

PATHWAY PROCESS FAQ

5-Year BA Biblical Studies and MABLE/MATS

The 4 + 1 academic pathway offers the quickest, most cost-effective, and most extensive route to a bachelor's degree and master's qualification at Briercrest. This opportunity is for BA Biblical Studies students interested in earning their master's degree in less time and for less investment. In partnership with the Seminary, Briercrest's Department of Biblical and Theological Studies has developed a one-year pathway for its grads to complete their master's degree.

1. Admission to College: If I know I know I want to complete the 5-year pathway, is there something extra I need to do when first applying to the College?

No, you simply apply to the College and choose the BA Biblical Studies program. You will ask to enter the pathway later (see #3 below).

2. College course advising: How do I know which courses will allow me to complete the pathway correctly and efficiently?

Academic Services will have sample program sheets of how the pathway can work, which will include a listing of upper-level Biblical Studies that will count for your BA and MA (as advanced standing or "shared credit"). You will need to work closely with Academic Services academic advisors as well as your College and Seminary program advisors.

The pathway is built to allow a decent amount of flexibility. However, intentional planning will be essential for you to achieve their educational goals well...

In general, if your goal is the MA Biblical Languages and Exegesis (MABLE), then here's what your ideal BA-MABLE pathway schedule would look like:

- Year 1: 30 credit hours of Core courses (BLST 109 and BLST 111 are essential). Note: If the Greek Intensive is offered during your first year, you should take it if you're aiming to complete the whole pathway in 5 years.
- Year 2: Greek Intensive (12 credit hours of Greek or Hebrew required for entry into MABLE; 3 credit hours of Advanced Standing); BA Biblical Studies major 300-level (approximately 2-3 courses outside of the Greek Intensive); Core (to fill 30 credit hours for the academic year).

- Years 3 and 4: Hebrew (12 credit hours); BA Biblical Studies major 300-level or 400-level; remaining BA Core and Free Electives; RD 701.
- Year 5: Seminary year (see #6 below).

In general, if your goal is the MA Theological Studies (MATS), here's what your ideal BA-MATS pathway schedule would look like:

- Year 1: 30 credit hours of Core courses (BLST 109 and BLST 111 are essential).
- Years 2 and 3: Intro Hebrew I and II (for students doing the MATS Old Testament concentration) or Intro Greek I and II (for students doing the MATS New Testament concentration); BA Biblical Studies major 300-level; Core (to fill 30 credit hours each academic year).
- Year 4: BA Biblical Studies major 300-level or 400-level; remaining BA Core and Free Electives; RD 701.
- Year 5: Seminary year (see #6 below).

Note: While the BA-MA pathway has been designed for a five-year completion time, various factors may make it difficult for students to accomplish this. Students will need to carefully plan their academic coursework and financial arrangements. Briercrest College and Seminary regularly offers all courses required for the five-year pathway. But the precise scheduling of individual courses varies and is subject to change. Briercrest advisors will work closely with students to help you meet your educational goals.

3. Finances: How do I arrange my pathway courses so I'm still eligible for all the funding sources I need to pay for my studies (student loans, scholarships, tax returns, etc.)?

It is very important that you work closely with the Student Finance office and with academic advising to ensure that you qualify for the funding sources you need pay for school each semester.

For the first four years of the pathway (ie. before official graduation from your College degree), you will officially be an undergraduate student. During this time, every semester you need to take a sufficient number of undergraduate courses to be classified as full-time students for student loans and most other funding sources (eg. RESP's), scholarships, and tax forms.

At the beginning of each academic year, you will be required to complete an online form (link coming soon) that tells our Student Finance office about your course load plans (eg. 3 undergrad and 2 graduate in the fall; 2 undergrad and 2 graduate in the winter).

4. Entrance to the Pathway: How do I request to enter the pathway?

During your 4th semester of studies (ie. typically winter of your second year as a College student) you should complete the [pathway application form](#). Academic Services and the Biblical Studies department will review each student's application. Students will be accepted on the basis of a 3.3 cumulative GPA, plus good standing in the areas of academics, finances, and student life.

5. Admission to Seminary: When do I submit an official application to the Seminary?

You will complete the [Seminary application](#) during your College graduating year (ie. ideally the fourth year of your studies).

6. College Graduation: At what point in the 5-year pathway do I officially graduate with my College degree?

You will participate in College Graduation when you're on track to complete all your College degree program requirements, which ideally would be at the end of your fourth year of studies. Then you will be officially accepted to the Seminary MABLE/MATS program once all your College graduation requirements are met (ie. academic, financial, service learning, grad portfolio and interview).

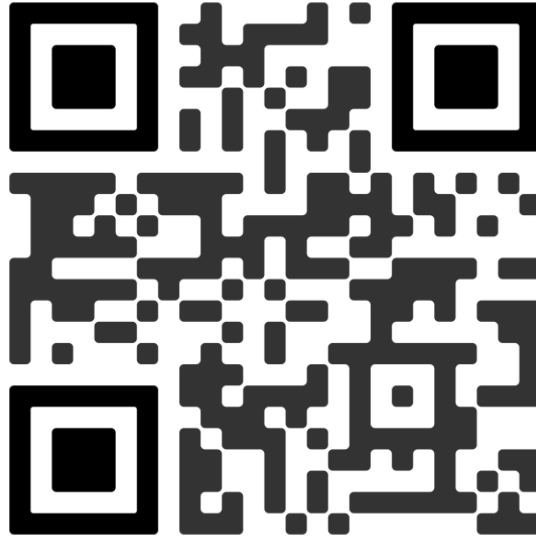
7. Seminary course advising: How do I know which Seminary courses I need to finish my Seminary degree?

If you took the right courses while in, then all that should be left during your final year as a full Seminary student is 18 credit hours comprised of the Research Requirements (RD 701, if not completed during College graduating year; RD 808 Thesis or RD 806 Reading Course plus electives); a Core course or two; an elective or two (for MABLE, this will likely be the final language course and an open elective).

You will need to continue to work closely with Academic Services and the MABLE/MATS program coordinators to ensure you complete all your Seminary program requirements.

8. Seminary Graduation: When do I officially graduate with my Seminary degree?

Once you are able to complete your final MABLE/MATS requirements during that current academic year, then you will [apply for graduation](#) and complete your remaining coursework according to the appropriate deadlines.



Pathway application form