

Virginia Synod Candidacy Committee Biblical Requirement

Candidates are required to take a minimum of 18 hours in biblical studies, distributed as follows:

- 3 hours of a biblical language (Greek or Hebrew)
- 3-6 hours of biblical survey/introduction (either a 3-hour course on the Bible or two separate 3-hour courses on each Testament)
- 3 hours of New Testament exegesis focused on one or more Gospels
- 3 hours of New Testament exegesis focused on one or more Pauline epistles
- 3 hours of Old Testament exegesis
- Depending on total survey hours, 0-3 additional hours in any biblical area (e.g., more biblical language, more exegesis, or a biblical theme)

Exegesis courses should include substantial practice in text-focused interpretation relevant to preaching and teaching ministry. Candidates are encouraged to complete the biblical language requirement early enough to practice translation skills in their exegesis course(s).