Mission Statement
The Nyack College Biblical and Theological Studies Department seeks to assist Nyack students in their intellectual and spiritual formation by moving them toward competency in reading, interpreting and applying the Bible and in integrating its teaching into their worldview and personal lives.

Inasmuch as it is called upon to help prepare all Nyack undergraduates for professions of service, the Department seeks to impart a familiarity with the biblical world and with biblical thought, enabling students to connect the concerns of the ancient text with the concerns of the contemporary world. It also seeks to impart the conviction that the Bible’s central message, the gospel of Jesus Christ, offers hope for positive change for the entire global community.

Inasmuch as it is called upon to train Bible and Theology majors, the Department seeks to impart skills of ministerial and scholarly expertise, equipping majors with methods of study that will sharpen their understanding of the Bible and enable them to communicate its teaching with confidence and authority. It also seeks to impart familiarity with and respect for the Christian heritage, reminding majors of the larger community of Bible interpreters to which they belong and inspiring them to honor and build upon the work of others.

Program Goals
The Biblical and Theological Studies program seeks to impart to its majors:

Knowledge of the Bible and the Christian heritage. This will be accomplished through Bible and Theology survey courses and out-of-classroom learning venues sponsored or supported by the Biblical and Theological Studies department.

Skill in researching, interpreting, applying, and communicating the teaching of the Bible. This will be accomplished directly through a Hermeneutics course and a senior seminar course and indirectly through Bible and Theology elective courses.

Conviction about the Bible’s role in spiritual formation, the church as a student’s primary interpretive community and the gospel as a message of hope for positive change in the global community. This will be accomplished directly through a Personal Spiritual Formation course, a Global Engagement course, and indirectly through Bible and Theology elective courses and through interaction and advisement from the Bible and Theology faculty.

Student Learning Goals
By graduation, the Biblical and Theological Studies major’s knowledge, skills and convictions will reflect Nyack’s core values in the following way:

Academically Excellent: Students will know introductory, background and thematic information about the sixty-six books of the Bible and the scholarly research methods through which this knowledge is generated. They will also know the Christian church’s historic doctrines, great thinkers and contemporary expressions, with which the students must interact. This knowledge will be assessed through various written exams and Bible interpretation papers assigned throughout the program and through a standardized exam in the senior year.

Globally Engaged and Intentionally Diverse: Students will know the richness of the Christian heritage in all its global diversity. Students will also know how the Christian worldview compares and contrasts with competing worldviews in the global marketplace of ideas. This knowledge will be assessed through various written exams throughout the program and through a standardized exam during the senior year.
**Personally Transforming:** Students will be able to communicate, whether in oral or written form, the ways in which they integrate the Bible’s teaching into their Christian worldview and into their personal daily living. This ability will be assessed through various Bible interpretation assignments, both oral and written, throughout the program that require this integration and through a professional interview in the senior year.

**Socially Relevant:** Students will be able to connect properly the concerns of the ancient text to the concerns of the modern world, to think biblically in addressing contemporary problems, and to communicate how the gospel of Jesus Christ offers hope for positive change in the global community. These skills will prepare the students for ministerial, educational and other service professions. This ability will be assessed through various Bible interpretation papers assigned throughout the program.

**Program Assessment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Context</th>
<th>Location in Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Standardized Bible and Theology content test, covering the content of</td>
<td>BIB 470 Theology Seminar</td>
<td>Senior year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This assessment will measure program goal (1), knowledge of the Bible</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>and the Christian heritage.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Bible research / interpretation papers</td>
<td>BIB 470 Theology Seminar</td>
<td>Senior year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This assessment will measure program goal (2), skill in researching,</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>interpreting, applying and communicating the teachings of the Bible.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. A theological biography and professional interview. This assessment</td>
<td>BIB 470 Theology Seminar</td>
<td>Senior year</td>
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<tr>
<td>will measure program goal (3), conviction about the Bible’s role in</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>spiritual formation, the church as student’s primary interpretive</td>
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<td>community and the gospel as a message of hope for positive change in the</td>
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<tr>
<td>global community.</td>
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</table>

Assessment results are evaluated on an annual basis for program improvement. No individual student is identified in the evaluation of the program data. Results for past years are reported below with percentage of students in each performance category.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Below Expectations</th>
<th>Meets Expectations</th>
<th>Exceeds Expectations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Standardized BIB/THE Content test</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Results from 2 sections of BIB 470, Theology Seminar in 10-11</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Bible research / interpretation paper.</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Results from ‘10-11 (from 2 sections of BIB 470, Theology Seminar)</td>
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</table>
Program: 120 credit hours, distributed as follows, are required for the Bachelor of Arts degree:

**Liberal Arts and Science Core Component** ................................................................. 35

**Foreign Language Component** ................................................................. 12

- GRK 101-102 or HEB 101-102 - Elementary Greek or Hebrew (6 credits)
- GRK 231/312 or HEB 221/222 - Rags Greek/Exegesis or Hebrew Rags I/II (6 cry)
  OR
  English Bible 2 years or intermediate level (12 credits) of the same language

**Bible and Ministry Core Curriculum** ................................................................. 12

  (Bible majors are exempt from BIB 303- Christian Thought)

