



Master of Arts (Biblical Exegesis & Linguistics) (MABEL)

Locations: ● Dallas ● Houston ● DC ● Extensions ● Online

Hours: 62 Languages: English

PURPOSE:

The Master of Arts (Biblical Exegesis and Linguistics) degree program is designed to provide graduate-level training for men and women who desire instruction in tools for effective Bible translation. It is designed for those who desire to pursue advanced study in linguistics and for those who desire to serve in Bible translation ministries, including missionary recruits from America and other nations, furloughing and in-service missionaries, and translation support personnel.

The MABEL, offered jointly with Dallas International University (Dallas Intl.), prepares students with the linguistics skills necessary for good Bible translation. The degree also prepares students for service with Wycliffe Bible Translators, meeting the minimum requirements for the first term of service.

The Department of World Missions and Intercultural Studies is responsible for administering the program on the DTS campus.

Goals

Students in the MABEL program will be able to:

- exegete the Hebrew and Greek texts of the Bible;
- form a basic theological foundation as a grid for Bible translation;
- apply basic principles of hermeneutics in Bible study and Bible translation;
- understand the theory and principles of language translation and contextualization;
- employ computational tools to construct a phonological analysis, descriptive grammar, partial lexicography, and interlinear text of a minority language; and
- design an effective strategy for cross-cultural ministry.

Admission Requirements

The application process for the MABEL is a dual process. Applicants for the program must apply to both DTS and Dallas Intl., and the admission requirements of both institutions must be met. In most cases, students admitted to DTS will meet the admission requirements at Dallas Intl. **However, prospective MABEL students should be aware that the requirements for linguistic courses at Dallas Intl. vary and will include a minimum of 15 prerequisite credit hours.**

Until they apply to DTS for admission to the program, students will not be officially enrolled in the MABEL program. Students are advised to contact both institutions as soon as possible regarding their intentions to enroll in the MABEL program so that adequate advice and direction can be provided.

Because the majority of students enrolled in the MABEL are either already involved in or anticipate being involved in Bible-translation ministries cross-culturally, applicants to the MABEL are required to have a basic understanding of world missions, normally attained through the completion of an introductory or foundations course in world missions such as the *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement* course (perspectives.org) or other approved means of meeting this entrance requirement. Students without this prerequisite may be required to take, in addition to their MABEL requirements, WM5101 Introduction to World Missions. Please contact the Admissions office for more information about this requirement.

Transfer of Credit

In addition to the normal transfer-credit policies of the seminary for general master's degrees (please refer to the Transfer of Credit section in this catalog), no more than 30 hours of coursework from institutions outside of DTS and Dallas Intl. will be transferred toward the MA (Biblical Exegesis and Linguistics) degree. Some provision will be made for students to transfer work from Jerusalem University College to the MABEL program. Entering students with missions experience in Bible translation may be eligible for advanced standing.

Residential Requirements

Currently, up to 38 hours of the DTS course requirements may be completed online or in a residential (face-to-face) format at one of the seminary's approved locations. (Students should note that not all courses are available at all locations.) Of the 62 hours required for the MABEL degree, a minimum of 21 hours must be taken through DTS and a minimum of 18 hours must be taken through Dallas Intl.

Course Requirements

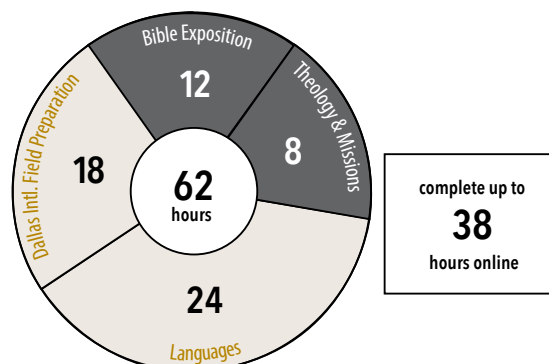
Sixty-two credit hours of graduate coursework are required as a minimum for graduation. Of those hours, 18 are prescribed in linguistics field preparation, 12 in Greek grammar and exegesis, 12 in Hebrew grammar and exegesis, 3 in biblical manners and customs, 3 in world missions, 9 in Bible exposition, and 5 in systematic and historical theology. Students must also successfully complete either the two-term SF5145 or the four-term SF5100 requirement. The Department of World Missions and Intercultural Studies advises students in this program, and career guidance is also available from Dallas Intl. staff.

