



# NationsUniversity®

NationsUniversity® is “a school without walls” home-based in West Monroe, Louisiana that offers affordable, accessible higher education to built faith and to develop culturally rooted Christian leaders around the world. Courses are taken to the students in the locations of their residence.

NationsUniversity® offers academic awards at both the undergraduate (baccalaureate) and graduate (master’s) levels. The student may choose a program or a course that fits his/her own interests, goals, and academic preparation. One’s interests may arise from a desire for self-enrichment, a desire to satisfy curiosity, or a desire to prepare for ministerial service. Several formalized programs lead to academic awards. Courses come to you in a predetermined order.

## Academic Programs

The **Certificate in Religious Studies** requires 30 semester hours of prescribed credits, normally taken in a sequential order. Transfer credits cannot be substituted. The Certificate in Religious Studies is awarded automatically when the student completes the required courses, *unless* the student presents transfer credits that make him/her eligible for a higher award. In that case, the higher award will take precedence. The certificate has two basic purposes: (1) to enable the University to evaluate the student’s potential for achieving an academic award and (2) to provide encouragement to the student with recognition of accomplishment.

The **Diploma in Religious Studies** is a 90-semester credit program. It includes courses required for the Certificate and 60 additional elective credits in religious or closely related studies. Up to 60 transfer credits can be applied but must include courses not duplicated with the required Certificate courses. Up to 30 credits from correspondence courses may apply if they are college level.

The **Bachelor of Religious Studies** degree requires 120 semester hour credits. Thirty (30) of these must be taken with NU and must include all the credits specified for the Certificate. A minimum of 27 additional credits must be in the following disciplines: communications, English, mathematics, science, and social science. Thirty (30) more religious studies credits must include courses in worldview, ministry, worship, and two courses that exegete individual biblical books.

The **Master of Religious Studies** degree is a first-level, non-professional degree and represents approximately one and a half years of study. The primary objective of the M.R.S. program is to provide an orientation to religious studies, with a major interest in the Christian faith. The program builds on either the B.R.S. or on foundational courses required for students who do not hold the B.R.S. from NationsUniversity.

Degree requirements are satisfied through the accumulation of 42 credits (36 for B.R.S. graduates of NU) and a set of analytical essays. The essays carry no credit, but they are required. The essays provide the student with the opportunity to demonstrate an ability to pull together the substance of his/her studies into a meaningful synthesis.

The initial courses provide evidence that the student has a basic understanding of the biblical text, the theological message of the Bible, and exegetical methodology needed to complete the master’s program. These courses should be a healthy review for those who are acquainted with biblical study. They may be more challenging for those who are less acquainted with the Bible, but they are not overwhelming for the beginner.

## Admission Requirements

- For the Certificate and Diploma: None
- For the Bachelor’s degree: evidence of having completed high school or passed the G.E.D.
- For the Master’s degree: an official college transcript indicating the completion of a bachelor’s degree
- For transfer credit: an official college transcript
- Formal assignment to a particular academic program will be made after the receipt and evaluation of educational credentials

*(Retain this information for your records.)*

