



# CLEAR CREEK

## BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

### QEP Executive Summary

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#### Executive Summary

Clear Creek Baptist Bible College's "Communication: A Clear Path to Ministry and Beyond" Quality Enhancement Plan is a mission-driven strategic initiative to improve student learning. The focus on written communication in the form of the exegetical research paper (ERP) was selected after a review of institutional assessment data, surveys among faculty/staff, students, trustees, and alumni, and intentional reflection on the institution's mission and core values. This QEP represents the college's commitment to preparing adults called of God into Christian service to become more effective communicators in various ministry contexts.

**QEP TOPIC: EXEGETICAL RESEARCH PAPER WRITING:** Within the broader scope of written communication, there is a need for discipline-specific writing instruction to prepare students for professional communication (Russell, 2002). The exegetical research paper reflects this need for ministry students. Students engage in the study of a Biblical text by applying grammatical-historical exegetical methods. Historical, cultural, and literary contexts, as well as theological considerations, are addressed. Ultimately, the student arrives at the authorial meaning of a given text. The specialized skill of writing exegetical research papers is not solely for academic inquiry. Instead, the goal is to bridge the gap between the ancient text and modern believers (Duval and Hays, 2012). Thus, Clear Creek Baptist Bible College's mission is uniquely related to training students for success in the essential, practical ministry skill of communicating and applying the truth of scripture.

**QEP PROJECT:** "Communication: A Clear Path to Ministry and Beyond" centers around the implementation of a standardized exegetical research paper grading rubric and writing checklist. This project is focused on the baccalaureate students and their coursework, which requires ERPs each year. Before this project, ERPs were assigned with substantial variation in expectations and assessment. Each instructor utilized his own means of assessment. Students voiced their confusion and frustration over the lack of consistent content expectations and differences regarding format and style. Likewise, faculty had observed a need for improvement in student writing. In Fall 2025, all ERP assignments will utilize a uniform rubric, assignment expectations, and the ERP writing checklist.

As student learning is the objective of "Communication: A Clear Path to Ministry and Beyond", the college seeks to improve students' writing skills and bolster students' motivation and confidence in written communication.

**QEP RESOURCES:** The college has allocated the resources necessary to implement, sustain, and complete the QEP, including faculty/staff development, student recognition, workshops, online student development, etc. A detailed budget is included for the five-year plan, recognizing that as assessment takes place, adjustments for continual improvement may lead to alterations of the plan and the resources needed. Clear Creek Baptist Bible College is fully committed to allocating these resources now and throughout the duration of the initiative.

**QEP ASSESSMENT:** To advance the QEP's objectives as stated above, multiple measures will be embedded across the curriculum to assess the student learning outcomes outlined within the plan. These student learning outcomes will guide the initiative's continuous improvement efforts during the project. The plan will assess: 1) writing skills annually through the assignments graded by the standard exegetical research paper grading rubric; and 2) motivation and confidence through the *Academic Writing Motivation Questionnaire (AWMQ)* in the first-year course College Research Literacy and a modified version of the AWMQ with supplemental questions pertaining specifically to ERPs at the end of the fourth-year course New Testament 7.