

CATALOG 2019-2021

REFORMED  
THEOLOGICAL  
SEMINARY



*A mind for truth. A heart for God.*

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# INVITATION

**R**eformed Theological Seminary has nine degree-granting campuses: Jackson, Mississippi; Orlando, Florida; Charlotte, North Carolina; Atlanta, Georgia; Washington DC; Houston, Texas; Dallas, Texas; Sao Paulo, Brazil; and Global Education (U.S. and International). This catalog describes the degree programs available at these campuses. For Sao Paulo, Brazil, there is a minimal explanation in the Doctor of Ministry section (for more detailed information regarding the D.Min. degree in Sao Paulo, please contact RTS Jackson).

In addition to the nine degree-granting campuses, Reformed

Theological Seminary has one additional campuses at which the student may earn up to 49% of a Master of Arts degree. This campus is located in New York, New York.

Come visit Reformed Theological Seminary as a prospective student or as one who is interested in theological education. Come see the campus, attend classes, and meet some of the students and faculty members.

You can reach the RTS web page at:  
<http://www.rts.edu>

For the addresses of each campus and additional phone numbers, *see the Directory* on page 84.

## PURPOSE OF CATALOG

While every effort is made to insure the accuracy of the information in this catalog, Reformed Theological Seminary

has the right to make changes at any time without prior notice. The catalog is for purposes of information and does

not constitute the irrevocable terms of the contract between the Seminary and current or prospective students. The most

up-to-date and "official" version of this catalog is to be found on the RTS web page, [www.rts.edu](http://www.rts.edu).

# GENERAL INFORMATION



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JACKSON

ORLANDO

CHARLOTTE

WASHINGTON D. C.

ATLANTA

HOUSTON

DALLAS

NEW YORK CITY

GLOBAL

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## FOUNDING

In June 1963, five ministers met in a Memphis hotel room to pray about the need to establish a new seminary. At that time, no seminary in the southeastern United States was committed both to Reformed theology and to the Bible as God's inerrant Word, the final authority for faith and life. When the meeting ended, the seed that would become Reformed Theological Seminary had been planted.

In the fall of 1966, RTS opened its doors for resident studies in Jackson, Mississippi. On September 6, Dr. C. Darby Fulton, former Executive Secretary of the Board of World Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, delivered an address entitled "The Relevancy of the Gospel" at the first convocation.

After operating for more than twenty years in Jackson, it became apparent that opportunities for theological education were nowhere more evident than in Orlando, Florida. In the fall of 1989, Reformed Theological Seminary opened the Orlando campus. A third campus was begun in

Charlotte, North Carolina, with a full schedule being first offered in the fall of 1993. In 1993, RTS also began offering courses in the greater Washington DC area. In 1996, an extension was begun in the Atlanta area. In 1999, RTS began offering courses through distance education. In 2008, Sao Paulo, Brazil, was fully approved as a degree-granting site in conjunction with the Andrew Jumper Graduate Center at MacKenzie University. In 2010, RTS began offering courses in Houston, Texas, and in 2017, Dallas, Texas.

RTS has an additional site at which a student may earn up to 49% of an MA degree: New York, New York, which was approved in 2014. As the Lord leads, RTS may seek degree-granting status for this location.

Therefore, RTS has nine degree-granting campuses: Jackson, Mississippi; Orlando, Florida; Charlotte, North Carolina; Atlanta, Georgia; Washington DC; Houston, Texas; Dallas, Texas; Sao Paulo, Brazil; and Global Education (U.S. and International). RTS has one partial degree campus: New York, New York.

# DISTINCTIVE FEATURES

RTS' primary theological distinctives are a commitment to historic Reformed theology and the Bible as God's inerrant Word.

RTS' identity is further defined as both winsome and Reformed. RTS is unapologetically Reformed, theological, and confessional, as well as academically rigorous and devotionally reverent. RTS seeks to cultivate a humble, happy, convictional Christianity. Finally, RTS consciously endeavors to edify the larger evangelical community from this self-identity.

The seminary recognizes that there are evangelical brothers and sisters in Christ within various denominations and Christian organizations who hold views that differ from RTS' distinctives. While committed to fulfilling its purpose and distinctives, the seminary resolves to maintain openness to and appreciation for Christians in differing denominations and organizations with a loving and winsome spirit, thus contributing to the purity and the unity of the Christian community and witness.

RTS is free from denominational control. However, the Board of Trustees, Leadership Team, and faculty are individually under the jurisdiction of the various church courts of the denominations of which they are members.

To ensure that the original purpose and doctrinal distinctives of the seminary are maintained, each member of the Board of Trustees, Leadership Team, and faculty is required initially and annually to subscribe to the following Statement of Belief and Covenant as set forth in the seminary's bylaws:

Believing that there is but one only, the living and true God, and that there are three persons in the Godhead, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost; and that these three are one and the same in substance, equal in power and glory, and with solemn awareness of accountability to Him in all that we feel, think, say and do, the undersigned engages in and subscribes to this declaration:

1. All Scripture is self-attesting and, being truth, requires the human mind wholeheartedly to subject itself in all its activities to the authority of Scripture complete as the Word of God, standing written in the sixty-six books of the Holy Bible, all therein being verbally inspired by Almighty God and therefore without error.
2. Reformed theology as set forth in the *Westminster Confession of Faith* and the *Larger and Shorter Catechisms* as accepted by the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America as its standard of doctrine at its first General Assembly in 1789 is the system of doctrine taught in Scripture; and, therefore, it is to be learned, taught and proclaimed for the edification and government of Christian people, for the propagation of the faith and for the evangelization of the world by the power of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.
3. And I do solemnly promise and engage not to inculcate, sanction, teach or insinuate anything that appears to me to contradict or contravene, either directly or implicitly, any element of that system of doctrine.
4. NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned in the presence of God, states and signifies that he consents, agrees, and binds himself to all of the foregoing without any reservation whatsoever, and that he further obligates himself immediately to notify in writing the trustees should a change of any kind take place in his belief and feeling not in accord with this statement. Amen.

# ACCREDITATION

Reformed Theological Seminary is accredited by the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools to award the following degrees: Master of Divinity, Master of Arts, Master of Arts (Biblical Studies), Master of Arts (Religion), Master of Arts (Theological Studies), Master of Arts in Christian Counseling, Master of Arts in Counseling, and Doctor of Ministry.

<b>RTS/JACKSON</b>	Master of Divinity Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) Master of Arts (Theological Studies) Master of Arts in Counseling
<b>RTS/ORLANDO</b>	Master of Divinity Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) Master of Arts (Theological Studies) Master of Arts in Counseling Doctor of Ministry
<b>RTS/CHARLOTTE</b>	Master of Divinity Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) Master of Arts (Theological Studies) Master of Arts in Christian Counseling Doctor of Ministry
<b>RTS/ATLANTA</b>	Master of Divinity Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) Master of Arts (Religion)
<b>RTS/WASHINGTON DC</b>	Master of Divinity Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) Master of Arts (Religion)
<b>RTS/HOUSTON</b>	Master of Divinity Master of Arts (Biblical Studies)
<b>RTS/DALLAS</b>	Master of Divinity Master of Arts (Theological Studies)
<b>RTS/GLOBAL</b>	Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) Master of Arts (Theological Studies) Master of Arts (Religion)
<b>RTS/NEW YORK CITY</b>	Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) (49%)

## THE ASSOCIATION OF THEOLOGICAL SCHOOLS IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA:

THE COMMISSION ON ACCREDITING  
10 SUMMIT PARK DRIVE, PITTSBURGH, PA 15275-1103  
TELEPHONE: 412-788-6505, [WWW.ATS.EDU](http://WWW.ATS.EDU)

Reformed Theological Seminary is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award masters and doctorate degrees.

## SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS:

COMMISSION ON COLLEGES  
1866 SOUTHERN LANE, DECATUR, GA 30033-4097  
TELEPHONE: 404-679-4500, [WWW.SACSCOC.ORG](http://WWW.SACSCOC.ORG)

RTS Jackson holds full accreditation with the Mississippi Commission on College Accreditation, 3925 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211. Telephone 601-432-6501.

RTS Orlando is licensed by the Commission for Independent Education, Florida Department of Education. Additional information regarding this institution may be obtained by contacting the Commission at

325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1414, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400. Toll-free telephone number 888-224-6684.

Degree programs of study offered by Reformed Theological Seminary have been declared by the appropriate state authority exempt from the requirements of licensure, under provisions of North Carolina General Statutes Section (G.S.) 116-15(d) for exemption from licensure with respect to religious education. Exemption from licensure is not based upon assessment of program quality under established licensing standards.

The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia has awarded Reformed Theological Seminary's Vienna, VA campus a Certificate to Operate an Institution of Higher Education authorizing the Seminary to offer degrees, courses for degree credit, or programs of study leading to a degree, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia is the Commonwealth's coordinating body for higher education and is located at 101 North Fourteenth Street, Richmond, VA 23219. The Council's phone number is (804) 225-2600. RTS Washington DC is also licensed to deliver classes in Maryland by the Commission on Higher Education of the State of Maryland (6 North Liberty Street, 10th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21201, Telephone 410-767-3301).

RTS Atlanta is operating in compliance with Georgia's requirements for exemption from authorization as set forth in O.C.G.A.20-3-250.3 (a) (6). the Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission of the State of Georgia is located at 2189 Northlake Parkway, Building 10, Suite 100, Tucker, GA, 30084-4113.

Telephone 770-414-3300.

According to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, RTS has demonstrated that it meets the standards set forth in the rules of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and qualifies for an exemption pursuant to Subchapter G, Chapter 61, Texas Education Code and, as defined in Chapter 7.3 of Board rules.

The New York State Board of Regents has granted RTS permission to operate in New York State and to offer up to 49% of the Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) degree program. Questions and inquiries should be directed to: New York State Education Department, Office of Higher Education, Albany, New York 12230. Telephone (518) 486-3633.

Reformed Theological Seminary has been approved by the Mississippi Commission on College Accreditation (MCCA) to participate in the National Council for State Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA), a voluntary process for the oversight of postsecondary distance education among member states. The State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) establishes comparable national standards for interstate offering of postsecondary distance education courses and programs. It is intended to make it easier for students to take online courses offered by postsecondary institutions based in another state. Students wishing to file a complaint related to non-compliance of MCAA regulations should contact: MCCA, 3925 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211. Telephone 601-432-6501; or use the student complaint form found on the MCCA website.

Reformed Theological Seminary maintains a goal to comply fully with the standards of accreditation of the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) in the United States and Canada and the Commission of Colleges of Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). Students who believe that RTS has violated ATS and/or SACS standards in any way should submit their complaint in writing to their respective campus Academic Dean. The Dean will consult with the Provost/Chief Academic Officer, who serves as the coordinator of matters related to institutional accreditation. The complaint will be reviewed and a written response provided to the student in a timely fashion related to the receipt of the complaint. At this point, if the student is not satisfied with the written response from RTS, the student may file a complaint directly with ATS and/or SACS.

Reformed Theological Seminary is a Mississippi not-for-profit corporation. The Orlando campus of RTS is incorporated in the State of Florida and operates as the “Reformed Theological Seminary of Florida, Inc.”

## RTS PURPOSE

The purpose of RTS is to serve the church in all branches of evangelical Christianity, especially the Presbyterian and Reformed family, by preparing its leaders, with a priority on pastors, and including missionaries, educators, counselors, and others through a program of theological education on the graduate level, based upon the authority of the inerrant Word of God, the sixty-six books of

the Bible, and committed to the Reformed faith as set forth in the *Westminster Confession of Faith* and the *Larger and Shorter Catechisms* as accepted by the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America as its standard of doctrine at its first General Assembly in 1789. This program shall be characterized by biblical fidelity, confessional integrity, and academic excellence, and committed to the promotion of the spiritual growth of the students. The breadth of this ministry will include multiple campuses and extensions as led by the Lord.

## RTS MISSION

The mission of Reformed Theological Seminary is to serve the Church by preparing its leaders, through a program of graduate theological education, based upon the authority of the inerrant Word of God, and committed to the Reformed Faith.

## RTS VISION

Reformed Theological Seminary exists to glorify the Triune God and to serve His Church in all branches of evangelical Christianity, especially Presbyterian and Reformed churches, by providing Reformed graduate theological education that is globally accessible. RTS equips its students for ministry, primarily through pastoral preparation, to be servant leaders marked by “A mind for truth, A heart for God.”

## RTS CORE VALUES

**BIBLICAL INTEGRITY.** RTS submits to the authority of the sixty-six books of the Bible and is committed to a perceptive application of the Bible to all of life.

This primary commitment of biblical integrity and its derivative world view informs every part of our training program and the development of our students for ministry. RTS faculty understand and teach biblical truth from a Reformed perspective as set forth in the *Westminster Confession of Faith* and Catechisms.

**CHRISTIAN NURTURE.** RTS seeks to foster spiritual growth among our students, faculty, and staff, our communities, and in our constituent churches. We endeavor to provide holistic preparation for church leadership. The priority for leadership development at RTS is pastoral training. In addition, RTS provides training for missionaries, educators, counselors, and other ministries for which the church may find need.

**FAITHFULNESS IN ALL THINGS.** RTS strives to be faithful to God in all we do by bringing forth our best effort to the glory of God in all areas of campus life: academic programs, spiritual development of our students, and the professional development of faculty and staff – as well as in our administrative organization, institutional relationships, and communications.

**MISSIONAL COMMITMENT.** RTS equips leaders to take the Gospel of Jesus Christ into the whole world in the power of the Holy Spirit in order to proclaim that salvation is only by God's grace through faith alone in Christ alone, and in order to disciple the nations into maturity in Christ. Our goal is that the world may worship the true God, serving Him everywhere in His creation, and that the nations may enjoy His presence and restoration. In fulfilling our

Missional Commitment, RTS rejoices in cooperating with multiple denominations and organizationally diverse ministries who share in the vision of advancing the Kingdom of God, and who celebrate the diversity of culture, language, and ethnicity.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### PROFESSOR ORDINATION

Reformed Theological Seminary is an independent institution, free from control by any particular denomination. RTS welcomes students from many denominational affiliations, but historically it has prepared men and women predominantly for ministry within conservative Presbyterian and Reformed churches. The Board, faculty, and senior staff are individually under the jurisdiction of the various church courts of the denominations of which they are members, and those affiliations are also largely conservative Presbyterian and Reformed churches.

While there is some diversity on a number of issues among the Board, faculty, staff, students, and the various constituencies RTS serves, the majority of those individuals associated with RTS believe that the Bible teaches that the ordained pastorate is reserved for men. At the same time RTS fully acknowledges and appreciates the important roles that women serve as collaborators in the ministry of the church.