**Major Field Component (39 credits)**

- BIB 103 – Introduction to Biblical and Theological Studies .................................. 3
- BIB 331 - Hermeneutics ......................................................................................... 3
- THE 301,302 – Systematic Theology I and II ......................................................... 6
- THE 320 – Introduction to Historical Theology .................................................... 3
- BIB 470 - Theology Seminar .................................................................................. 3
- PMN 346 – Personal Spiritual Formation .............................................................. 3
- ICS 224 – Introduction to Global Engagement or Bible Lands Trip (BIB384-387) 3
- Concentration (either Bible or Theology) .............................................................. 15

**Elective Courses**

  For students choosing the “Bible” Concentration

  - Old Testament electives ......................................................................................... 6
  - New Testament electives ....................................................................................... 6
  - Either BIB or THE elective .................................................................................... 3

  For students choosing the “Theology” Concentration

  - Historical Theology elective (any course from THE 321- 329) ......................... 6
  - Systematic Theology elective (any from THE 312-319 or THE 330-450)...... 6
  - BIB elective .......................................................................................................... 3

**Miscellaneous/Liberal Arts Elective Component (22)**

  (Breakdown of Liberal arts depends on concentration)

  - Theology Concentration: 14 liberal arts and 8 miscellaneous
  - Bible Concentration: 11 Liberal arts and 11 miscellaneous

**Total credits required** ...................................................................................... 120
Biblical & Theological Studies Major

**Suggested Program Plan: Bible Concentration**

**FIRST YEAR: Fall**
- PMN 101- Intro to Spirit Form....2
- BIB 103- Intro Bib/Theo Studies 3
- ENG 101-College Writing I ....3
- HIS 113-Hist. of World Civ. I....3
- Language Requirement........3

**SECOND YEAR: Fall**
- BIB 201-New Testament Lit ......3
- ENG 201 or 202-Glob Lit. I or II3
- Language Requirement.........3
- PMN 201-Nyack Heritage .......1
- BIB- Elective (core)..........3
- BIB Elective (OT).................3

**THIRD YEAR: Fall**
- THE 301-Systematic Theology I 3
- BIB 331-Hermeneutics ..........3
- THE 320- Intro Historical Theol.3
- SOC 347-Cont. American Soc. .3
- MAT-elective.....................3

**FOURTH YEAR: Fall**
- Miscellaneous Electives........3
- Liberal Arts Electives.........11

**FIRST YEAR: Spring**
- BIB 102-Old Testament Lit .......3
- ENG 102-College Writing II....3
- HIS 114-Hist. of World Civ. II.3
- Language Requirement.........3
- Social Science elective.......3
- LIB 101-Info Literacy.........1

**SECOND YEAR: Spring**
- Language Requirement.........3
- PHI 101-Intro. to Philosophy ..3
- Laboratory Science .............4
- ICS 224 – Intro Global Engage.3
- BIB Elective (NT).................3

**THIRD YEAR: Spring**
- THE 302- Systematic Theology II3
- BIB- Elective (OT).................3
- BIB-Elective (NT).................3
- PMN 346- Personal Spirit Form 3
- Art History requirement.....3

**FOURTH YEAR: Spring**
- BIB or THE- Elective ............3
- BIB 470-Theology Seminar.....3
- Electives.........................8

**Suggested Program Plan: Theology Concentration**

**FIRST YEAR: Fall**
- PMN 101-Intro to Spiritual Form.2
- BIB 103-Intro Bib/Theo Studies 3
- ENG 101-College Writing I ....3
- HIS 113-Hist. of World Civ. I....3
- Language Requirement........3

**SECOND YEAR: Fall**
- BIB 201-New Testament Lit. ....3
- ENG 201 or 202-Global Lit. I or II3
- Language Requirement.........3
- PMN 201-Nyack Heritage .......1
- Liberal Arts Electives.........6

**THIRD YEAR: Fall**
- THE 301-Systematic Theology I 3
- BIB 331-Hermeneutics ..........3
- THE 320- Intro Historical Theol.3
- SOC 347-Cont. American Soc. .3
- MAT-elective.....................3

**FOURTH YEAR: Fall**
- THE elective (Systematic) .....3
- THE elective (Historical) .....3
- Liberal Arts Electives ....8

**FIRST YEAR: Spring**
- BIB 102-Old Testament Lit .......3
- ENG 102-College Writing II....3
- HIS 114-Hist. of World Civ. II.3
- Language Requirement.........3
- Social Science elective.......3
- LIB 101-Info Literacy.........1

**SECOND YEAR: Spring**
- Language Requirement.........3
- PHI 101-Intro. to Philosophy ..3
- Laboratory Science .............4
- ICS 224 – Intro Global Engage.3
- Miscellaneous Electives ....3

**THIRD YEAR: Spring**
- THE 302- Systematic Theology II3
- BIB- Elective (core).............3
- BIB-Elective.....................3
- PMN 346- Personal Spirit Form 3
- Art History requirement.....3

**FOURTH YEAR: Spring**
- THE Elective (Systematic).....3
- THE Elective (Historical)....3
- THE 470-Theology Seminar.....3
- Miscellaneous Electives ....5