Substitutions may be made for required courses with appropriate departmental approval. Students who have a linguistics background or training should consult the Dallas Intl. academic advisor for course advice.

Bible Exposition		12
BE5101	Bible Study Methods and Hermeneutics	3
BE5102	Old Testament History I	
	or	
BE5107	Hebrews, General Epistles, and Revelation	3
BE5104	Old Testament Prophets	
	or	
BE5106	Acts and Pauline Epistles	3
BE5315	Bible Manners and Customs	3
Theology & Missions		8
HT5200	History of Doctrine*	2
ST5101	Theological Method and Bibliology	3
WM5540	Applied Biblical Contextualization	3
Languages		24
NT5101	Elements of Greek	3
NT5102	Elements of Greek	3
NT5103	Intermediate Greek	3
NT5104	Introduction to New Testament Exegesis	3
OT5101	Elements of Hebrew I	3
OT5102	Elements of Hebrew II	3
OT5103	Hebrew Exegesis and Old Testament Introduction I	3
OT5104	Hebrew Exegesis and Old Testament Introduction II	3

Dallas International University (Dallas Intl.) Field Preparation		18
AL5207	Field Data Management	2
AL5312	Discourse Analysis	3
AL5315	Semantics and Pragmatics	3
AL5316	Theory and Practice of Translation	3
AL5406	Field Methods	4
	Dallas Intl. Elective	3
Spiritual Formation		
SF5145	MABEL Spiritual Formation	0
Total		62

*HT5200 is a 3-hour course. MABEL students may take the course for 2 hours of credit and 1 hour of audit. Please contact the Registrar's office for more information about this option.



Linguistics and related translation courses are offered on the campus of Dallas International University. Biblical and theological coursework, as well as coursework in biblical languages, is offered at DTS. A Spiritual Formation group supervised by the Department of World Missions and Intercultural Studies is designed to meet the needs of this group of students.

Completion of course requirements for the MABEL requires careful planning on the part of students as they seek to coordinate coursework at two institutions. Therefore, students are strongly encouraged to plan their studies so that they take courses at only one institution at a time.

Students will split their time between DTS and Dallas Intl., though it is difficult for students to take courses at both institutions concurrently. Therefore, **students are strongly encouraged to adhere to the curriculum chart at the end of this section and to plan their coursework in close consultation with advisors from both DTS and Dallas Intl.**

Every attempt is made to facilitate the completion of the program in no more than three calendar years for full-time students. Students may shorten this time by taking advantage of winter and summer offerings at DTS. **However, students should be aware that the linguistics courses from Dallas Intl. require prerequisites that may extend the length of the program. Furthermore, students who choose to pursue the MA in Applied Linguistics from Dallas Intl. in addition to the MABEL may need additional time to complete the program.**

Before students begin their studies in the MABEL, they should consult the DTS Advising Center to develop a degree plan for completing requirements. This plan will include input from Dallas Intl. on the completion of linguistics requirements.

Students should consult both the DTS and Dallas Intl. Registrars' offices for information on scheduling options. The Admissions office at DTS is also available to assist students.

Academic Procedures

A dual registration process is followed for all Dallas Intl. courses taken for the degree. Students must register through Dallas Intl. before taking linguistics courses at that campus. DTS is then notified by Dallas Intl. and enters the courses in the DTS registration system. This allows the tracking of student status for such purposes as loan deferments, international visa requirements, etc. There is no charge for the DTS portion of the registration process for Dallas Intl. courses.

At the end of each term, Dallas Intl. sends official grade sheets to the Registrar's office at DTS for the transcribing of their courses. Grades earned for Dallas Intl. courses are factored into the cumulative grade point average at DTS.