RTS in its historical practice has selected professors in the Biblical Studies, Theology, and Pastoral Theology departments who are ordained pastors

(or who are qualified by RTS' predominant denominational constituencies as ordainable), as they minister the Word of God to the student body and model pastoral leadership. Given the theological position of the Board and constituencies, RTS will continue to limit professors who teach Biblical Studies, Theology, and Pastoral Theology to men. Exceptions to this may and have included courses in language-grammar, speech, culture, missiology, etc. Professors teaching in the Counseling programs and librarians with faculty status are also open to both men and women.

It should be noted that all degree programs are open to all qualified students, both men and women.

## LOCATIONS

RTS is a multi-campus seminary, committed to making a variety of theological, biblical, and ministry preparation programs available through the most accessible and flexible ways possible. We currently have the following campus locations. *For campus addresses and phone numbers, see the Directory on page 83.*

**JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.** The Jackson campus includes 100 acres graced by 19 major buildings with apartments for married students and accommodations for single students. The seminary library has one of the finest theological collections in the region. Tennis courts and a gymnasium on campus provide recreational facilities for students and their families.

**ORLANDO, FLORIDA.** The Orlando campus opened new state-of-the-art campus facilities in 1999 on 65

acres of land in suburban Oviedo. Five miles north of the University of Central Florida, the Orlando campus is equipped with classrooms, a library, and beautiful chapel. The surrounding community provides attractive housing opportunities, which include garden apartments, townhouses, and condominiums. The seminary also owns condominiums, located less than four miles from campus, which are available for rent.

**CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA.** The Charlotte campus is ideally located in the heart of southeast Charlotte, with excellent access to the airport, the interstate system, and beautiful residential areas of Charlotte. The campus is composed of five buildings with over 50,000 square feet of space, providing ample classrooms, library, and office areas, all with full wireless access. The beautiful, tree-shaded setting is excellently suited for a campus, offering abundant parking and plenty of open space to provide a campus atmosphere. Many affordable and attractive apartment complexes are available in the area.

**ATLANTA, GEORGIA.** Atlanta's modern campus is located near the junction of I-75 and I-285 in the strategic urban center of the South. The 25,000 square-foot building, large library, and expansive grounds provide social and productive space for local and regional students as well as area pastors and leaders.

**WASHINGTON DC.** The Washington DC campus is conveniently located near Tysons Corner in Vienna, Virginia. The campus has easy access from I-495

and approximately 1 mile from Washington Metro's Silver Line.

**HOUSTON, TEXAS.** The classes and administrative offices for the Houston extension campus are held at Christ Evangelical Presbyterian Church just off of Katy Freeway.

**DALLAS, TEXAS.** The classes and administrative offices for the Dallas extension campus are held at 1202 Dragon Street, Suite 104, Dallas, TX 75207

**NEW YORK, NEW YORK.** RTS NYC classes and administrative offices are located at the Redeemer City to City offices in Manhattan.

**GLOBAL EDUCATION (U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL).** RTS Global Education administers the online degree programs of RTS, serving students who are looking for up to 100% online education. The physical location of RTS Global Education is on the RTS campus in Charlotte, North Carolina.

## STUDENT FELLOWSHIP

The student activity fee, paid each semester, funds a variety of student activities throughout the year. The Student Cabinet, consisting of officers and representatives from the student population, conducts various campus activities and conferences.

## CHAPEL

Chapel services and prayer groups provide spiritual enrichment for the seminary community. Chapel

is an integral part of seminary life and students are encouraged to attend for their own spiritual development and nurture.

## WOMEN IN MINISTRY

This program focuses on the distinctive needs of women students and seminary wives. The program addresses women's needs through fellowship, ministry training, prayer, and intensive Bible study, while endeavoring to promote joy and confidence in their unique calling to serve Christ.

Faculty wives and other women in the seminary community give direction to this program with the assistance of elected students and student wives. A yearly retreat designed for fellowship, inspiration, and training provides an indispensable experience. Spouses of fulltime students may audit classes without charge provided there is room in the class and they have registered with the Registrar. Spouses of full-time students also qualify for special for-credit tuition benefits. See Scholarships for more details.

## HOUSING

The seminary does not assume responsibility for providing room and board for students. Affordable housing is available in close proximity to each campus. Full-time students on the Jackson and Orlando campuses may rent seminary-owned apartments or condominiums. Housing application forms are available from the offices of the Dean of Students on the respective campuses.

## MEDICAL INSURANCE

RTS strongly encourages students to obtain health insurance due to the high costs of medical care. If a student does not elect to have health insurance coverage while enrolled in seminary, they understand and agree that any medical bill or liability is not the responsibility of RTS, and is a personal cost.

F-1 Visa students and their families receiving financial aid are required to show proof of major medical insurance coverage for all dependents listed on form I-20. For international students, proof of major medical insurance must be shown to the appropriate campus staff member by the first day of classes for the fall and spring semesters.

## PLACEMENT

Placement of graduates is a high priority at RTS. Faculty and staff on each campus, both formally and informally, aid students for job placement, although no guarantee of employment is made. Churches, denominations, and parachurch organizations that are seeking pastors, assistant pastors, youth ministers, Christian education directors, counselors, and graduates for other ministry and leadership positions regularly contact the seminary. RTS provides a web-based placement tool for ministries to post open positions.

# RTS DEGREE PROGRAMS



JACKSON

ORLANDO

CHARLOTTE

WASHINGTON D. C.

ATLANTA

HOUSTON

DALLAS

NEW YORK CITY

GLOBAL

# THE MASTER OF DIVINITY PROGRAM

## MASTER OF DIVINITY

### DESIGN OF THE CURRICULUM

The M.Div. curriculum is designed as preparation for the pastoral ministry. Concentrated study in three basic areas – Bible, theology, and pastoral theology – characterizes this three-year program. In addition to preparing for pastoral ministry, the curriculum is designed to aid in the student's sanctification. For an enumeration of the M.Div. student learning outcomes, see the RTS web page.

Bible courses include the basic structure and content of each book of the Bible along with such details concerning major characters, dates, and places as are necessary. Principles of hermeneutics and exegesis, using the original languages as well as the English Bible, are also included. Students learn to apply Scripture to contemporary circumstances.

Building upon and integrated with a biblical foundation, theology is a major area of concentration. The purpose of this study is to provide the theological and historical foundations, along with current cultural contexts, to understand and live the Christian faith.

The pastoral theology courses are designed to enable students to develop competence in ministry including preaching, worship, leadership, and individual shepherding. A variety of experiences and instruction enable students to develop methods and styles of ministry suited to their individual gifts. The number of class hours per week may exceed the

number of semester hours of credit. Some of the preaching and pastoral course requirements may be adjusted for women and other non-ministerial candidates so as to provide the appropriate preparation and setting for their needs. Women and other non-ministerial candidates will substitute additional elective course hours for the Preaching Labs. These elective courses may include alternative communication labs.

A student attains middler status upon completion of 36 semester hours and senior status upon completion of 72 semester hours. The curriculum is designed to be completed in three years, but many students choose to complete the curriculum in four or more years.

### FIELD EDUCATION

Field education is that area of theological education in which the theory of the classroom is tested and applied in the life and ministry of the church.

The purpose of field education is to provide opportunities for M.Div. students to exercise and improve their gifts and skills and to equip them with diversified backgrounds of firsthand experience in the service to which God has called them.

At the start of their field work, students should register with the Field Education Office, at which time a file of field work for each student will be established (PT5900 Field Ed Internship). Field work not properly registered with the Field Education Office cannot be counted toward the field education requirement.

The M.Div. degree requires 400 hours of field education experience during seminary. Upon completion of this requirement, an evaluation report is to be submitted to the Director of Field Education by a field supervisor (usually a pastor, elder, or evaluation committee). Following submission of this report, the student may register for (PT5905) Field Education Seminar. Completion of this seminar marks the completion of the field education requirement.

Field experience hours may be earned as a summer student assistant to a pastor, a student supply in a vacant pulpit, a pastoral internship of nine to fifteen months, a missionary internship, a campus ministry internship, work with a parachurch organization, ministry in a national park, youth ministry, evangelistic ministry in a local church, nursing home chaplaincy, hospital chaplaincy, jail ministry, teaching home Bible classes, or other similar ministries.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

1. M.Div. students normally spend three years in residence in order to complete the required curriculum for the M.Div. degree, including a total of at least 106 credit hours. At a minimum, M.Div. students must take at least 36 credit hours at the same RTS M.Div.-degree-granting campus. A 2.0 (C) cumulative grade-point average (GPA) is required for all RTS courses taken.
2. The seminary must have on file official transcripts showing that the student holds a baccalaureate degree or foreign equivalent.

3. The student must complete the field education requirements to the satisfaction of the faculty.
4. The conduct and attitude of the student must be satisfactory according to the norms of Scripture and the *Westminster Standards*.
5. The student must pass the English Bible and *Westminster Shorter Catechism* examinations.
6. The student must clear all financial obligations to the seminary.

All students expecting to graduate must make formal application for graduation to the faculty through the Registrar. The graduation fee will be paid at this time. Ordinarily, degrees will be awarded at the conclusion of the spring semester, but may be granted in December.

## MEANING OF THE DEGREE

A degree from Reformed Theological Seminary indicates that the graduate has completed the requirements for the course of study. Although the M.Div. degree meets the standard educational requirements for ordination in most denominations, the degree does not certify that the graduate necessarily possesses all the biblical qualifications requisite for the ministry or adheres to the Reformed faith. Graduation from Reformed Theological Seminary with either the M.Div. degree or diploma should not in itself be construed as a recommendation for the ministry.

Ecclesiastical bodies and pulpit committees are responsible for applying their own requirements for ordination to determine the doctrinal soundness, suitability, and readiness for ministry of a particular graduate.

## **M.DIV. DIPLOMA WITHOUT THE DEGREE**

Students without a baccalaureate degree may apply for admission to the M.Div. diploma program. These students must possess the knowledge, academic skill, and ability generally associated with persons who hold the baccalaureate degree. Admission will be restricted to persons with life experience that has prepared them for theological study at the graduate level.

To complete the M.Div. diploma program, the student does not have to take Greek or Hebrew courses. Whether taking the languages or not, the student must complete 106 credit hours for the M.Div. diploma.

Students may transfer from the M.Div. diploma program to the M.Div. degree program. In order to qualify for this transfer, a student must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 for the first 36 hours of credit work. When petition is made to transfer from the M.Div. diploma program and into the M.Div. degree program, the student must be in good standing.

A 3.0 GPA does not need to be maintained after transferring into the M.Div. degree program in order to maintain the student's M.Div. degree status (although normal academic probation policies will apply to M.Div. diploma and M.Div. degree students at all times). Once transferred to the M.Div. degree, the student must complete all Greek and Hebrew course requirements.

## **HYBRID M.DIV.**

RTS firmly believes that residential learning is the best way to prepare for gospel ministry. However, not everyone is able to relocate for a seminary degree. For those unable to leave a particular ministry or job in order to move to campus, RTS Orlando's Hybrid Master of Divinity program offers a flexible way to gain a quality theological education.

Candidates in the Hybrid M.Div. program will finish at least 36 credits in residence and up to 70 credits online. In-person classes are offered in a hybrid (part online, part on-campus) or intensive format, enabling students to complete residential requirements with seven one-week trips to the RTS Orlando campus.

*Please see the RTS Orlando website for more details.*

## **M.DIV. / M.A. DUAL DEGREES**

A student may complete the M.A. (Biblical Studies), the M.A. (Theological Studies), the M.A. (Religion), or the M.A. in Christian Counseling plus the M.Div. degree program in four years with a total of 139 credit hours. Students interested in a dual degree should contact their campus Registrar for specific curricular requirements.

Students in the M.A. in Counseling degree may earn a dual MAC/MDiv degree. For details contact your campus Registrar.

*For more information about our dual M.A. degrees, see page 24.*

# MASTER OF DIVINITY

## CORE CURRICULUM

JACKSON | ORLANDO | CHARLOTTE | ATLANTA | WASHINGTON DC | HOUSTON | DALLAS

*The curriculum consists of 106 credit hours. Those who have studied Greek or Hebrew may take proficiency examinations to determine if they may be exempted from portions of the language requirements. See page 43 for more details.*

### BIBLICAL STUDIES (41 HOURS)

#### LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

OT5100	Hebrew I.....	3 hours
OT5125	Hebrew II.....	3 hours
OT5150	Hebrew Exegesis.....	2 hours
NT5100	Greek I.....	3 hours
NT5125	Greek II.....	3 hours
NT5150	Greek Exegesis.....	2 hours

#### OLD TESTAMENT

OT5200	Genesis – Deuteronomy.....	3 hours
OT5250	Joshua – Esther.....	3 hours
OT5300	Poets.....	2 hours
OT5350	Isaiah – Malachi.....	3 hours

#### NEW TESTAMENT

NT5200	Gospels.....	3 hours
NT5250	Acts & Romans.....	2 hours
NT5300	Pauline Epistles.....	3 hours
NT5350	Hebrews – Revelation.....	3 hours

#### OLD & NEW TESTAMENTS

ON5100	Hermeneutics.....	3 hours
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### THEOLOGY (31 HOURS)

#### HISTORICAL THEOLOGY

HT5100	History of Christianity I.....	3 hours
HT5200	History of Christianity II.....	3 hours

#### SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

ST5100	Introduction to Pastoral & Theological Studies.....	3 hours
ST5150	Sys Theo: Scripture, Theology, Anthropology.....	3 hours
ST5200	Sys Theo: Christology, Soteriology, Eschatology.....	3 hours
ST5250	Sys Theo: Ecclesiology & Sacraments.....	2 hours
ST5300	Covenant Theology.....	2 hours

#### APPLIED THEOLOGY

ST5400	Christian Thought & Philosophy.....	3 hours
ST5450	Apologetics.....	2 hours
ST5500	Pastoral & Social Ethics.....	3 hours
ST5550	Christian Encounter with Islam.....	2 hours
ST5600	Christ, Culture, Contextualization.....	2 hours

### PASTORAL THEOLOGY (24 HOURS)

#### COMMUNICATION

PT5100	Communication I.....	2 hours
PT5125	Preaching Lab I*.....	2 hours
PT5150	Communication II.....	2 hours
PT5175	Preaching Lab II*.....	2 hours

#### PASTORAL

PT5200	Evangelism.....	2 hours
PT5225	Missions.....	2 hours
PT5250	Pastoral Ministry.....	2 hours
PT5275	Leadership & Discipleship.....	2 hours
PT5300	Worship.....	2 hours
PT5325	Church Polity.....	1 hour
PT5350	Pastoral Counseling.....	3 hours
PT5375	Personal Sanctification.....	1 hour
PT5400	Classics of Personal Devotions.....	1 hour

#### FIELD EDUCATION

PT5900	Field Education Internship**.....	0 hours
PT5905	Field Education Seminar**.....	0 hours

### FREE ELECTIVES (10 HOURS)

Electives.....	10 hours
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Master of Divinity Total Credit Hours: **106 HOURS**

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\*Women and other non-ministerial candidates will substitute additional elective course hours for the Preaching Labs. These elective courses may include alternative communication labs.

