



# STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

## **PROGRAM COMPLETION**

Near the top of the list of Student Questions is ... “How long will it take me to complete my degree studies?”

- ✦ **Keep in mind that you are not “paying for the degree”, you are paying for the study program that result in a degree - - IF YOU SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE YOUR DEGREE STUDY PROGRAM!**

Now, having said that ...

**Consider** that the degree programs of typical campus colleges, as well as many distance-learning or online colleges, are locked into a “time-served” system. In other words, in the “campus” educational format it can take up to six years, *or longer*, to receive a Doctoral degree from some universities. However, hanging around a campus for four, five, or six years, doesn't necessarily make one student more successful than another student who completes his or her studies in a fraction of the time.

- **Total time elapsed is not the main ingredient of learning!**

**NOW, CONSIDER THIS:** Jesus completely trained the Apostles for tremendous, miracle working, Scripturally sound and theologically correct ministries ... **in less than 3 1/2 years!**

- ✦ **This is because our spiritual walk is not controlled by the calendar nor subject to the clock.**

**Remember:** The operation of the Holy Spirit supersedes both time and space!

📖 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. **John 14:26 (NKJV)**

## **THE TRUE HOPE BIBLE INSTITUTE DIFFERENCE”**

The THBI student can expect a much shorter “completion time requirement” ... if he or she is disciplined and diligent! **DISCIPLINED** to apply themselves to “self-study” which is vastly different from “class-study” in a classroom! **DILIGENT** to keep to the study schedules he or she has set for doing the necessary course work!

Here are a couple of, if not the most, important differences that affect our students’ “Program Completion”

- A. **STUDY SCHEDULING:** We believe that the Lord is doing a quick work in these last days, see Romans 9:28. Because of this the True Hope Bible Institute has an intensive and accelerated program of study courses which means that you could complete them in a relatively short span.

1. **Year-Round Schedule:** Therefore, True Hope Bible Institute does not follow a set semester schedule. We operate continuously year-round. This means that you study on your own schedule and proceed at your own pace with one provision.

- a) **Completion Requirements:** Our one “time requirement” is that a student must submit at least one course exam every 90 days.

**Note: If a student only completes one course every 90 days, it may still take nearly 4 years to complete his/her Bachelor Degree Program!**

- B. STUDIES PACE:** Whatever you may intend, or your schedule allows you to do ... **PLEASE DON'T RUSH!**
1. Rushing through your course work will only cause you to miss many important lessons and you won't get maximum benefit from the material.
  2. When a student rushes through the courses of study, they might pass the course exams but most likely they miss our intended goal ... to gain understanding that will be of value to and needed by other people: Those to whom you minister!
    - a. And this does become apparent in poor graduate papers which fail evaluation!
  3. Students who complete study courses as if they are in a race, indicates to us that they are not serious about learning, rather ...
    - o They only want to get that degree!
    - o Their goal is to show to others how much he/she knows (regardless of understanding)

**C. Work Pace Evaluation Process:**

**How does THBI recognize when a student is “rushing” through the courses?**

1. **Leadership Interaction:** We try to get acquainted with our students and their situations during the enrollment process. We recognize that each student is able to complete a study course in a different amount of time based on a number of factors, the two most prominent are:
  - a. Schedules - - Every student has a different amount of time available to devote to studies
  - b. Distractions - - Every student has various factors that may interrupt their available time.
2. **Student Abilities:** Each student have certain abilities, or lack thereof, that are factors in their “normal” rate of completion. A few examples of “student abilities” are:
  - a. Reading Speed - - The average reading speed for American adults is between 200 – 250 wpm. Some of our students can read much, much faster maybe 500 – 600 wpm! This will certainly affect “normal” completion speed of a student!
  - b. Comprehension - - Reading is one thing, comprehension is another. Some students “get it” the first time, every time ... while others must “digest” what they have read, even going over the material two or three times. Again, this will affect what is a “normal” completion speed.
  - c. Mental Focus - - How easily do external conditions (non-invasive) such as the neighbor's lawnmower, noisy traffic, phones ringing, etc., interfere with a student's concentration? Some students have the ability to be oblivious to such factors while others lose their focus, or cannot focus at all, when such factors pass a certain noise level!
3. **Lifestyle Considerations:** Some students live alone, while others have large families; some may have two or more jobs to earn income while others are retired; some may have several days a week for study while some only have a few days a month!
  - a. Every student's situation varies, and we take all these things into consideration as we observe the time in which you complete your course work.  
**Remember, the only deadline you face is to submit one course exam within a 90-day period to remain an active student!**
4. **Submission Considerations:** Many students submit one or two course exams within a 90-day window, but you are not under any pressure to submit more than one every 90 days!
  - a. **Students who constantly attempt to submit one course exam per month are considered to be “Fast Paced Students”, rushing through their studies.**
  - b. “Fast Paced Students” will be interviewed and possibly counseled regarding their submission timing.
5. **Recommendations:**  
We simply recommend that you study at the pace at which you are best able to:
  - a. Learn,
  - b. Comprehend and
  - c. Gain understanding of the material being studied in any given course ...

This will lead to your success in your personal spiritual life and in your ministry service in the Body of Christ!

**Keep in mind: Our aim is to see the success of each student in achieving the purpose of a THBI degree - - which is to gain more than knowledge, it is to develop understanding!**

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**Review: Key THBI Policies & Practices, “Students in Good Standing Policies”**

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