Theology III	3
BIBL 233	Old Testament Literature for Majors	3	CHRM 242	Christian Spirituality	3
RELI 344	History of Christianity	3	CHRM 235	Ministry with Youth I	3
THEO 239	Christian Theology II***	3	CHRM 225	Field Experience in Christian Ministries	2
			CHRM 338	Teaching for CM (J term)	3
		TOTAL			17
Junior Year—Fall			Junior Year—Spring		
BIBL 312	Selected NT Books	3	HDFS 311	Adolescent Development	3
Varies	Laboratory Science*	3-4	RELI 355 OR Varies	Christianity in North America OR Free Elective	3
Varies	Non-Western Studies*	3	CHRM 210	Theology of Ministry	3
CHRM 353	Topics in Youth Ministries	3	CHRM 336	Ministry with Youth II	3
CHRM 330 OR 243	Organization and Leadership for Ministry OR Evangelism and Discipleship	3	PHIL 101	Problems in Philosophy*	3
		TOTAL			15
Senior Year—Fall			Senior Year—Spring		
CHRM 493	Christian Ministries Seminar	3	Varies	Wellness*	1
CHRM 330 OR 243	Organization and Leadership for Ministry OR Evangelism and Discipleship	3	RELI 355 OR Varies	Christianity in North America OR Free Elective	3
Varies	Science, Tech and the World*	3	Varies	Arts*	3
Varies	Free Elective	3	CHRM 391	Practicum	3
Varies	Free Elective	3	Varies	Free Elective	3
		TOTAL			13
			TOTAL CREDITS		123-125

1. * Meets QuEST requirement
2. **Meets QuEST and Major requirements
3. ***Fulfills Writing Enriched course requirement for Major