\*\*Students are required to complete the 400-hour Field Education requirement before enrolling for the seminar. A Field Education Registration Form must be submitted before Field Education can begin.

*For the most updated version of the curriculum, see the RTS webpage ([www.rts.edu](http://www.rts.edu)).*

# MASTER OF DIVINITY

## AREAS OF EMPHASIS

JACKSON

*Students who select an emphasis area in the Master of Divinity degree program should adjust to the core curriculum as indicated below.\* The selected emphasis will be listed on the student's transcript but will not be designated on the student's diploma.*

### M.DIV. EMPHASIS IN BIBLICAL EXEGESIS

*RTS Jackson offers students the opportunity to focus on biblical exegesis within the Master of Divinity degree program. The goal is to provide both a philosophical background and practical experience in the exegesis of the biblical text. This emphasis consists of five, two-credit hour courses for a total of 10 hours. Prerequisites for the exegesis courses include the biblical languages (all three Greek and all three Hebrew courses).*

DROP THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:	ADD THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:
Elective Courses (10 hours)	01ON6200 Introduction to Biblical Theology (2 hours) 01OT6110 Exegesis in the Old Testament I (2 hours) 01OT6120 Exegesis in the Old Testament II (2 hours) 01NT6110 Exegesis in the New Testament I (2 hours) 01NT6120 Exegesis in the New Testament II (2 hours)

### M.DIV. EMPHASIS IN COUNSELING

*Students considering an emphasis in Counseling should adapt their curriculum as follows:*

DROP THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:	ADD THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:
Elective Courses (10 hours)	01PSY5100 Counseling & Helping Relationship Skills (2 hours) 01PSY5200 Couples & Family Counseling II (3 hours) 01PSY5230 Human Sexuality (3 hours) 01PSY5260 Substance Abuse & Addictions (2 hours)

\*For the comprehensive MDiv curriculum, see page 19.

*For the most updated version of the curriculum, see the RTS web page ([www.rts.edu](http://www.rts.edu)).*

# MASTER OF DIVINITY

## AREAS OF EMPHASIS

### ORLANDO

*Students who select an emphasis area in the Master of Divinity program should adjust the core curriculum as indicated below.\* The selected emphasis will be listed on the student's transcript but will not be designated on the student's diploma.*

### M.DIV. EMPHASIS IN COUNSELING

*The M.Div. Emphasis in Counseling provides students preparing for Christian ministry with an opportunity to receive specialized training in applying the gospel to persons in a variety of situations and settings.*

DROP THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:	ADD THE FOLLOWING EMPHASIS COURSES:
Elective Courses (10 hours)	02PSY5100 Counseling & Helping Relationship Skills (2 hours) 02PSY5200 Couples & Family Counseling II (3 hours) 02PSY5230 Human Sexuality (3 hours) 02PSY5260 Substance Abuse & Addictions (2 hours)

\*For the comprehensive MDiv curriculum, see page 19.

*For the most updated version of the curriculum, see the RTS web page ([www.rts.edu](http://www.rts.edu)).*

# MASTER OF DIVINITY

## AREAS OF EMPHASIS

### CHARLOTTE

*Students who select an emphasis area in the Master of Divinity degree program should adjust the core curriculum as indicated below.\* The selected emphasis will be listed on the student's transcript but will not be designated on the student's diploma.*

### M.DIV. EMPHASIS IN REFORMED CAMPUS MINISTRY

*Ministry among college students is one of the most significant and strategic ways to develop the next generation's church leaders and evangelize the lost. The Reformed Campus Ministry degree emphasis provides specially focused courses in lieu of core classes and electives in the general M.Div. curriculum. In addition, students pursuing an M.Div. with Reformed Campus Ministry Emphasis will have an active fellowship among students headed to campus ministry, annual conferences & lectures, and numerous campus ministry opportunities. For more information about the Center for Campus Ministry, please see page 37.*

#### DROP THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:

03PT5225 Missions (2 hours)  
03PT5250 Pastoral Ministry (2 hours)  
  
03PT5275 Leadership & Discipleship (2 hours)  
03PT5200 Evangelism (2 hours)  
Elective Course (2 hours)

#### ADD THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:

03HT6205 Ministry in a Postmodern Context (2 hours)  
03PT6250 Pastoral Ministry: Local Church & College Campus (2 hours)  
03PT6275 Discipleship & Campus Ministry (2 hours)  
03PT6200 Planting & Growing a Campus Ministry (2 hours)  
03ST6455 Applied Apologetics (2 hours)

### M.DIV. EMPHASIS IN CHURCH PLANTING

*The great commission moves forward most effectively through the planting of new churches. RTS Charlotte offers a Master of Divinity emphasis in church planting which includes specialized courses as well as internships and mentoring by seasoned church planters. In addition, students will participate in the church planters' fellowship, annual conferences & lectures, and enjoy unique networking opportunities in the Carolinas and beyond. For more information about the Center for Church Planting, please see page 37.*

#### DROP THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:

Elective Course (2 hours)  
03PT5275 Leadership & Discipleship (2 hours)  
03PT5200 Evangelism (2 hours)  
Elective Course (2 hours)  
Elective Course (2 hours)

#### ADD THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:

03PT6205 Principles of Church Planting (2 hours)  
03PT6280 Church Planting Leadership (2 hours)  
03PT6206 Evangelism in a Church Planting Context (2 hours)  
03HT6205 Ministry in a Postmodern Context (2 hours)  
03ST6455 Applied Apologetics (2 hours)

### M.DIV. EMPHASIS IN CHRISTIAN COUNSELING

*Adding an emphasis in Christian counseling to the M.Div. prepares students well to care for the souls of God's people. This degree emphasis is particularly valuable for those looking to minister in a campus or chaplaincy setting. In addition to the core Pastoral Counseling class, ten additional counseling credits are required as part of the 106 hours M.Div. curriculum.*

#### DROP THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:

Elective Course (10 hours)

#### ADD THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:

03CO5100 Typical Problems in Christian Counseling (3 hours)  
03CO5150 Marriage & Family Counseling (3 hours)  
03CO5910 Counseling Practicum I (2 hours)  
03CO5920 Counseling Practicum II (2 hours)

# THE MASTER OF ARTS PROGRAM

## MASTER OF ARTS

RTS has a variety of Master of Arts programs.

Several of these are focused directly on biblical and theological studies. Others use a general understanding of biblical and theological studies as a background to more concentrated study in a specialized field. If a student is full-time, all of these programs are designed to be completed in two years.

For students wishing to take pastoral theology courses as electives toward an M.A. degree, please note that some of the preaching and pastoral course requirements may be adjusted for women and other non-ministerial candidates so as to provide the appropriate preparation and setting for their needs.

### **M.A. (BIBLICAL STUDIES)**

This 66 credit-hour degree program involves biblical, historical, and theological studies, with an emphasis on biblical studies. It is designed to provide a biblical framework for one's life and work whether in a career or ministry. The English Bible exam is required.

For the M.A. (Biblical Studies), at least one complete sequence of a language is required. That is, the student must take Greek I, Greek II, and Greek Exegesis, or take Hebrew I, Hebrew II, and Hebrew Exegesis.

### **M.A. (THEOLOGICAL STUDIES)**

This 66 credit-hour degree program involves biblical, historical, and theological studies, with an emphasis on theological studies. It is designed to provide a theological framework for one's life and work whether in a career or ministry. The English Bible exam is required.

### **M.A. (RELIGION)**

This 60 credit-hour degree program is a versatile degree that is designed to bring biblical and theological reflection to bear on one's chosen profession and/or avocations.

### **M.A. IN COUNSELING**

This program is a 78 credit hour program designed for the person who wishes to work in the specialized field of counseling and who desires an orientation that integrates Christian theology with counseling theory and practice. Biblical and theological studies are integrated with formal, professional education and technical training.

Students enrolled in this two-year (24-month) program must enroll full time. Entrance is granted for the summer semester only. Applications must be received by the Admissions Office by February 1 prior to the fall semester of desired enrollment.

### **M.A. IN CHRISTIAN COUNSELING**

This 66 credit hour degree program offers a rich combination of theological and practical training which prepares students to effectively apply God's word to their own lives and also to the lives of others. This degree emphasizes a commitment to the authority and relevance of Scripture in all areas of life, and will help prepare students for their individual calling, whether it be pastoral ministry, pastoral counseling, chaplaincy, missions, youth ministry,

adoption agencies, human services, or ministry in Christian counseling centers. The MACC is not designed to meet state licensure requirements. The English Bible exam and a 100 hour field education internship is required.

The MACC is offered in both a traditional and summer/winter intensive format. Traditional students enjoy being part of the campus community and complete their degree through traditional semesters. Summer/Winter students take two weeks of intensive counseling courses each Summer and Winter. Bible and theology requirements can be fulfilled through additional RTS Charlotte, RTS Distance Education, or other RTS campus courses during the Fall and Spring terms. This format allows students to remain in their church, ministry, or vocation while completing their counseling degree.

### **M.A. DUAL DEGREES**

Students in the M.A. in Christian Counseling degree may earn a dual MACC/MABS or MACC/MATS degree by completing 99 credit hours. Students interested in a dual degree should contact their campus Registrar for specific curricular requirements.

Students in the M.A. in Counseling degree may earn a dual MAC/MABS or MAC/MATS degree. For details contact your campus Registrar.

For more information about our dual M.Div./M.A. degrees, *see page 18*.

## **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

1. M.A. students normally spend two years in residence in order to complete the required curriculum for the M.A. degree. At a minimum, residential students pursuing the M.A.B.S., M.A.T.S., and M.A.C.C. must take at least 34 credit hours at the appropriate RTS M.A.-degree-granting campus. Residential students pursuing the M.A.R. must take at least 31 credit hours at the appropriate RTS M.A.-degree-granting campus. Residential students pursuing the M.A.C. must take at least 40 credit hours at the appropriate RTS M.A.-degree-granting campus. Global Education students must take at least 34 credit hours online for the M.A.B.S. or M.A.T.S., and at least 31 credit hours online for the M.A.R. A 2.0 (C) cumulative grade-point average (GPA) is required for all RTS courses taken.
2. The seminary must have on file official transcripts showing that the student holds a baccalaureate degree or its foreign equivalent.
3. The conduct and attitude of the student must be satisfactory according to the norms of Scripture and the Westminster Standards.
4. For certain M.A. degrees, the student must pass the English Bible exam.
5. The student must clear all financial obligations to the seminary.

# MASTER OF ARTS

## COUNSELING

JACKSON | ORLANDO

*The M.A. in Counseling curriculum consists of 78 credit hours of academic credit.*

### COUNSELING (61 HOURS)

PSY5100	Counseling & Helping Relationship Skills..	3 hours
PSY5110	Psychodiagnostics.....	2 hours
PSY5120	Social & Cultural Issues in Counseling.....	3 hours
PSY5130	Human Growth & Development .....	3 hours
PSY5140	Career & Lifestyle Development.....	3 hours
PSY5150	Psychopathology .....	3 hours
PSY5160	Assessment & Testing .....	3 hours
PSY5170	Research & Program Evaluation .....	3 hours
PSY5180	Professional, Ethical & Legal Studies .....	3 hours
PSY5190	Couples & Family Counseling I .....	2 hours
PSY5200	Couples & Family Counseling II.....	3 hours
PSY5210	Theory & Practice of Counseling .....	3 hours
PSY5220	Group Theories & Practice .....	3 hours
PSY5230	Human Sexuality .....	3 hours
PSY5240	Neuroscience Informed Counseling .....	2 hours
PSY5250	Counseling in Community Settings .....	3 hours
PSY5260	Substance Abuse & Addictions .....	3 hours
PSY5270	Application of Counseling & Theology .....	1 hour
PSY5280	Practicum.....	3 hours
PSY5290	Counseling Internship.....	9 hours

### BIBLICAL STUDIES (6 HOURS)

NT5500	New Testament Studies for Counseling.....	3 hours
OT5500	Old Testament Studies for Counseling.....	3 hours

### THEOLOGY (5 HOURS)

ST5350	Theological Foundations for Counseling....	2 hours
ST5355	Systematic Theology Studies for Counseling...	3 hours

### ELECTIVES (6 HOURS)

Biblical/Theological Studies Electives*	.....	6 hours
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MAC Total Credit Hours:	<b>78 HOURS</b>
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\*Student's choice of biblical and/or theological courses with OT, NT, ON, ST or HT course prefixes.

Core counseling courses – 61 hours. Biblical and theological studies courses – 17 hours. Psychology in relation to theology courses – 6 hours.

*For the most updated version of the curriculum, see the RTS web page ([www.rts.edu](http://www.rts.edu)).*

# MASTER OF ARTS

## CHRISTIAN COUNSELING

CHARLOTTE

*This 66 credit hour degree program offers a rich combination of theological and practical training which prepares students to effectively apply God's word to their own lives and the lives of others. This degree emphasizes a commitment to the authority and relevance of Scripture in all areas of life, and will help prepare students for their individual calling, whether it be pastoral ministry, pastoral counseling, chaplaincy, missions, youth ministry, adoption agencies, human services, or ministry in Christian counseling centers. The MACC is not designed to meet state licensure requirements. The English Bible exam and a 100 hour field education internship are required. Upon completion of this requirement, an evaluation report is to be submitted to the Director of the M.A.C.C. Field Education by a field supervisor.*

DEGREE PROGRAMS

### COUNSELING (24 HOURS)

CO5000	Introduction to Christian Counseling.....	3 hours
CO5100	Typical Problems in Christian Counseling.....	3 hours
CO5150	Marriage & Family Counseling.....	3 hours
CO5200	Methods of Biblical Change.....	2 hours
CO5250	Human Personality .....	2 hours
CO5300	Theology & Secular Psychology.....	2 hours
CO5350	Counseling & Physiology.....	2 hours
CO5400	Counseling in the Local Church.....	1 hour
CO5910	Counseling Practicum I .....	2 hours
CO5920	Counseling Practicum II .....	2 hours
CO5930	Counseling Practicum III .....	2 hours

### BIBLICAL STUDIES (22 HOURS)

<b>OLD TESTAMENT</b>		
OT5200	Genesis – Deuteronomy .....	3 hours
OT5250	Joshua – Esther .....	3 hours
OT5300	Poets .....	2 hours
OT5350	Isaiah – Malachi.....	3 hours
<b>NEW TESTAMENT</b>		
NT5200	Gospels .....	3 hours
NT5250	Acts & Romans .....	2 hours
NT5300	Pauline Epistles .....	3 hours
NT5350	Hebrews – Revelation .....	3 hours

### FREE ELECTIVES (4 HOURS)

Free electives include any additional masters-level courses.