Dual-Degree Option

Students who complete the 62 hours required for the MABEL degree may complete an additional 4 hours from Dallas Intl. to earn their 37-hour MA in Applied Linguistics. In addition to the 18 hours taken at Dallas Intl. as part of the MABEL program, students may transfer 15 hours from the MABEL program to Dallas Intl. and take an additional 4 hours at Dallas Intl., plus comprehensive exams, to meet the 37-hour requirement for an MA in Applied Linguistics. This essentially allows students to earn both degrees for a minimum of 66 hours plus comprehensive exams. Please consult your Dallas Intl. advisor for more details about this option.

Dallas International University Course Descriptions

The following courses are offered through Dallas Intl. Prerequisite courses are not listed but may be found in the Dallas Intl. catalog available from the Dallas Intl. Admissions office by calling 972-708-7415 or 972-708-7343, emailing admissions@diu.edu, or going online at diu.edu/admissions.

AL5207 Field Data Management

After completing this course, students will be able to use computational tools for managing and presenting phonological, textual, and lexical data collected in linguistic field research. *Prerequisite:* AL4302 Principles of Articulatory and Acoustic Phonetics, AL4303 Principles of Phonological Analysis, AL4410 Principles of Grammatical Analysis, AA4505 Second Language and Culture Acquisition. *Corequisite:* AL5406 Field Methods and Linguistic Analysis. 2 hours.

AL5312 Discourse Analysis

After completing this course, students will be able to analyze the discourse structure of a text, using a specific approach to text analysis, and be able to compare this with other current approaches to text analysis. They will be able to describe typical features of different types of prominence and cohesion and coherence. They will be able to chart sample texts from different languages and analyze how a discourse may be segmented into hierarchical units. They will be able to indicate evidence for foregrounding and backgrounding (or mainline and supportive information), including differences in verb forms; to describe topic or participant reference; and to investigate constituent order variation. They will focus on the interface between syntactic forms and their functions in discourse as they investigate grammatical structures of discourse, paragraph, sentence, and clause. *Prerequisite:* AL4410 Principles of Grammatical Analysis. 3 hours.

AL5315 Semantics and Pragmatics

After completing this course, students will be able to explain and discuss relationships between form and meaning at various levels of language. They will be able to explain the difference between meaning and reference; describe and identify

homonymy, polysemy, and ambiguity; analyze and describe word meanings, sentence meanings, utterance meanings, and speech act functions; identify and describe presuppositions, entailments, implicature, and ellipsis; identify components of meaning, and write clear definitions based on componential analysis. *Prerequisite:* AL4410 Principles of Grammatical Analysis. 3 hours.

AL5316 Theory and Practice of Translation
Upon completing this course students will be able to explain and practice the principles of transferring meaning across languages and cultures. They will be conversant with different theories and approaches to translation. They will be able to critically analyze the meaning of a text from another language, translate that text, and evaluate the result for accuracy, communicative effectiveness, and naturalness. They will be conversant with methods for training and facilitating national colleagues in the process of translation. They will be able to recognize common translation problems and apply standard methods for solving them. They will be able to access current literature on translation theory and practice and the tools most commonly used by professional Bible translators. *Prerequisites:* AL5312 Discourse Analysis and either AL5311 Relevance Theory or AL5315 Semantics and Pragmatics. 3 hours.

AL5406 Field Methods and Linguistic Analysis
By the end of Field Methods and Linguistic Analysis, students will be able to elicit, record, and transcribe linguistic data by working with a speaker of a nonwestern language; use external sources plus the elicited data to formulate explanatory

hypotheses; test those hypotheses against available data; and refine them. *Prerequisites:* AL4302 Principles of Articulatory and Acoustic Phonetics, AL4303 Principles of Phonological Analysis, AL4410 Principles of Grammatical Analysis, and AA4505 Second Language and Culture Acquisition. *Corequisite:* AL5207 Field Data Management. 4 hours.

AA5151 Cross-cultural Teaching Seminar
After completing this course, students will be able to analyze a teaching process from the perspective of learning and teaching styles, and identify factors related to teaching cross-culturally. They will perform a teaching task, and be able to identify concepts from intercultural communication that could facilitate or impede the teaching process in a cross-cultural context. *Prerequisites:* AA4350 Language and Society or AA4505 Second Language and Culture Acquisition. This course is required only for the Dallas Intl. MA in Applied Linguistics. 1 hour.

