Bible Knowledge

Description

Institutional Goal #1 evaluates the extent to which CCBS students develop greater knowledge of the Bible and the central doctrines of the Christian faith, resulting in a more thoroughly biblical worldview. This goal is assessed through both direct measures of student learning and student perceptions of growth across their courses.

Methodology

Bible knowledge and doctrinal understanding are assessed primarily through the ABHE Bible Exam, which includes separate sections for Bible Knowledge and Biblical Teaching/Doctrine. Undergraduate students complete a pre-test near the beginning of their program and a post-test during their final Supervised Ministry course. Results are analyzed both by comparing entering and graduating cohorts approximately four years apart and, when possible, by comparing matched students who completed both the pre-test and post-test. Graduate students complete a pre-test in Introduction to Theological Research; however, post-test data are currently limited primarily to Master of Divinity students, resulting in small sample sizes. Course evaluations provide an additional indirect measure by asking students how effectively their courses increased their knowledge of Scripture and Christian doctrine.

Bible Knowledge

		Undergraduate Program		Graduate Program
Reporting Year	**Benchmark**	**Overall**	**Seniors**	**Graduate**
Spring 2023	+10 value added	22.6 (n = 37)	20.2 (n = 11)	n/a
Spring 2024	+10 value added	21.9 (n = 25)	3.2 (n = 5)	n/a
Spring 2025	+10 value added	20.9 (n = 49)	27.6 (n = 8)	2.2 (n = 4)
Spring 2026	+10 value added	27.4 (n = 30)	24.8 (n = 11)	-0.4 (n = 4)
4-Year Avg		**23.2**	**18.95**	**0.9**

"Overall" compares data 4 years apart regardless of specific persons (freshman year vs. senior year).
"Seniors" compares specific students who completed both the pre-test and post-test.

Biblical Teaching (Doctrine)

		Undergraduate Program		Graduate Program
Reporting Year	**Benchmark**	**Overall**	**Seniors**	**Graduate**
Spring 2023	+10 value added	20.3 (n = 37)	19.6 (n = 3)	n/a
Spring 2024	+10 value added	15.8 (n = 25)	3.4 (n = 5)	n/a
Spring 2025	+10 value added	17.4 (n = 49)	26 (n = 8)	-0.6 (n = 4)
Spring 2026	+10 value added	29.3 (n = 30)	19.4 (n = 11)	-2.3 (n = 4)
4-Year Avg		**20.7**	**17.1**	**-1.45**

"Overall" compares data 4 years apart regardless of specific persons (freshman year vs. senior year).
"Seniors" compares specific students who completed both the pre-test and post-test.

Bible Knowledge (Course Evaluation)

Reporting Year	Cohort Size	Benchmark	Result	Average
AY 2022-23	900	80% score ≥ 4	90%	4.5
AY 2023-24	920	80% score ≥ 4	90%	4.5
AY 2024-25	713	80% score ≥ 4	92%	4.6
AY 2025-26	494	80% score ≥ 4	91.7%	4.6

Based on course evaluations of how courses helped them grow in their knowledge of the Bible and the central doctrines of the Christian faith (out of 5).

Summary

Undergraduate ABHE Bible Exam results consistently exceed the institutional benchmark of 10 points of value added in both Bible Knowledge and Biblical Teaching/Doctrine. Spring 2026 results were particularly strong, with overall gains of 27.4 points in Bible Knowledge and 29.3 points in doctrine, while matched seniors also demonstrated gains of 24.8 and 19.4 points, respectively. Course evaluation results reinforce these findings, with 91.7% of students reporting strong growth; graduate results remain inconclusive because of limited post-test participation and small cohort sizes and should continue to be monitored as the assessment process is strengthened.