### THEOLOGY (16 HOURS)

<b>SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY</b>		
ST5100	Introduction to Pastoral & Theological Studies.....	3 hours
ST5150	Sys Theo: Scripture, Theology, Anthropology.....	3 hours
ST5200	Sys Theo: Christology, Soteriology, Eschatology.....	3 hours
ST5250	Sys Theo: Ecclesiology & Sacraments.....	2 hours
<b>APPLIED THEOLOGY</b>		
ST5500	Pastoral & Social Ethics .....	3 hours
ST5450	Apologetics .....	2 hours

MACC Total Credit Hours:	<b>66 HOURS</b>
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For the most updated version of the curriculum, see the RTS web page ([www.rts.edu](http://www.rts.edu)).

# MASTER OF ARTS

## BIBLICAL STUDIES

JACKSON | ORLANDO | CHARLOTTE | ATLANTA | WASHINGTON DC\* | HOUSTON | GLOBAL EDUCATION\* | NEW YORK CITY\*

*This 66 credit-hour degree program involves biblical, historical, and theological studies, with an emphasis on biblical studies. It is designed to provide a biblical framework for one's life and work whether in a career or ministry. The English Bible exam is required.*

*RTS NYC is approved for the student to take 49% of the MABS degree (32 credits) in New York City.*

## BIBLICAL STUDIES (33 HOURS) THEOLOGY (22 HOURS)

### LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

*One complete sequence of either Greek or Hebrew is required.*

Greek I or Hebrew I.....	3 hours
Greek II or Hebrew II.....	3 hours
Greek Exegesis or Hebrew Exegesis .....	2 hours

### OLD TESTAMENT

OT5200 Genesis – Deuteronomy.....	3 hours
OT5250 Joshua – Esther.....	3 hours
OT5300 Poets.....	2 hours
OT5350 Isaiah – Malachi .....	3 hours

### NEW TESTAMENT

NT5200 Gospels.....	3 hours
NT5250 Acts & Romans.....	2 hours
NT5300 Pauline Epistles.....	3 hours
NT5350 Hebrews – Revelation.....	3 hours

### OLD & NEW TESTAMENTS

ON5100 Hermeneutics.....	3 hours
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### HISTORICAL THEOLOGY

HT5100 History of Christianity I .....	3 hours
HT5200 History of Christianity II.....	3 hours

### SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

ST5100 Introduction to Pastoral & Theological Studies..	3 hours
ST5150 Sys Theo: Scripture, Theology, Anthropology.....	3 hours
ST5200 Sys Theo: Christology, Soteriology, Eschatology..	3 hours
ST5250 Sys Theo: Ecclesiology & Sacraments.....	2 hours
ST5300 Covenant Theology.....	2 hours

### APPLIED THEOLOGY

ST5450 Apologetics.....	2 hours
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### PASTORAL THEOLOGY

PT5375 Personal Sanctification .....	1 hour
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## FREE ELECTIVES (11 HOURS)

Free Electives include any additional masters-level courses.

MABS Total Credit Hours:	<b>66 HOURS</b>
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\*For required curricular adjustments in the Global MABS, NYC MABS, and Washington DC Anglican Studies MABS, see page 30-32.

*For the most updated version of the curriculum, see the RTS web page ([www.rts.edu](http://www.rts.edu)).*

# MASTER OF ARTS

## THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

JACKSON | ORLANDO | CHARLOTTE | DALLAS | GLOBAL EDUCATION\*

*This 66 credit-hour degree program involves biblical, historical, and theological studies, with an emphasis on theological studies. It is designed to provide a theological framework for one's life and work whether in a career or ministry. The English Bible exam is required.*

### THEOLOGY (31 HOURS)

#### HISTORICAL THEOLOGY

HT5100 History of Christianity I ..... 3 hours  
HT5200 History of Christianity II ..... 3 hours

#### SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

ST5100 Introduction to Pastoral & Theological Studies.. 3 hours  
ST5150 Sys Theo: Scripture, Theology, Anthropology..... 3 hours  
ST5200 Sys Theo: Christology, Soteriology, Eschatology.. 3 hours  
ST5250 Sys Theo: Ecclesiology & Sacraments..... 2 hours  
ST5300 Covenant Theology ..... 2 hours

#### APPLIED THEOLOGY

ST5400 Christian Thought & Philosophy..... 3 hours  
ST5450 Apologetics ..... 2 hours  
ST5500 Pastoral & Social Ethics ..... 3 hours  
ST5600 Christ, Culture, Contextualization ..... 2 hours

#### PASTORAL THEOLOGY

PT5375 Personal Sanctification ..... 1 hour  
PT5400 Classics of Personal Devotion ..... 1 hour

### BIBLICAL STUDIES (22 HOURS)

#### OLD TESTAMENT

OT5200 Genesis – Deuteronomy..... 3 hours  
OT5250 Joshua – Esther..... 3 hours  
OT5300 Poets..... 2 hours  
OT5350 Isaiah – Malachi ..... 3 hours

#### NEW TESTAMENT

NT5200 Gospels..... 3 hours  
NT5250 Acts & Romans..... 2 hours  
NT5300 Pauline Epistles..... 3 hours  
NT5350 Hebrews – Revelation ..... 3 hours

### FREE ELECTIVES (3 HOURS)

Free electives include any additional masters-level courses.

### SPECIFIED ELECTIVES (10 HOURS)

Specified electives include additional masters-level courses in historical theology (HT), systematic or applied theology (ST), and/or languages.

MATS Total Credit Hours: **66 HOURS**

\*For required curricular adjustments in the Global MATS, see page 30.

For the most updated version of the curriculum, see the RTS web page ([www.rts.edu](http://www.rts.edu)).

# MASTER OF ARTS

## RELIGION

ATLANTA | WASHINGTON DC | GLOBAL EDUCATION\*

*This 60 credit-hour degree program is a versatile degree that is designed to bring biblical and theological reflection to bear on one's chosen profession and/or avocations.*

### THEOLOGY (31 HOURS)

#### HISTORICAL THEOLOGY

HT5100 History of Christianity I ..... 3 hours  
HT5200 History of Christianity II ..... 3 hours

#### SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

ST5100 Introduction to Pastoral & Theological Studies ... 3 hours  
ST5150 Sys Theo: Scripture, Theology, Anthropology..... 3 hours  
ST5200 Sys Theo: Christology, Soteriology, Eschatology... 3 hours  
ST5250 Sys Theo: Ecclesiology & Sacraments..... 2 hours  
ST5300 Covenant Theology ..... 2 hours

#### APPLIED THEOLOGY

ST5400 Christian Thought & Philosophy..... 3 hours  
ST5450 Apologetics..... 2 hours  
ST5500 Pastoral & Social Ethics ..... 3 hours  
ST5600 Christ, Culture, Contextualization ..... 2 hours

#### PASTORAL THEOLOGY

PT5375 Personal Sanctification ..... 1 hour  
PT5400 Classics of Personal Devotion ..... 1 hour

### BIBLICAL STUDIES (12 HOURS)

#### OLD TESTAMENT

OT5200 Genesis – Deuteronomy..... 3 hours  
OT5350 Isaiah – Malachi ..... 3 hours

#### NEW TESTAMENT

NT5200 Gospels..... 3 hours  
NT5300 Pauline Epistles..... 3 hours

### INTEGRATIVE PAPER (5 HOURS)

ST5940 Integrative Paper..... 5 hours

### FREE ELECTIVES (12 HOURS)

Free electives include any additional masters-level courses taught at RTS.

MAR Total Credit Hours: **60 HOURS**

\*For required curricular adjustments in the Global MAR, see page 30.

For the most updated version of the curriculum, see the RTS web page ([www.rts.edu](http://www.rts.edu)).

# MASTER OF ARTS

## MASTER OF ARTS - CURRICULAR ADJUSTMENTS

GLOBAL EDUCATION\*

All Global Education degree-seeking students are required to make the following curricular adjustments.\*

### MASTER OF ARTS (BIBLICAL STUDIES)

DROP THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:	ADD THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:
Free Elective (1 hour)	PT5000 Orientation Seminar (1 hour)

### MASTER OF ARTS (THEOLOGICAL STUDIES)

DROP THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:	ADD THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:
Free Elective (1 hour)	PT5000 Orientation Seminar (1 hour)
Specified Elective (5 hours) Optional	PT5940 Integrative Thesis (3 hours)
	PT5945 Integration Seminar (2 hours)
	An optional 5 hour thesis may be completed with approval of the Global Academic Dean.

### MASTER OF ARTS (RELIGION)

DROP THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:	ADD THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:
Free Elective (1 hour)	PT5000 Orientation Seminar (1 hour)
ST5940 Integrative Paper (5 hours)	PT5940 Integrative Thesis (3 hours)
	PT5945 Integration Seminar (2 hours)

\*For comprehensive MABS, MATS, and MAR curricula, see pages 27-29

For the most updated version of the curriculum, see the RTS web page ([www.rts.edu](http://www.rts.edu)).

# MASTER OF ARTS

## BIBLICAL STUDIES - CURRICULAR ADJUSTMENTS

### NEW YORK CITY

*The RTS New York City MABS is part of the Redeemer City Ministry (RCM) program, offered by RTS in partnership with Redeemer City to City (CTC). RCM students receive priority admission to the MABS program; potential scholarship funding from CTC, and special vocational assessment, training and support from CTC staff during seminary. Upon graduation students are eligible to participate in CTC's City Ministry Program for ministry in the global city. For further details, please see the RTS website.*

*Currently, RTS NYC is approved for the student to take 49% of the MABS degree (32 credit hours) in New York City. Courses in the core curriculum are offered either residentially or by distance learning and need not be taken in the order listed.*

*All RCM degree-seeking students are required to make the following curricular adjustments.\**

### MASTER OF ARTS (BIBLICAL STUDIES)

DROP THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:	ADD THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:
Free Elective (11 hours)	Second Language Sequence (8 hours)  Students must choose <b>one</b> of the following electives:  ST5400 Christian Thought & Philosophy (3 hours) OR  ST5500 Pastoral & Social Ethics (3 hours) OR  PT6380 Living the Christian Life in a Secular Culture (3 hours)

\*For the comprehensive MABS curriculum, see page 27.

*For the most updated version of the curriculum, see the RTS web page ([www.rts.edu](http://www.rts.edu)).*

# MASTER OF ARTS

## ANGLICAN STUDIES - CURRICULAR ADJUSTMENTS

WASHINGTON DC

*This degree is part of the Anglican Studies Program (ASP), offered by RTS in partnership with The Falls Church Anglican. The ASP seeks to provide a course of study aimed at training Anglican ministers and church leaders for the work to which they have been called. In this program, students will engage with the robust theological foundation of Reformed thought with a special consideration of how that foundation is manifested in the Anglican church, sacraments, and life. The ASP is designed to be taken alongside the Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) degree program (MABS).*

*All ASP degree-seeking students are required to make the following curricular adjustments.\**

### M.A.B.S. ANGLICAN STUDIES PROGRAM

DROP THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:	ADD THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:
HT5200 History of Christianity II (3 hours)	HT6130 Anglican Church History (3 hours)
Free Elective (11 hours)	ST6360 Anglican Theology (3 hours)
	ST6365 Anglican Church, Ministry, Sacraments (3 hours)
	PT6335 Anglican Polity (1 hour)
	ST6500 Anglican Ethics (3 hours) OR PT6390 Anglican Spirituality (3 hours)
	Free Elective (1 hour)

\*For the comprehensive MABS curriculum, see page 27.

For the most updated version of the curriculum, see the RTS web page ([www.rts.edu](http://www.rts.edu)).

# THE DOCTOR OF MINISTRY PROGRAM

# DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

ORLANDO | CHARLOTTE | SAO PAULO

## PROGRAM DESIGN

The Doctor of Ministry program is available in Orlando and Charlotte. RTS also offers a joint Doctor of Ministry degree with the Andrew Jumper Graduate Theological Center, Mackenzie University, Sao Paulo, Brazil. Concerning the Brazil D.Min. program, all program requirements are the same, with slight curricular adjustments. For details regarding the Brazil curriculum, see page 36.

The purpose of the RTS Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) program is to equip Christian leaders to be more effective in their ministries through advanced study and training (beyond the M.Div. degree) in the theory and practice of a biblically integrated ministry. It is built upon the biblical, theological, and professional foundations of the Master of Divinity degree.

The goal of the RTS D.Min. program is to help produce “theologically reflective practitioners” who learn to think theologically about ministry as a result of taking D.Min. courses while simultaneously serving in ministry. The process of disciplined in-depth reading, integrative writing, and periodic campus interaction, with both RTS faculty and ministry peers, is designed to help bring positive growth in both the Christian leader’s personal life and public ministry.

The American D.Min. curriculum has two emphases – Reformed Expository Preaching and Reformed Theology & Ministry. Students will choose one of the two emphases, taking a minimum of three courses in that emphasis, and writing the final Doctoral Project in the area of that emphasis. Some of the courses in the Reformed Expository Preaching emphasis may be adjusted for women so as to provide the appropriate setting for their needs. In addition to the three emphasis courses, students will have the choice of four electives. After the completion of seven courses, a final required course for all students is the online Doctoral Project Research course which prepares students for writing the Doctoral Project. These emphases will be listed on the student’s transcript but will not be designated on the student’s diploma.

Requirements include the successful completion of 30 credit hours, which are offered in eight courses (three credit hours each) plus a doctoral project (six credit hours). Normally, students take two to four courses per year; however, a student may take more per year upon written approval of both the D.Min. Director and Academic Dean.

The division of hours is indicated below:

Three emphasis courses .....	9 hours
Four electives courses.....	12 hours
Online Project course .....	3 hours
Final Doctoral Project.....	6 hours
<hr/>	
	30 hours

Each course has three components:

1. Assigned reading of approximately 2,000 pages to be completed before attending the classroom session.
2. A one-week (five days) session of classroom meetings for lectures, reflection, and evaluation.
3. A post-session integration paper growing out of the reading and class work. Written assignments for winter courses should be submitted to the D.Min. office no later than April 30, and assignments for summer courses should be submitted no later than October 31.