CURRICULUM (MASTER OF ARTS [BIBLICAL EXEGESIS AND LINGUISTICS])

The following table represents the required curriculum for the Master of Arts (Biblical Exegesis and Linguistics). This plan has been developed in consultation with Dallas Intl. and should be followed closely to reduce scheduling difficulties. Though some courses may be completed online, the MABEL program must be completed largely through resident study in Dallas at Dallas Intl. and DTS. The planned sessions provided below pertain specifically to Dallas-campus course offerings. DTS online courses are typically offered each fall, spring, and summer term. Courses may be cancelled or offered in alternate terms as needed.

*Please visit diu.edu/academics/course-schedule/ for the most updated course offerings at Dallas Intl.

FIRST YEAR (AT DALLAS INTL.)

	HOURS	FALL	SPRING	ONLINE
Dallas Intl. Baccalaureate-level prerequisite courses if necessary		●		
DALLAS INTL. LINGUISTICS COURSES				
AL5207 Field Data Management	2			
AL5406 Field Methods and Linguistic Analysis	4		●	
AL5312 Discourse Analysis	3		●	
AA5151 Cross-cultural Teaching Seminar ¹	(1)		●	
Dallas Intl. Electives ¹	(3)		●	
FIRST YEAR HOURS	9	(4)		

SECOND YEAR (AT DTS)

	HOURS	FALL	SPRING	ONLINE
BIBLICAL STUDIES				
BE5101 Bible Study Methods and Hermeneutics	3	●	●	●
BE5102 Old Testament History I OR BE5107 Hebrews, General Epistles, and Revelation ²	3		●	●
BE5315 Bible Manners and Customs	3	●		
NT5101 Elements of Greek	3	●		●
NT5102 Elements of Greek	3		●	●
OT5101 Elements of Hebrew I	3	●		●
OT5102 Elements of Hebrew II	3		●	●
MISSIONS AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION				
WM5540 Applied Biblical Contextualization	3	●		
SF5145-1 MABEL Spiritual Formation		●		
SF5145-2 MABEL Spiritual Formation			●	
SECOND YEAR HOURS	24			

THIRD YEAR (AT DTS)

	HOURS	FALL	SPRING	ONLINE
BIBLICAL STUDIES				
BE5104 Old Testament Prophets OR BE5106 Acts and Pauline Epistles ²	3	●	●	●
NT5103 Intermediate Greek	3	●	●	●
NT5104 Introduction to New Testament Exegesis	3		●	●
OT5103 Hebrew Exegesis & Old Testament Introduction I	3	●		●
OT5104 Hebrew Exegesis & Old Testament Introduction II	3		●	●
THEOLOGICAL STUDIES				
ST5101 Theological Method and Bibliology	3	●	●	●
HT5200 History of Doctrine ³	2		●	●
THIRD YEAR HOURS	20			

FOURTH YEAR (AT DALLAS INTL.)

DALLAS INTL. LINGUISTICS COURSES	HOURS	FALL	ONLINE
AL5315 Semantics and Pragmatics	3	●	
AL5316 Theory and Practice of Translation	3	●	
Dallas Intl. Electives ⁴	3	●	
FOURTH YEAR HOURS	9		

¹ Students who wish to complete the MA in Applied Linguistics with a Bible Translation concentration through Dallas Intl. *in addition to* the DTS MABEL degree should take AA5151 and an additional 3-hour Dallas Intl. elective in Bimester 2. These additional 4 hours plus comprehensive exams are required to complete the MA in Applied Linguistics at Dallas Intl.

² Bible Exposition courses may be replaced with exegesis courses in the Old or New Testament Studies departments or with other Bible Exposition courses as approved by the MABEL program coordinator.

³ HT5200 History of Doctrine is a 3-hour course which may be taken for 2 hours of credit and 1 hour of audit.

⁴ Students may choose any Dallas Intl. master's-level elective recommended by their Dallas Intl. advisor. Please consult the current Dallas Intl. catalog for available electives.