Master of Arts in Bible Translation

The Master of Arts in Bible Translation (MABT) provides students with an interdisciplinary knowledge of translation studies, linguistics, and biblical languages. It prepares students to engage in research and analysis that is informed by those disciplines and contributes to the advancement of the church, global missions, or vernacular Bible translation.

Student Learning Objectives

Upon the completion of the program, graduates will be able to:

- Apply theoretical knowledge to practical contexts involving the production of a Bible translation.
- Develop an understanding of how language works and its implications for Bible translation.
- Apply hermeneutical principles to a biblical text based on the original languages.

Knowledge:

Develop an understanding of how language works and its implications for Bible translation.

Measure	Target	Cycle	Next Collection	Person Responsible
Advanced Linguistics: Final Paper	75% of students will earn a grade of 81/B- of higher on final paper	Annually	Every Spring	Faculty
Field Methods: Capstone	4 out of 5 on the "how language works" rubric.	Annually	Every Spring	Faculty
Field Methods: Supervisor Evaluation	Score a 4 out of 5 on a Likert scale by the supervisor on student's knowledge	Annually	Every Spring	Faculty

Measurement Means	Benchmark for Success	Results and Implications
Advanced Linguistics: Final Paper	75% of students will earn a grade of 81/B- of higher on final paper	Results: AY 2025-26: No course offering this year Past Three Years: AY 2024-25: Course not offered. New course. AY 2023-24: New course to be offered beginning in 2024-25 New course to begin 2024-25 after the 2024 Program Review suggested changes. Implications: This course has not even been offered yet. Why not? When is it scheduled? If it is a core assessment item, surely it should be offered more regularly?
Field Methods: Capstone	4 out of 5 on the "how language works" rubric.	Results: AY 2025-26: 60% (n = 5, based on Summer 2025 since we only offer it once a year) Past Three Years: AY 2024-25: Rubric not created.

		AY 2023-24: Artifact was not received. New process beginning in 2023-24. Implications: --
Field Methods: Supervisor Evaluation	4 out of 5 on the "how language works" rubric.	Results: AY 2025-26: 0% (n = 5) Supervisor survey still not created in 2025. Past Three Years: AY 2024-25: Supervisor survey not created. New process begun in 2024-25 Implications: There is a gap here in the program. It has little oversight due to the nature of using Wycliffe Associates personnel. We need to bring this back in-house and give more focus to its direct oversight.

Abilities:

Apply theoretical knowledge to practical contexts involving the production of a Bible translation.

Measure	Target	Cycle	Next Collection	Person Responsible
Contemporary Issues in BT: Contemporary Issues Paper	75% of students will earn a grade of 81/B- of higher on final paper	Annually	Every Spring	Faculty
Field Methods: Capstone	Score a 4 out 5 on the "theoretical knowledge" portion	Annually	Every Spring	Faculty
Field Methods: Supervisor Evaluation	Score a 4 out of 5 on a Likert scale by the supervisor on student's theoretical knowledge	Annually	Every Spring	Faculty

Measurement Means	Benchmark for Success	Results and Implications
Contemporary Issues in BT: Contemporary Issues Paper	75% of students will earn a grade of 81/B- of higher on final paper	Results: AY 2025-26: 80% (n = 5) Past Three Years: AY 2024-25: 100% (n = 2) AY 2023-24: 70% (n = 10) AY 2022-23: 57% (n = 14) Implications: --
Field Methods: Capstone	Score a 4 out 5 on the "theoretical knowledge" portion	Results: AY 2025-26: 0% (n = 5) Rubric still not created in 2025. Past Three Years:

		AY 2024-25: Rubric not created. New process begun in 2024-25 Implications: --
Field Methods: Supervisor Evaluation	Score a 4 out of 5 on a Likert scale by the supervisor on student's theoretical knowledge	Results: AY 2025-26: 0% (n = 5) Supervisor survey still not created in 2025. Past Three Years: AY 2024-25: Supervisor survey not created. New process begun in 2024-25 Implications: --

Apply hermeneutical principles to a biblical text based on the original languages.

Measure	Target	Cycle	Next Collection	Person Responsible
Hermeneutics: Exegetical Paper	75% of students will earn a grade of 81/B- of higher on final paper	Annually	Every Spring	Faculty
Field Methods: Capstone	Score a 4 out 5 on the "hermeneutical principles" portion	Annually	Every Spring	Faculty
Field Methods: Supervisor Evaluation	Score a 4 out of 5 on a Likert scale by the supervisor on student's hermeneutical abilities	Annually	Every Spring	Faculty

Measurement Means	Benchmark for Success	Results and Implications
Hermeneutics: Exegetical Paper	75% of students will earn a grade of 81/B- of higher on final paper	Results: AY 2025-26: 100% (n = 6, but 3 students did not complete) Past Three Years: AY 2024-25: 83% (n = 12) AY 2023-24: 82% (n = 11) AY 2022-23: 91% (n = 11) Implications: Discuss requiring artifact assignments as "required" for passing the course…with Program Directors.
Field Methods: Capstone	Score a 4 out 5 on the "hermeneutical principles" portion	Results: AY 2025-26: 0% (n = 5) Rubric still not created in 2025. Past Three Years: AY 2024-25: No rubric created or applied. New process begun in 2024-25

		Implications: --
Field Methods: Supervisor Evaluation	Score a 4 out of 5 on a Likert scale by the supervisor on student's hermeneutical abilities	Results: AY 2025-26: 0% (n = 5) Supervisor survey still not created in 2025. Past Three Years: AY 2024-25: Supervisor survey not created. New process begun in 2024-25 Implications: --