American on-campus classroom sessions are offered in a one-week intensive format in the winter and the summer each year, with at least two courses available during each session. Brazil on-campus classroom sessions are offered in a one-week intensive format throughout the year. Students ordinarily take four to five years to complete all the program requirements. A maximum of six years is allowed for completion of the program. Doctoral students are required to complete a minimum of one (three-hour) D.Min. course per year until the completion of their course work.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must hold a baccalaureate degree or its foreign equivalent and in addition the M.Div. degree or its educational equivalent (including Greek or Hebrew). Reformed Expository Preaching emphasis must have at least one year of both Greek *and* Hebrew. A minimum 3.0 (B) cumulative grade-point average (GPA) on work toward the M.Div. degree is ordinarily required.

For American baccalaureate degrees, RTS recognizes all schools accredited by “regional” accreditors (e.g., Southern Association of Colleges and Schools).

For North American master’s level degrees, RTS recognizes all schools accredited by the Association of Theological Schools. Applicants to the D.Min. program who have not completed the requisite Master of Divinity degree from an accredited seminary or graduate school may apply on the basis of having attained the educational equivalent of the M.Div. degree.

M.Div. educational equivalency shall be defined as having completed 81 credit hours of graduate study including 30 hours in historical/theological studies, 30 hours in biblical studies, 6 hours in either Greek or Hebrew, and 15 hours in pastoral theology studies. Part of the 81 credit hours must include a master’s degree in a theological discipline.

Transcripts of prior graduate study will be evaluated by the D.Min. Committee, and applicants will be advised by letter of their standing. In the event that M.Div. equivalency has not been attained, a prescribed program of study leading to M.Div. equivalency will be recommended. This prescribed program may include courses at an RTS campus, distance education, or course work at another seminary.

Applicants must have been engaged in a recognized form of professional ministry for at least three years after receiving their Master of Divinity degree and are expected to reflect competence and growth in ministry as a result of their professional experience. (A limited number of students with less than three years experience post-M.Div. may be admitted based on other ministry-experience factors that have prepared them for D.Min. studies.) Students are expected to continue their practice of full-time ministry for the duration of their Doctor of Ministry program.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

All D.Min. students are required to complete 30 credit hours with a grade point average of 3.0 and with no grade below a C (2.0) counting toward the degree. The 24 hours of course work must include four core courses and four elective courses. Also required is a six-credit-hour doctoral project on an

approved subject giving evidence of the student's ability to do independent research and integrate theology into practical ministry. A minimum of 12 hours (4 courses) plus the six-hour doctoral project must be taken on the RTS campus from which the candidate plans to do the doctoral project and graduate. The student may take the other 12 hours on either of the RTS campuses that provide D.Min. courses. Students may transfer a maximum of two 3-hour D.Min. courses from another seminary.

The completed doctoral project must be either (1) submitted no later than February 15 and defended successfully before a faculty committee no later than April 15 prior to the expected date of graduation in May, or (2) submitted no later than August 15 and defended successfully before a faculty committee no later than October 15 prior to the expected date of graduation in December.

## RTS JOINT DOCTOR OF MINISTRY DEGREE

*With Andrew Jumper Graduate Theological Center,  
Mackenzie University, Sao Paulo, Brazil*

The Andrew Jumper Graduate Theological Center (AJGTC) of Mackenzie University, Sao Paulo, Brazil, is an approved "complete degree site" for the RTS Doctor of Ministry degree program, jointly awarded with AJGTC. All course work will be held at the

AJGTC at Mackenzie University in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Mackenzie University and the Andrew Jumper Graduate Theological Center are operated and supported by the Igreja Presbiteriana do Brasil (Presbyterian Church in Brazil).

Curriculum requirements include the successful completion of 30 credit hours, which are offered in eight courses (three credit hours each) plus a doctoral project (six credit hours). The division of hours is indicated below:

<i>Four core courses .....</i>	<i>12 hours</i>
DM8400 Theology of Ministry	
DM8402 Applied Theology	
DM8404 Leadership	
DM8406 Church Growth or DM8408 Church Revitalization	
<i>Four electives courses.....</i>	<i>12 hours</i>
<i>Final Doctoral Project.....</i>	<i>6 hours</i>
<hr/>	
	<i>30 hours</i>

Disclaimer: Reformed Theological Seminary is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award master's degrees and doctoral degrees. The Andrew Jumper Graduate Theological Center at Mackenzie University is not accredited by the Commission on Colleges and the accreditation of Reformed Theological Seminary does not extend to or include

Andrew Jumper Graduate Theological Center, Mackenzie University, or its students. Although Reformed Theological Seminary accepts certain Andrew Jumper Graduate Theological Center course work in transfer, other colleges and universities may not accept this work in transfer, even if it appears on a transcript from Reformed Theological Seminary.

# REFORMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS

### CERTIFICATE

The Certificate program requires 32 credit hours. Normally the Certificate program is a mixture of biblical studies and theological studies; however, it may be tailored more specifically for the student's needs. Admission requirements for the Certificate program match other masters-degree program requirements, including a baccalaureate degree or its foreign equivalent. Credits earned in the Certificate program may be applied toward the various M.A. or M.Div. degrees. Normal degree-time-limits apply.

### THE CENTER FOR CAMPUS MINISTRY

*RTS CHARLOTTE*

Ministry among college students is one of the most significant and strategic ways to develop the next generation's church leaders and evangelize the lost. As a result of great interest in this area within our faculty and student body, the Center for Campus Ministry (CCM) at RTS Charlotte was formed in 2009.

This Center provides specialized training in the Master of Divinity degree with a focus upon ministry among college and university students. In addition to the degree emphasis within the Master of Divinity program, the CCM also includes an active fellowship among students headed to campus ministry, annual conferences & lectures, and numerous campus ministry opportunities.

Please refer to the RTS Charlotte website for the latest information about the CCM. Specific course offerings associated with this MDiv emphasis are listed on page 22.

### THE CENTER FOR CHURCH PLANTING

*RTS CHARLOTTE*

The great commission moves forward most effectively through the planting of new churches. RTS Charlotte offers the Center for Church Planting (CCP) as a national and international resource for the planting of Reformed churches committed to the authority of Scripture, the centrality of preaching, and reaching the lost. The CCP prepares students for the unique challenges, complexities, and opportunities that church planters face as they successfully plan biblically Reformed churches in the US and abroad.

The Center specializes in training future pastors by offering coursework for the Master of Divinity emphasis in Church Planting, practical internships, mentoring by seasoned church planters, and generous scholarship support. In addition, students participate in the church planters' fellowship, annual conferences and lectures, and enjoy unique networking opportunities in the Carolinas and beyond.

Please refer to the RTS Charlotte website for the latest information about the CCP. Specific course offerings associated with this MDiv emphasis are listed on page 22.

## THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF THE BIBLE AND ETHNICITY

*RTS ATLANTA*

As urban centers in the U.S. and around the world continue to become larger and more ethnically diverse, the Church faces a new challenge – the need for more churches in these urban centers that are intentionally cross-cultural and multi-ethnic. The Center for the Study of the Bible & Ethnicity (CSBE) at RTS Atlanta is designed to help equip pastors and leaders to meet this new challenge by fostering within students an appreciation for the histories and cultures of people groups that are outside of the dominant culture and by wedding this emphasis to a curriculum that has been holding forth the deep truths of the Reformed faith for over fifty years.

The CSBE offers unique courses, lectures, and conferences at RTS Atlanta to fulfill its mission and train the next generation of pastors for global ministry.

Please refer to the RTS Atlanta website for the latest information about the CSBE.

## THE INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY AND PUBLIC LIFE

*RTS WASHINGTON DC*

The Institute of Theology and Public Life (ITPL) was created to equip believers theologically to exercise their responsibility for the public good. This Institute will integrate biblical, systematic, historical, and pastoral theology to equip Christians to witness to God's kingdom in public life. Reformed

Theology has a rich tradition of reflection on issues of public theology that can be mined to enrich our understanding of our responsibilities and goals in today's civil sphere. Students will engage a disciplined Reformed approach to biblical and systematic theology in order to hone an outlook cognizant of our place in redemptive history and the doctrinal framework needed to form a sound public theology.

A suite of courses are offered at RTS Washington DC. These include two foundational courses and four courses of pastoral theology. Students may take these courses individually, as a certificate, or as part of a graduate degree.

Please refer to the RTS Washington DC website for the latest information about the ITPL.

## THE SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR BIBLICAL LANGUAGES

*RTS JACKSON*

The RTS Jackson Summer Institute for Biblical Languages (SIBL) provides thorough, intensive introductions to the biblical languages. Hebrew with Dr. Miles Van Pelt and Greek with Dr. Ben Gladd are offered during a special summer intensive in which each language is studied three hours per day, five days per week for eight weeks. During this eight week period, students will complete a full year of language study (Hebrew I & II or Greek I & II).

Please refer to the RTS Jackson website for the latest information about the SIBL.

# RTS ACADEMIC POLICIES



JACKSON

ORLANDO

CHARLOTTE

WASHINGTON D. C.

ATLANTA

HOUSTON

DALLAS

NEW YORK CITY

GLOBAL

## ADMISSIONS

The seminary has a non-discriminatory (race, sex, handicap) admissions policy. The school's policy is to admit students to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities at the school and to make no discrimination on the basis of race, sex, or handicap in the administration of educational policies, applications for admission, scholarship or loan programs, and extracurricular programs. (There are a few restrictions for preaching labs. See M.Div. Design of the Curriculum, page 16.)

Applications for admission are reviewed for, and admission is granted into, specific programs of study offered by the seminary. Admission to one program of study does not imply admission is being granted to another program of the seminary.

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES.

Applicants to programs of the seminary are evaluated on the basis of academic preparation and potential for ministry. Application for admission should be made at least three months prior to the date of enrollment. New students may enroll in the fall, winter, spring, or summer terms. Applications for admissions can be found at [www.rts.edu](http://www.rts.edu).

The following materials should be addressed to the Director of Admissions:

1. *A completed application form.*
2. *References from three individuals, including the applicant's pastor.*
3. *The application fee.*
4. *A statement of Christian faith.*
5. *A statement of reasons for wishing to pursue a particular degree.*

6. *Official transcripts from all previous academic work (a baccalaureate degree or its foreign equivalent with a 2.6 cumulative GPA is ordinarily required, under 2.6 may require academic probation).*

7. *A recent photograph.*

Admission is normally granted on the basis of these credentials alone. However the seminary may require a personal interview with the applicant, an entrance exam, the Graduate Record Examination, background checks, or a psychological or aptitude test.

Any admitted student who defers enrollment more than one year beyond the initial entrance date must submit another completed application form, the application fee, and other material that may be requested by the Director of Admissions.

Upon acceptance to RTS, a non-refundable deposit is required, which will be credited toward the student's first-semester tuition.

**DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSIONS.** For American baccalaureate degrees, RTS recognizes all schools accredited by "regional" accreditors (e.g., Southern Association of Colleges and Schools). For North American master's level degrees, RTS recognizes all schools accredited by the Association of Theological Schools. Concerning foreign equivalency and other "unaccredited" American schools, all degrees are considered on a case-by-case basis. RTS has a process to evaluate these schools that are not currently accredited to ensure educational equivalency. In these cases, the primary criterion is general compatibility with the standards of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and the Association of Theological Schools.

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS.** All international students must establish English language proficiency. All applicants whose first language is not English must normally demonstrate English proficiency by taking the “Test of English as a Foreign Language” (TOEFL). Though there are three different forms of the TOEFL exam, the internet based (iBT) TOEFL exam is the only form accepted by RTS. To be considered for admission to the MDiv or MA degree programs, applicants must have a total score of 84 or higher, with scores no lower than 21 on the four components of the exam (reading, listening, speaking, and writing). To be considered for admission to the MAC or DMin degree programs, applicants must have a minimum total score of 100, with scores no lower than 25 on each of the components (reading, listening, speaking, and writing).

International students are legally required to be full-time students (12 credit hours per fall and spring semesters). Standard admission policies apply. As required, all transcripts from international colleges and universities must ordinarily be submitted for evaluation to a member organization of one of the two national associations of credential evaluation services (National Association of Credential Evaluation Services [NACES] or Association of International Credentials Evaluators [AICE]). Students should request the course-by-course report and specifically request that they include the language of instruction on the report. Please contact the admissions office to receive a list of these member organizations.

As part of the U.S. Government requirements, RTS requires proof of finances and financial support in the amount covering both tuition and living expenses for the duration of the degree.

**STUDENT VISA APPLICATION.** The Certificate of Eligibility (I-20) needed for obtaining a student visa for entry into the United States requires certification that the admitted student is proficient in English and has sufficient financial resources to provide for tuition and living expenses. This certification must be on the form I-20 at the time the student appears at the Embassy for a visa. The Admissions Office at the seminary will make certification of English language proficiency based on the scores reported for the TOEFL/TWE.

To demonstrate that the international student has sufficient financial resources, the admitted student must send the completed “Statement of Financial Resources” with attached documentation to the Admissions Office. This should be done as soon as possible after the applicant has been notified that his/her application for admission has been approved. The Admissions Office will make financial certification on the I-20 based on funds on deposit in the student’s account and on pledges of support by individuals, churches, foundations, etc.

*Note: It is recommended that the student not book or pay for travel until the student’s visa has been issued.*

**SPECIAL STUDENTS.** An applicant may apply as a special student rather than applying to a degree program. Special student status allows a maximum of 18 semester hours of master’s-level courses.

All hours earned as a special student may be applied toward a degree. Therefore, it is important to consider carefully the possibility of entering a degree program during your course of study as a special student.

To apply as a special student, the following items should be sent to the Office of Admissions:

1. *A completed application form.*
2. *The application fee.*
3. *A completed Pastoral Reference form.*
4. *A statement of Christian faith (see below).*
5. *An official transcript indicating a baccalaureate degree or its foreign equivalent.*
6. *A recent photograph.*

Concerning the above requirement of a statement of Christian faith, applicants who do not hold to historic and orthodox Christian doctrine may only be admitted as Special Students and may not be admitted to a degree program.

To upgrade from special student status to a master's degree program, students must apply to a specific master's degree and submit the remaining application requirements outlined on page 40.

## TRANSFER CREDITS

For master's level and doctoral level transfer of coursework, RTS recognizes all North American schools accredited by the Association of Theological Schools. Concerning foreign equivalency, all degrees and coursework are considered on a case-by-case basis. Concerning other American schools not accredited by ATS, all coursework is considered on

a case-by-case basis as advanced standing. RTS has a process to evaluate graduate schools that are not currently accredited by ATS to ensure graduate-level equivalency. In these cases, the primary criterion is general compatibility with the standards of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and the Association of Theological Schools. In all transfer of credit situations, RTS reserves the right to accept or decline credits in particular cases. See "Advanced Standing" section for more information.

