

## Doctor of Philosophy in Biblical Exegesis

Depending on their academic credentials, the students may be admitted to either one of the following tracks:

[1] Short Track: Those who have an MA in Biblical Exegesis (MA-BE) may follow the short track.

### Modern Language Requirement

Reading knowledge of two modern languages often used in biblical studies besides English. These must be fulfilled before writing the dissertation.

### Curriculum

2 Biblical Theology courses  
8 OT and/or NT Exegesis courses  
2 seminar courses  
2 reading courses  
Lectio Coram  
Dissertation

The Lectio Coram is a public lecture at the end of the doctoral course work in which a particular book of the Bible is assigned to the student. Two days before the exam, some passages from that book are assigned as the topic of the public lecture.

[2] Long Track: Those who have an MA in Theological Studies can also be admitted to the doctoral program. They need, however, to take a longer course work that includes all the required biblical language and isagogic courses. Those with an MA-TS must also take the course on "Scripture, Tradition,

Magisterium" if they have not yet done so.

### Pre-PhD Biblical Language Requirements

Biblical Hebrew I & II and  
Biblical Greek I & II

### Modern Language Requirements

A reading knowledge of two modern languages often used in biblical studies besides English. These must be fulfilled before writing the dissertation.

### Curriculum

Biblical Hebrew III-IV  
Biblical Greek III-IV  
Biblical Hermeneutics  
History of Israel  
Textual Criticism  
1 Biblical Theology course  
8 OT and/or NT Exegesis courses  
1 seminar course  
1 reading course  
Lectio Coram  
Dissertation

Those who are unable to write or finish the dissertation may opt instead for the degree MA in Biblical Exegesis by writing a master's thesis.

Applicants to the doctoral program are admitted provisionally by the Dean upon the recommendation of the Standards and Degrees Committee. Full acceptance to the PhD program will be decided by the Dean in consultation with the Standards & Degrees Committee only after the student has earned 18 units in the doctoral course work.

## Application to the Programs

Additional Requirements for PhD Applicants: Applicants to the PhD program are required to submit a copy of their master's thesis or its equivalent, on which their capacity to write a dissertation will be evaluated. In addition, they must also submit a 1 to 2-page double-spaced essay explaining why they are pursuing the doctorate, mentioning the area they wish to pursue in their dissertation.

Application Period & Deadlines: Students may apply for admission to the MA-BE and PhD-BE programs in either semester. Procedures, required documents and deadlines for application are published on the website of the Loyola School of Theology ([www.lst.edu/admission/procedures](http://www.lst.edu/admission/procedures)).

Entrance Tests: All applicants are required to take the Ateneo de Manila University Graduate School Entrance Exam and the LST English Proficiency Test. Fees are charged for these exams.

TOEFL: The Test of English as a Foreign Language is required by the Ateneo de Manila Graduate School for international students who come from countries where English is NOT the medium of instruction. It is best that they take the TOEFL in their home countries BEFORE coming to the Philippines. The test result should form part of their application documents to the Ateneo de Manila Graduate School.

Screening and Acceptance to the Programs: Applicants are accepted to the programs by the LST Dean upon the recommendation of the Admissions Committee or the Standards and Degrees Committee which evaluates the applicants on the basis of their academic records, entrance test results, essays, bio-data, etc. On the recommendation of the committee, some students may be required to take propaedeutic courses as a condition for their acceptance.

## Civil Degree Programs in Biblical Exegesis

### Master of Arts in Biblical Exegesis

### Doctor of Philosophy in Biblical Exegesis



# LST

Loyola School of Theology

## **Biblical Studies in Asia-Pacific**

Owing to the need for a center of exegetical studies and research on the Bible in the Philippines and East Asia, the Loyola School of Theology – Ateneo de Manila University offers MA and PhD programs in Biblical Exegesis.

These programs are our response to the need expressed by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP), the Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences (FABC), and the Catholic Biblical Association of the Philippines (CBAP) for a solid training in biblical interpretation using scientific methods of exegesis.

Until now Filipino and Asian students still need to go to Europe and North America (at a heavy financial burden!) to learn the expertise in biblical exegesis. Yet, the LST has sufficient resources (professors, library, school facilities, etc.) to offer a similar training. Moreover, LST has the added advantage of being able to adapt biblical studies to the needs of East Asia and the Philippines.

The LST is in a unique position in this part of the world to offer MA and PhD programs in Biblical Exegesis because it has a large pool of professors with licentiates and doctorates in Biblical Studies, many of whom are graduates from the Catholic University of Louvain or the Pontifical Biblical Institute (Biblicum) in Rome. It can draw additional professors from the Catholic Biblical Association of the Philippines (CBAP) which is based in LST. Moreover, the Ralph Gehring Library of LST - perhaps one of the finest theological libraries in the Asia Pacific Region - can boast of an excellent collection of books, periodicals, commentaries, and multimedia resources on the Bible and on the Biblical languages.

### **Master of Arts in Biblical Exegesis**

Those who have a government-recognized (civil) bachelor's degree and are qualified may apply to the MA in Biblical Exegesis program.

#### **Admission Prerequisites**

6 units of Fundamental Theology (Revelation-Faith; Scripture-Tradition-Magisterium)  
6 units of introductory courses in Scripture  
Biblical Hebrew I & II and Biblical Greek I & II

These pre-MA credits may be obtained from Scripture courses in college, the seminary program, or propaedeutic classes in LST. Those who studied Biblical Hebrew and Greek in another school or on their own may be exempted from this admission requirement if they pass a qualifying test given by LST.

#### **Modern Language Requirement**

Reading knowledge of one modern language often used in biblical studies besides English. This requirement must be fulfilled before writing the tesina.

#### **Curriculum**

Biblical Hebrew III -IV  
Biblical Greek III-IV  
History of Israel  
Biblical Hermeneutics  
Textual Criticism  
Biblical Theology  
2 OT Exegesis courses  
2 NT Exegesis courses  
Seminar course  
Comprehensive Exam  
Tesina

The tesina is a scholarly research paper of about 50-80 pages (exclusive of bibliography), written according the SBL or CBQ style of writing, on any topic of biblical exegesis or biblical theology chosen by the student and guided by a mentor appointed by the Dean.

For complete information regarding admission procedures, deadlines, and required documents, visit:  
<http://www.lst.edu/admission/procedures>

LST Student Handbook (2007):  
<http://www.lst.edu/academics/downloads>

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