Students who desire to transfer credit from other graduate institutions should submit a transcript of their coursework and a catalog containing the course description. If courses apply to the RTS curriculum, credit may be granted for work completed. No credit will be given for work that received a grade below C (2.0). Normally, no credit will be given for work completed more than seven years prior to matriculation.

Gradepoint averages on RTS transcripts will be determined on the basis of work done only at Reformed Theological Seminary.

The maximum allowable transfer of credits is as follows:

- A. *For D.Min., a maximum of 6 D.Min. credit hours*
- B. *For M.Div., a maximum of 52 master's credit hours*
- C. *For M.A.B.S., M.A.T.S., or M.A.C.C. a maximum of 32 master's credit hours*
- D. *For M.A.R., a maximum of 29 master's credit hours*
- E. *For M.A.C., normally few transfer credits are allowed due to the unique nature of this degree.*

## ADVANCED STANDING

Advanced Standing is distinct from transfer of credits and refers to decisions about a student's competence when no accredited-graduate transcripts are presented. Advanced standing with credit reduces the number of hours required for the degree. Advanced standing without credit exempts a student from some courses but does not reduce the total number of credits required for a degree. RTS recognizes three main types of advanced standing with credit.

Advanced standing with credit may be given on the basis of oral or written assessment. The maximum of advanced standing for an M.A. student is 10 hours, and the maximum for an M.Div. student is 12 hours. These maximums include a combination of both advanced standing with and without credit.

Most often, this is related to the language exemption. A student may be exempted out of Greek 1 (3 hours), Greek 2 (3 hours), Hebrew 1 (3 hours), and Hebrew 2 (3 hours) by taking exemption exams for any one or all of these courses. The maximum advanced standing with credit that a student may receive is six hours for language exemptions. If the student was exempted out of more than six hours of language exemptions, the remainder of hours would be advanced standing without credit (up to four hours for an M.A. student and up to six hours for an M.Div. student).

RTS has a process to evaluate graduate schools that are not currently accredited by ATS to ensure graduate-level equivalency. Advanced standing with credit may be given for graduate courses taken at

these "recognized" schools. If courses apply to the RTS curriculum, a maximum of 25% of the RTS degree-program hours may be given.

RTS has several agreements with well-known ministries wherein courses given by these ministries have been approved as equivalent to graduate-level coursework. A student may be given advanced standing with credit for this coursework, and the work may be applied to all M.A. and M.Div. degree programs, excepting the M.A.C. degree. There is a maximum of 15 hours that may be given.

A student may receive advanced standing from more than one of the above categories, but in no case will more than 25% of the RTS degree-program hours be awarded as advanced standing.

In all situations, the primary equivalency criteria for advanced standing with credit is general compatibility with the standards of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and the Association of Theological Schools. In addition, RTS reserves the right to give or decline advanced standing in particular cases.

Advanced standing without credit may be given based on either prior unaccredited academic work or significant ministerial and/or life experience.

A student may apply for advanced standing by contacting the local campus Registrar.

## RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

To ensure good educational quality, students are required to have a certain percentage of their credit hours taken at the same RTS degree-granting campus. These minimum requirements are as follows:

- A. For D.Min., a minimum of 12 credit hours plus the doctoral project must be taken at the same RTS D.Min.-degree-granting campus.*
- B. For M.Div., a minimum of 36 credit hours must be taken at the same RTS M.Div.-degree-granting campus.*
- C. For M.A.B.S./M.A.T.S./M.A.C.C., a minimum of 34 credit hours must be taken at the same RTS M.A.B.S./M.A.T.S./M.A.C.C.-degree-granting campus.*
- D. For M.A.R., a minimum of 31 credit hours must be taken at the same RTS M.A.R.-degree-granting campus.*
- E. For M.A.C., normally all credit hours must be taken at the same RTS M.A.C.-degree-granting campus due to the unique nature of this degree.*

The above percentages apply to both RTS residential campuses and RTS Global Education students. RTS Global Education offers the M.A.B.S, M.A.T.S., and M.A.R. degrees through distance education.

In situations that involve transfer credits and advanced standing, the following additional minimums relate to the D.Min. and M.Div.:

- A. For D.Min., a minimum of 12 credit hours plus the doctoral project must be taken at the same RTS D.Min.-degree-granting campus and a total of 24 credit hours somewhere in the RTS system.*
- B. For M.Div., a minimum of 36 credit hours must be taken at the same RTS M.Div.-degree-granting campus and a total of 54 credit hours somewhere in the RTS system.*

## GRADING SYSTEM

Grade point averages on RTS transcripts will be determined on the basis of work done only at Reformed Theological Seminary.

A	(97-100)	4.00
A-	(94-96)	3.66
B+	(91-93)	3.33
B	(88-90)	3.00
B-	(86-87)	2.66
C+	(83-85)	2.33
C	(80-82)	2.00
C-	(78-79)	1.66
D+	(75-77)	1.33
D	(72-74)	1.00
D-	(70-71)	0.66
F	(below 70)	0.00
I	(incomplete)	-
W	(withdraw)	-
S	(satisfactory)	-
P	(passing)	-

The grade "I" indicates that the work required for the course was not completed. It is given only when special, extenuating circumstances (such as illness) prevent the student from completing the work or taking the examination. A written request for an extension must be submitted prior to the due date of the work concerned. If the request is granted, it remains the responsibility of the student to complete all work for the course as soon as possible. In any case, an "I" grade must be removed within the extension time granted; otherwise it will be changed to "F."

The grade “W” indicates that a student has withdrawn from a course after the drop deadline. This grade is granted by the academic dean only in extenuating circumstances.

The grade “P” is only used as a Pass/Fail option and is limited to the Field Education course.

A grade of C or better is required to continue in the sequence of language courses (does not apply to RTS Charlotte).

If a course is retaken, the original grade remains on the transcript and is included in the GPA.

For all RTS courses that have exceeded standard degree time limits and are now ineligible to be applied to a degree, these courses will be shown on a separate transcript and will not be applied to the student’s GPA.

## **COURSE LOAD AND DEFINITION OF A CREDIT HOUR**

A normal course load is 12 to 18 credit hours for the fall and spring semesters and two to four credit hours for the winter session. The permission of the Academic Dean must be obtained prior to registering for 19 or more credit hours either for the fall or the spring.

Master’s students who take fewer than 12 credit hours of academic work in the fall or spring semester are classified as part-time students.

D.Min. students who take six credit hours of academic work in a calendar year are classified as full-time students. D.Min. students are also considered full-time while making progress in the doctoral project phase.

Concerning masters-level individual course expectations, normally each RTS course is designed for two hours of work outside of the classroom for every hour in the classroom. That is, RTS operates under a semester system. One credit hour is awarded for 13 hours of classroom instruction joined with 26 hours of out-of-class work during a semester, plus the final exam. One-week intensive courses contain the same number of instruction hours as courses scheduled for a full 13-week semester. Distance education and hybrid courses are adjusted so that total work hours are equivalent to traditional face-to-face courses. Concerning D.Min. courses, 3-credit-hour D.Min. courses must have a minimum of 30 hours in the classroom. The combination of work outside of class plus class-time must be a minimum of 117 hours.

## **DROP/ADD DATES**

Students are permitted to add courses for a period of two weeks following the first day of the semester. This add date is specified in the academic calendar of the respective campus. A fee will be charged for each course added after the first day of the semester.

Students are permitted to drop courses for a period of five weeks following the first day of the semester. Courses may be dropped without academic penalty if done so by the drop date listed in the academic calendar of the respective campus. No courses may be added or dropped after the deadlines. For refunds related to courses dropped, see the refund policy.

## ENGLISH BIBLE AND CATECHISM REQUIREMENTS

Successful completion of a comprehensive examination in biblical content is required prior to graduation for the M.Div., M.A.B.S., M.A.T.S., M.A.C.C. degrees. This examination may be repeated until it is passed. A grade of C is considered a passing grade.

All M.Div. students are required to memorize the *Westminster Shorter Catechism*. Testing is taken in several segments and each segment may be repeated until it is passed.

## DIRECTED STUDY COURSES

Students may request permission to take an independent, directed study course under the supervision of a professor. For master's courses, a directed study requires a minimum of 1,000 pages of reading per credit hour, a project/paper, and at least six substantive interactions between the professor and the student. All directed study courses must be approved by the professor and the Academic Dean. These courses must be completed within the semester in which they are started. The normal tuition rate is charged for all directed study courses.

Directed study courses usually are offered to cover subjects that are not included in the published curriculum. Regularly scheduled elective and required courses may be taken by directed study upon the discretion of the professor and Academic Dean only when a course is required for graduation and cannot be worked into a student's schedule.

## DEGREE TIME LIMITS

Students enrolled in the masters degree programs have seven years to complete the degree requirements. Students enrolled in the D.Min. degree program have six years to complete the degree requirements. After the maximum time limit has been reached for a degree program, the student may apply for an extension. For doctoral students, extension fees will apply. In cases where students have received transfer credits and/or degree extensions, all course credits applied toward degree requirements should be earned within ten years of completing the degree.

Students are considered inactive after a one-year absence from coursework and are normally required to submit reapplication materials before re-enrollment. This inactive period may be included in the degree time limits.

For a student who reenrolls after his courses have exceeded the standard degree time limits and are now ineligible to be applied to a degree, these courses will be shown on a separate transcript and will not be applied to the student's GPA.

## COURSE EXTENSIONS

Unless required earlier by the professor, all course assignments, term papers, and reports must be submitted by the deadline listed in the academic calendar for each campus. Extensions will be granted only for causes deemed adequate. A written request is required and must be approved by both the professor and the Academic Dean.

## WITHDRAWAL

A student that intends to withdraw from the seminary should report this in writing to the Registrar within 14 calendar days of their last class absence. For re-admission, the student is required to submit re-application materials before re-enrollment. This inactive period may be included in the degree time limits.

## ACADEMIC PROBATION / DISMISSAL

A student who has a GPA under 2.6 for the baccalaureate degree may be placed on academic probation upon admission. The student is permitted to take RTS courses for 15 credit hours. After 15 credit hours, if the average GPA is below 2.0, the student is dismissed. After a period of one year, a student dismissed for academic reasons may apply for re-admission. This inactive period may be included in the degree time limits.

An RTS student whose GPA falls below 2.0 after completing 18 credit hours of coursework is placed on academic probation. The student is permitted to continue studies for an additional 15 credit hours. If the cumulative GPA remains below 2.0, the student is dismissed. After a period of one year, a student dismissed for academic reasons may apply for re-admission.

## TRANSCRIPTS

Transcripts are released only upon receipt of a signed transcript request from the student. Upon graduation, the student receives a copy of the final transcript free of charge provided all accounts at the seminary have been settled. Additional copies are available for a fee. Copies of transcripts may take up to six business days to process.

Normally, the coursework, credits, and degree earned at RTS are transferable to other institutions; however, it is technically at the sole discretion of the receiving institution as to which of these will be accepted.

## CLASS ATTENDANCE

Classroom attendance is for the glory of God and preparation for the gospel ministry. Students therefore are expected to attend class sessions. No student should absent himself from classes in order to fulfill requirements or responsibilities of other classes. Those with absences may be penalized at the discretion of the professor.

## PRIVACY OF STUDENT RECORDS

RTS maintains the security and confidentiality of student educational records. All student records are kept in locked rooms and in locked file cabinets. In addition, all transcribed information for current degree-seeking students is digitally “backed-up” at an off-site location.

Since RTS does not accept Title IV student loan monies, RTS is not bound by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). However, RTS’ confidentiality policies are generally consistent with FERPA. RTS policies are as follows:

A student may inspect and review his/her academic file and transcript after a written request has been made to the Registrar’s office. The Registrar will make arrangements for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. The Registrar will be present during this inspection and review.

If a student believes his/her academic file and/or transcript are inaccurate or misleading, the student may request to amend the file and/or transcript. The student should write the Registrar, clearly identifying the portion of the record that the student wishes to change and specifying what is inaccurate or misleading. If RTS decides not to amend, the student may use the student appeal process.

RTS will not disclose, without the student's consent, personally identifiable information found in the student's academic file or transcript, excepting legitimate educational interests and directory information.

Directory information includes, but is not limited to, name, address, telephone number, email, date and place of birth, spouse's name, home state, previous schools attended, denomination and presbytery affiliation, grade level, dates of attendance, photo and photo of spouse, degree program, enrollment type (full-time, part-time), and degrees with date of graduation.

## PLAGIARISM

Research papers require borrowing other people's ideas and words. However, the source of such borrowing must be acknowledged properly so that your ideas are clearly distinguished from ideas that you borrowed. If the source is not acknowledged properly, your work is plagiarism. For an excellent summary on what constitutes plagiarism, see Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* (rev. by Wayne C. Booth, etc.; 8th ed.; Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013), pp. 78-82 (section 7.9).

Plagiarism includes word-for-word copying, lifting terms, restatement of someone's argument or line of thought, etc.—all without acknowledgment of source. Plagiarism also includes giving a source partial credit when more is taken from that source than indicated.

Plagiarism, whether intentional or unintentional, is very serious. All plagiarism cases are referred to the Academic Dean for resolution. Consequences may include some of the following:

- *repeat the assignment and receive a maximum of a D on the assignment*
- *receive an F on the assignment*
- *receive an F in the course*
- *expulsion from the seminary*

## STUDENT CONDUCT

Students are expected to conduct themselves at all times as mature believers. Exemplary Christian conduct should control our words and our actions, both public and private. In today's technological environment our words can include texting, emails, social networking and blogging, in addition to our speech. Godly behavior, expected of all Christians, is especially required of those who are preparing themselves to become ministers of the Word or servants in the church. Classroom manners should also reflect this maturity. Students should be respectful of professors, attend all class periods, and hand in assignments on time. Classroom etiquette also includes leaving cell phones turned off, refraining from surfing the Internet and laptop computer games, and communicating to your neighbor during lectures.

Student conduct is under the supervision of the Dean of Students. The seminary reserves the right to dismiss any student whose conduct is found to be unsatisfactory on the basis of spiritual or moral principles found in the Scriptures. If desired, the student can appeal the dismissal according to the student appeals policy.

## SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The seminary expects all members of its community to apply sanctified common sense and biblical principles to their relationships. It will not tolerate offensive or inappropriate sexual behavior and requires all faculty, staff and students to refrain from any action or conduct which could be viewed as sexual harassment. Any such harassment is contrary to and prohibited by seminary policy and will be considered grounds for disciplinary action. It should be noted that for academic purposes, some appropriate teaching and discussion of sexual information may occur, particularly in a counseling program; however, these discussions are necessary for the formation of a competent counselor or pastor and therefore do not constitute sexual harassment.

Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other offensive verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature is expressly prohibited. Examples of prohibited conduct include but are not limited to lewd or sexually suggestive comments; off-color language or jokes of a sexual nature; verbal, graphic or physical conduct inappropriately relating to an individual's gender; or any display of sexually explicit pictures, greeting cards, articles, books, magazines, photos, computer images or cartoons.

The seminary must have the cooperation of all faculty, staff and students in order to implement its sexual harassment policy. It is the individual's responsibility to report immediately any incident which they believe to constitute sexual harassment. Even if they believe the act is isolated or infrequent, they should report it to the campus Dean of Students or President. The seminary will promptly investigate the situation and take whatever corrective action is necessary and appropriate. The seminary prohibits any retaliatory action against persons reporting conduct which is believed by the reporting individual to be in violation of this policy.

## STUDENT COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS PROCESS

An appeals process exists to resolve any behavioral or academic problem that cannot otherwise be settled in a biblical manner and assures fairness to all parties concerned. This process is rarely needed and should only be used after all other means have been exhausted. For example, in academic matters that pertain to a class or a grade, the student should first work directly with the professor and/or Registrar. Concerning behavioral or community issues, the student should first consult with the Dean of Students.

If the matter cannot be resolved by the above means, the following appeals process exists:

1. The student should submit a written appeal to the Academic Dean regarding the issue. Depending on the issue, the Academic Dean may request input from the Faculty. The Academic Dean will render a written decision.

2. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Academic Dean, then the student may submit a subsequent written appeal to the campus President requesting a hearing. The campus President may or may not grant the request. If granted, the campus President will appoint an ad hoc committee that may consist of trustees, faculty, staff, and/or institutional officers to hear the case. This committee is authorized to meet with any or all concerned parties to resolve the issue and will render a written decision concerning the case.
3. The decision of the President or the ad hoc committee is considered final, subject only to review by the Executive Committee of the Board to affirm the appeals process was properly observed.

the MABS, MATS, or MAR degrees in the distance education format.

Distance education courses are also available to residential students. The percentage of distance education courses allowed for residential students varies per degree and is shown on page 50. Most residential students take at least a few distance education courses.

## **DISTANCE EDUCATION COURSES**

RTS has a very robust Distance Education Department. The Department works with RTS professors to develop and facilitate many courses in the distance education (online) format. Physically, the RTS Distance Education Department is located on the RTS Charlotte campus. This Department serves both Global Education students and all residential students.

Global Education students are those who are primarily pursuing a degree of which most of the courses are taken through distance education. These students may take from 51% to 100% of either

# RTS FINANCIAL INFORMATION



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## TUITION AND FEES

For all tuition and fees, see the RTS web page: ([www.rts.edu](http://www.rts.edu)).

## PAYMENT SCHEDULE

All tuition and fees for a semester are due the first day of class. Those who are depending on financial support from churches, organizations, individuals, etc. should be prepared to meet financial obligations when due, whether or not such funds have been received.

RTS assesses tuition, fees, and scholarships one week before courses begin. Students are given a two week “window” (one week before courses begin and one week after courses begin) in order to make payments via Self Service, in person at the campus business office, or establish a payment plan with the campus business manager. If the student does not make the payment or fill out a payment plan agreement form within this two week window, then the student’s courses will be dropped and charged applicable drop fees. If the student subsequently wants to add the courses and make a payment, he/she would then be assessed an add fee for each course. A late payment fee of 1% per month (12% annual) will be charged to students on the total outstanding balance at the end of each month regardless if a payment plan is in place.

## AUDITORS

Provided there is room in the class, regularly enrolled full-time students with (12) twelve hours or more in the Fall may audit classes in Fall or Winter at no charge, students with (12) twelve hours or more in the Spring may audit classes in Spring or Summer at no charge.

Spouses of full time students and members of the seminary staff may audit classes without charge provided there is room in the class and they have registered with the Registrar. Spouses of full-time students also qualify for special for-credit tuition benefits. Others, provided there is room in the class, may audit courses after paying the required auditing fee.

## TUITION REFUND POLICY

Students who drop a course or terminate enrollment before the drop deadline (five weeks following the first day of the semester) will receive within 30 days a full refund of tuition and student activity fees (less the non-refundable tuition deposit for new students). Those who withdraw from the seminary or a course after the deadline will receive no refund of tuition or student activity fees. Exceptions may be granted in extreme circumstances only through a written appeal to the Business Office or the Academic Dean.

## FINANCIAL AID

The Lord’s people subsidize every student’s education substantially. Tuition pays approximately one third of the actual cost of a student’s education, with the remainder covered by donations to the seminary. In addition, RTS has always maintained a generous financial aid program that may further subsidize a student’s education through scholarships and grants.

Once admitted to RTS, students are requested to initiate the process of receiving financial aid by submitting a financial aid application to their home campus. The financial aid application can be found online at <https://securecc.rts.edu/faa/>.

The seminary considers the student to have the primary responsibility for financing his/her education and expects them to do whatever is possible to meet financial needs. This includes arranging support from church, family, and friends in addition to maintaining employment either off or on campus.

Understanding that these sources do not always provide the necessary funding for the student, the seminary, in conjunction with the Lord's people, has established various types of financial aid programs listed below.

## GI BENEFITS

The following campuses are able to receive GI and Post 9/11 benefits: Orlando, Charlotte, Washington DC, and Global.

As part of the Veterans Benefits and Transition Act, students using Ch. 33 Post 9/11 GI Bill® or Ch. 31 VocRehab benefits may attend or participate in the course of education, even though the VA has not yet paid tuition and fees, during the period beginning on the date on which the student provides to RTS a certificate of eligibility for entitlement to educational assistance under chapter 31 or 33 and ending on the earlier of the following dates: (1) The date on which payment from VA is made to RTS or (2) 90 days after the date that RTS certified tuition and fees following the receipt of the certificate of eligibility.

RTS will not impose any penalty, including the assessment of late fees, the denial of access to classes, libraries, or other institutional facilities, or the requirement that a student borrow additional funds, on any student because of the student's inability to meet his or her financial obligations to the institution due to the delayed disbursement funding from VA under chapter 31 or 33.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

RTS offers four basic types of financial aid. While you may apply for multiple scholarships, RTS will award the one scholarship that provides the greatest financial assistance. With the exception of the Church Partnership program, scholarships are awarded for a limited duration of continuous study: MDiv students for 5 years, MA students for 3 years, Certificate students for 2 years. Special students are only eligible for Church and Spouse Partnerships.

**CHURCH PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.** The Church Partnership Program fosters significant involvement of the student's home church with the student and with the seminary. If the student's home church (or multiple churches) contributes to his or her tuition, RTS will match that contribution dollar-for-dollar up to one-third of the student's tuition.

*No time limit. Any course of study.*

**CAMPUS MINISTRY, CHRISTIAN COLLEGE ALUMNI, OR MISSIONARY PARTNERSHIPS.** RTS offers a variety of scholarships to staff of particular missions agencies, to staff or students who have been involved with certain campus ministries, and to graduates of particular Christian colleges. To see the listing of mission agencies, college ministries, and Christian colleges with whom the seminary partners, see our financial aid page at <http://rts.edu/seminary/financialaid.aspx>.

*Time limits apply. Any course of study.*

**SPOUSE PARTNERSHIP.** Spouses of full-time students may apply for a 100% tuition award for MDiv, MA, and Certificate programs. The scholarship is awarded to the spouse earning the degree with equal or fewer credit hours. If either spouse is enrolled in the MAC program, the Spouse

Partnership is a 50% tuition award. Recipients may continue to benefit from this award up to 24 months from the graduation of their spouse.

*Time limits apply. Any course of study.*

**NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS.** Students with demonstrated financial need may apply for our need-based scholarships. To demonstrate financial need, the applicant must list income and assets along with documentation. The seminary will compare your resources against our standardized expenses to determine need.

*Time limits apply. Only MDiv and MA students are eligible.*

**HUGHES SCHOLARSHIPS.** A limited number of Hughes Scholarships are awarded to incoming residential MDiv students. This full-tuition scholarship is designed to gather the most promising of those called to pastoral ministry and to continue to shape their character through residential life-on-life training to equip the next generation for a ministry of pastoral excellence.

*Time limits apply. Only MDiv students are eligible.*

**EPC JUMPER SCHOLARSHIP.** The EPC Jumper Scholarship is for incoming residential MDiv students who are members in good standing in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and are under care of an EPC Presbytery. This competitive, full-tuition scholarship is designed for those pursuing ordination in the EPC upon graduation.

*Time limits apply. Only residential MDiv students are eligible.*

## CAMPUS - SPECIFIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Certain campuses offer scholarships unique to their campus. To learn more, visit our financial aid page at <http://rts.edu/seminary/financialaid.aspx>.

## ON - CAMPUS WORK

Part-time jobs are available on some of our campuses and require applications. Normally, these jobs are for 10 hours of work per week with a maximum of 20 hours. Jobs include secretarial, clerical, computer services, library assistant, faculty assistant, bookstore, student services, maintenance and grounds, audio-visual, and facilities care. Contact the admissions office on the campus you wish to attend for further information.

## OTHER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Many employment opportunities in the community are readily available to students and their spouses. Job openings frequently are publicized, and assistance may be received from the admissions office. A place to start is with our vocational services page. (<http://rts.edu/vocationalservices>)

GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

# RTS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



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# COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

*Campus prefixes for course numbers: 01–JACKSON | 02–ORLANDO | 03–CHARLOTTE | 04–ATLANTA | 05–HOUSTON | 06–WASHINGTON DC | 09–NEW YORK CITY | 00–DISTANCE ED | 11–DALLAS*

*Course Numbering System: 5000 LEVEL – MASTER’S LEVEL CORE COURSES | 6000 LEVEL – MASTER’S LEVEL ELECTIVES | 8000 LEVEL – DOCTORAL LEVEL*

*A new course numbering system was implemented June 1, 2019. See appendix for a Crosswalk of new numbers to old numbers for core courses.*

## COUNSELING (MA IN COUNSELING)

### PSY5100 | 3 HOURS

#### **Counseling and Helping Relationship Skills.**

This course provides systematic training in fundamental helping skills, i.e., active listening, essential interviewing, case-conceptualization, and consultation skills. Course content will centrally focus on both (1) an evidence-based, three-stage model of behavior change and the rudimentary helping skills incorporated in that model and, (2) an evidence-based understanding of effective counselor behavioral characteristics. Course concepts and skills will be considered, critiqued, and utilized from the perspective of a biblical worldview. Also, these helping skills and effective counselor behaviors will be considered in terms of both face-to-face and technology-assisted helping relationships. Core ethical issues (confidentiality, therapist competence, client consent, collaboration, and multicultural competence) will be introduced commensurate with topics and skills addressed.

### PSY5110 | 2 HOURS

**Psychodiagnostics.** This course is designed to provide students with theoretical categories, concepts, and methods for organizing client diagnostic material that will be useful in case conceptualization, treatment planning, the development of measurable treatment outcomes and lethality assessment. Students will gain experience in psychodiagnosis of common client behaviors such as mood disorders, trauma, and relationship dysfunction.

### PSY5120 | 3 HOURS

#### **Social and Cultural Issues in Counseling.**

This course exposes students to the psychosocial similarities, differences, and adversities that exist among people groups and to encourage the development of (1) a healthy awareness/understanding of people both inside and outside the student’s frame of reference, (2) an understanding of his/her own learned and socially prescribed attitudes and beliefs concerning “others,” and (3) a multidimensional contextual framework for understanding people and providing counseling services.

### PSY5130 | 3 HOURS

**Human Growth and Development.** Students learn about developmental psychology, concentrating on major theories, concepts and issues. It covers the lifespan and the systems within which individuals live in childhood, adolescence, mid-life and late life.

### PSY5140 | 3 HOURS

**Career and Lifestyle Development.** An examination of major theories of career selection and development, the philosophical and theological underpinnings of career. Students explore the decision-making process of careers, vocational assessment instruments, lifestyle planning, career consultation and the theology of vocation and work. Students practice the administration and interpretation of selected vocational tests and are encouraged to analyze their own career development in the light of the theories and assessment devices.

**PSY5150 | 3 HOURS**

**Psychopathology.** An introduction to mental health disorders and their criteria based on the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition. Students learn the vocabulary and taxonomy used in the mental health field. Etiology of disorders and treatment approaches are considered.

**PSY5160 | 3 HOURS**

**Assessment and Testing.** This course teaches the use and application of tests and measurements in diagnosis and assessment of intrapersonal, interpersonal, and familial characteristics and functioning. Test content, validity, reliability, purpose, limitations, ethics, and administration are compared and evaluated. Stress is placed on the interpretation of test results to the client population.

**PSY5170 | 3 HOURS**

**Research and Program Evaluation.** This course provides an introduction to research design and statistical methodologies. The process of conducting psychological research is covered with attention given to appropriate application to professional practice, and to helping students become informed consumers of research.

**PSY5180 | 3 HOURS**

**Professional, Ethical, and Legal Studies.** This course focuses on professional issues, both legal and ethical, that surround the counseling field. Attention is given to the development of professional identity, the standard of professional conduct, relevant codes of ethics, current statutes and the requirements for licensure.

**PSY5190 | 2 HOURS**

**Couples and Family Counseling I.** This course provides a broad understanding of marriage and family theories and a systematic approach to conceptualizing and counseling with families and couples. Students will gain an acquaintance with the emergence of systems counseling as a discipline within the field of psychology, with a broad introduction to the study of the family as a culturally influenced, ongoing, interacting social system and with an awareness of central conceptual and therapeutic issues of importance to counselors.

**PSY5200 | 3 HOURS**

**Couples and Family Counseling II.** This course provides a broad understanding of conceptualizations, intervention techniques, and skills used in couples counseling. Attention will be given to diverse issues and concerns addressed by couples counseling.

**PSY5210 | 3 HOURS**

**Theory and Practice of Counseling.** This course surveys primary current theoretical approaches to psychotherapy and demonstrates how theory relates to the practice of Mental Health Counseling and Marriage and Family Counseling. The historical components of these theories are examined for their continuing impact on the delivery of mental health services.

**PSY5220 | 3 HOURS**

**Group Theories and Practice.** This course provides both theoretical and experiential understanding of group development dynamics, counseling theories and group counseling methods. Students participate in a process group to understand by experience the nature of group skills, stages and techniques.

**PSY5230 | 3 HOURS**

**Human Sexuality.** An analysis of human sexuality, attitudes toward sex, and sexual behavior in the light of contemporary and biblical norms, with particular attention to the relation of systematic and behavioral aspects of sexuality.

**PSY5240 | 2 HOURS**

**Neuroscience Informed Counseling.** Recent developments in neuroscience and psychopharmacology have contributed greatly to the fields of psychology and counseling. They are also relevant to pastors as they deal with their flocks. Awareness of brain functioning has contributed information that helps clinicians better to understand long established counseling practices and has contributed to new approaches to old problems.

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### PSY5250 | 3 HOURS

**Counseling in Community Settings.** This course examines the specialty of community counseling, including crisis situations and the impact of trauma. The course will be shaped by three major components: (1) the study of community counseling theory and practice, (2) a theoretical and practical study of crisis situations, and (3) the study of the impact of trauma including case conceptualization and treatment models. The format of the course will allow each student the opportunity to apply his/her academic talents, life experiences, clinical background, and Christian worldview to the counseling profession.

### PSY5260 | 3 HOURS

**Substance Abuse and Addictions.** This course covers current information about the addictive processes associated with chemical dependencies and other addictions, as well as assessment, diagnosis, treatment planning and intervention within individual and family systems frameworks. Issues related to addictions, such as family dynamics, structure, roles, and codependency are explored.

### PSY5270 | 1 HOUR

*Prerequisite: Admission to MAC program, and completion of PSY5280 Practicum and at least one semester of PSY5290 Counseling Internship.*

**Application of Counseling and Theology.** This course is designed to help students integrate and consolidate their thinking and positions on a variety of issues related to counseling. It will also familiarize students with critical issues and counseling professionals in the Christian and secular counseling worlds. The intent is to prepare students to be able to respond to commonly asked questions they may have to field in job interviews, and from referral sources or clients.

### PSY5280 | 3 HOURS

*Prerequisite: Admission to MAC program and PSY5100, PSY5150, PSY5210, PSY5220*

*Corequisite: PSY5110, PSY5180.*

**Practicum.** Practicum begins the MAC clinical course sequence whereby students, under supervision, meet with clients in various settings and apply helping skills, biopsychosocial assessment, theoretical case conceptualization, counseling interventions and ethical principles to helping interactions with persons enrolled in counseling. These experiences provide opportunities for students to counsel clients who represent the ethnic and demographic diversity of their community. Students must complete supervised counseling experiences that total a minimum of 100 clock hours over a full academic term, of which 40 clock hours must be direct face-to-face counseling.

### PSY5290 | 3 HOURS (REPEATABLE)

*Prerequisite: Consent of the MAC clinical director, and PSY5280.*

**Counseling Internship.** Internship is a repeating professional/clinical practice course in the RTS MAC curriculum. Internship is part of the MAC clinical sequence whereby students, under supervision, meet with clients in various settings and apply helping skills, biopsychosocial assessment, theoretical case conceptualization, counseling interventions and ethical principles to helping interactions with persons enrolled in counseling. To be eligible for graduation, students must successfully complete three PSY5290 Internship courses, ordinarily in three consecutive terms, and students must complete supervised counseling experiences that total at least 900 clock hours in their combined Internship courses, of which at least 360 clock hours must be direct face-to-face counseling.

## COUNSELING

(MA IN CHRISTIAN COUNSELING)

### CO5000 | 3 HOURS

**Introduction to Christian Counseling.** This course introduces students to foundational theological and methodological concepts for biblical counseling. Emphasis will be placed upon the sufficiency of Scripture, interacting with secular psychological frameworks, the process of human heart change, and counselee care. Common counseling issues will also be discussed such as anger, anxiety, and depression.

### CO5100 | 3 HOURS

**Typical Problems in Christian Counseling.** This course emphasizes the process of change for counselees in the context of specific topics in biblical counseling. Topics addressed include addictions, abuse, eating disorders, crisis situations, decision making, finances, self-injury, etc. Special attention will be given to the necessary qualities and qualifications for counselors as they seek to be God's agents for help.

### CO5150 | 3 HOURS

**Marriage and Family Counseling.** This course focuses on the complex dynamics involved in marriage, parenting, and family dysfunction. Beginning with a biblical understanding of the nature of marriage and family, topics such as singleness, pre-marital counseling, marital conflict, sexuality, and parenting will be addressed.

### CO5200 | 2 HOURS

**Methods of Biblical Change.** An exploration of the processes by which individuals grow in sanctification through the Word of God and ministry of the Holy Spirit. Emphasis will be placed upon models of human transformation, impediments to sanctification, and the application of Scripture to effect this change.

### CO5250 | 2 HOURS

**Human Personality.** A survey and critique of prominent secular personality theories, personality assessments, and personality disorders from the perspective of a biblical anthropology. Particular attention is given to developing a biblical anthropology centered around fallenness and redemption.

### CO5300 | 2 HOURS

**Theology and Secular Psychology.** An analysis of the theological basis of secular systems of counseling. Students will explore the origins and major tenets of various secular theories. A biblical understanding of the human person and the process of transformation will be developed.

### CO5350 | 2 HOURS

**Counseling and Physiology.** An investigation of key connections between biblical counseling and medical matters. Topics considered are the interaction of medicine and the sufficiency of Scripture, mental health, DSM-V, pharmacology, OCD, PTSD, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, ECT, and bioethics.

### CO5400 | 1 HOUR

**Counseling in the Local Church.** This course will discuss the connection between biblical counseling and the local church. An emphasis will be placed upon building an overall culture of discipleship and care within the church. This course will also discuss systems to safeguard the local church from sexual abuse in institutional settings.

### CO5910 | 2 HOURS

*Prerequisite: CO5000*

**Counseling Practicum I.** Students will practice and observe live counseling in a controlled classroom setting.

### CO5920 | 2 HOURS

*Prerequisite: CO5910*

**Counseling Practicum II.** Students will conduct 25 hours of independent counseling in a church or ministry setting.

### CO5930 | 2 HOURS

*Prerequisite: CO5920*

**Counseling Practicum III.** Students will conduct 25 hours of independent counseling in a church or ministry setting.

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### 03CO6100 | 2 HOURS

**Ethos and Essentials of Biblical Counseling.** This class will further develop the student's theory and practice of biblical counseling. The goal is to identify the essentials of biblical counseling as well as the tone, or ethos, of biblical counseling.

### 03CO6105 | 2 HOURS

**Critical Issues in Counseling.** This course will focus on pertinent and recurring themes that biblical counselors face and will address practical ways to approach these issues.

## DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

### DM8100 | 3 HOURS

**Preaching Old Testament Narrative.** Preaching Old Testament narrative texts is often neglected by the church. The reasons for this neglect are complex and complicated. Part of the problem is the church's difficulty in seeing the application of OT narrative texts that appear to be so strange and esoteric. In this course, we will focus on the means and methods of preaching OT narrative texts. OT historical narrative can be most challenging and difficult to interpret and to preach, but it can also provide wonderful, in-depth training and theology when appropriately understood.

### DM8130 | 3 HOURS

**Preaching from the Psalms.** This course combines hermeneutics and homiletics, as they apply in particular to the book of Psalms. Students will study both theory and practice.

### DM8135 | 3 HOURS

**Preaching from Proverbs, Job, and Ecclesiastes.** Wisdom literature deals with the practical, nitty-gritty issues of life. The practical nature of this literature should not overshadow the difficult aspects of understanding how a proverb works, how to respond to suffering, and how to deal with life when everything seems to go wrong. This course will also seek to understand the theology of wisdom literature and how to preach it effectively to God's people today.

### DM8150 | 3 HOURS

**Preaching from the Major Prophets.** This course will present an overview of the content and theology of the major Old Testament prophets Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel. A heavy emphasis will be on teaching pastors how to preach from the prophetic literature and, in particular, from the material of these three books.

### DM8175 | 3 HOURS

**Preaching from the Minor Prophets.** This course provides an overview of the history and message of the Old Testament Minor Prophets for the purpose of preaching. Beginning with an overview of Prophetic Literature, students will examine the prophetic writings, focusing on hermeneutical and exegetical matters. In addition, students will look at how these books and their message are vital for the contemporary church.

### DM8205 | 3 HOURS

**Preaching from the Gospels.** This course will include an overview of the content and theological emphases of each Gospel, various hermeneutical issues related to interpreting and preaching the Gospels, and strategies for preaching through a Gospel.

### DM8230 | 3 HOURS

**Preaching the Epistle to the Romans.** Romans has loomed large in the Reformed tradition. Perhaps it has loomed so large that many ministers have shied away from venturing an exposition of this epistle in the congregations they serve. In this course, students will work to overcome that fear by thinking exegetically, theologically, and practically about preaching this epistle. The course objectives are to understand some of the leading exegetical and theological issues arising from Romans; to evaluate representative Reformed expositions of Romans; and, to become a better expositor and communicator of Romans to the church.

**DM8265 | 3 HOURS**

**Preaching from the Pastoral Epistles.** The Pastoral Epistles are unique among the Pauline epistles in that they address two men who have been given pastoral oversight for particular churches. While they address specific problems and circumstances, they are especially useful in identifying Paul's priorities, not just for pastoral ministry, but also for the ministry of the church in general. This course will focus on the interpretation of these three letters with an eye toward preaching them, as well as ensuring that they ministry of churches today matches the biblical model of a faithful church.

**DM8280 | 3 HOURS**

**Preaching from the Book of Hebrews.** Hebrews remains relatively unfamiliar to many modern Christians and remarkably understudied in the modern Reformed tradition, yet it should play a decisive role in helping us know Christ and follow him in faith through difficult times. In this class, students will consider the style, structure, and scriptural argument of this remarkable text and focus on how it contributes uniquely to contemporary pastoral theology and preaching. Class efforts to understand and expound the text more effectively will be especially benefitted by studying it alongside the most perceptive readers of the classical and Reformed tradition.

**DM8300 | 3 HOURS**

**Christian Apologetics.** This course will explore the principles and practice of Christian apologetics, with special attention to the application of apologetics in pastoral ministry (evangelism, counseling, discipleship, etc.). Specific topics surveyed include: a biblical foundation for apologetics, the major schools of apologetic methodology, the Reformed presuppositional approach to apologetics, major issues in apologetics analyzed from a Reformed, presuppositional perspective, and a critical examination of the writings of various prominent contemporary skeptics.

**DM8305 | 3 HOURS**

**Jonathan Edwards.** An intensive investigation of the major elements of the theology of Jonathan Edwards based upon readings and class discussion of Edwards's major published theological treatises. Lectures will also address the 17th and 18th century cultural/political context of the American Puritan tradition in New England. Students will trace the formative principles of Edwards's theology gleaned biblical insights for the church today.

**DM8310 | 3 HOURS**

**Calvin's Pastoral Theology.** An examination of the pastoral theology of John Calvin and its relevance for ministry in the twenty-first century. Emphasis will be placed on understanding The Institutes of the Christian Religion. The integration of theological principles and pastoral application will be the central role of the course.

**DM8315 | 3 HOURS**

**Reformed Pastoral Theology.** Throughout the centuries, from Calvin through the Puritans, Jonathan Edwards, and other theologians, Reformed theology has characteristically been forged both for and often within the context of pastoral ministry. This course will focus on the work of gospel ministry governed by the three terms in the course title on the presupposition that the better a theologian a pastor is the greater his potential to be a better pastor and preaching. With that goal in view, the course will explore several biblical doctrines that have played a special role in the outworking of reformed theology in the context of pastoral ministry.

**DM8325 | 3 HOURS**

**Puritan Theology and Ministry.** An in-depth examination of some major themes of Puritan theology, such as the Puritan view of Scripture, meditation, the experience of God, providence, the sinfulness of sin, covenant theology, adoption, sanctification, assurance of faith, church and worship, preaching, the sacraments, the promises of God, conscience and casuistry, and heaven and hell. The course will give special emphasis to the nature of experiential religion, a singular characteristic of Puritan writings, and how the subjects covered interface with practical ministry.

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**DM8330 | 3 HOURS**

**Covenant Theology and Ministry.** An examination of covenant theology from exegetical and historical perspectives. Consideration is given to such issues as the relation of the Old and New Testaments, the significance of the covenants for sacramental theology, and the hermeneutics of Dispensationalism and Theonomy. Emphasis is placed on the role of the biblical doctrine of the covenants in preaching and pastoral ministry.

**DM8335 | 3 HOURS**

**Presbyterian Ministry in American Culture.** This class is an introduction to the faith and practice of Presbyterianism in America. The course will trace the historical path of the American Presbyterian family as it has unfolded from the colonial period up to the present day. Emphasis will be placed on major events, movements, controversies, institutions and personalities that have helped shape the contemporary church's faith. In telling the uniquely American story of Presbyterianism, the course will address the changing culture of the United States and its impact on Presbyterians.

**DM8400 | 3 HOURS**

**Theology of Ministry.** The goal of the course is to refresh pastors in their personal ministry situations through engaging the ministry of Jesus. Deeply considering a) the person, prayer practice, ministry, and events of the life of Jesus Christ, b) a Reformed theology of ministry, and c) how a personal theology of ministry grows faithfully from these roots. The integrative paper after the class enables students to reflect on how their deepened theological understanding of ministry has resulted in improved practice.

**DM8408 | 3 HOURS**

**Church Revitalization.** This course will address the contemporary church profile and the pressing need of church revitalization in North America, by seeking to acquaint the students with specific quality literature, dealing with the issues of church renewal and revitalization. Students will determine Biblical models and theological principles applicable to church revitalization, and identify those factors which bring stagnation and decline to the local church, with a goal to develop a plan to initiate church revitalization in the student's ministry that is faithful to the Scripture, relevant to a specific situation and clearly prioritized for practical application.

**DM8412 | 3 HOURS**

**Reformed Worship.** The primary purpose of this course is to study the history and principles of the worship of Reformed Protestantism, beginning with the Reformers and continuing to the present day. The class will look at the biblical and theological justification for the sixteenth century reforms and evaluate their relevance for today, particularly interacting with the student's current convictions and practices.

**DM8420 | 3 HOURS**

**Pastoral Counseling.** Most pastors spend much of their time dealing with difficult situations. This course will look at the ten most common "counseling issues" that a pastor typically deals with. Participants will be able to practice and participate in training activities.

**DM8435 | 3 HOURS**

**Christian Spirituality.** This course provides an overview to the history of the major leaders and movements of Christian spirituality. Beginning with the early church, students will examine some of the primary writings that are representative of Roman Catholic, Orthodox, and Protestant spirituality. Emphasis will be on how these earlier voices speak to the contemporary church and strengthen and encourage the student's ministry.

### DM8990 | 3 HOURS

#### The Doctoral Project and Research

**Methodologies.** This required online course will assist the student to understand the components of the D.Min. project and the proper presentation of an acceptable proposal. Faculty from select fields of study will describe the research methods and resources appropriate to various components of the project. Included in the course will be research for building one's bibliography. As an outcome of the course, students should be able to present an acceptable project proposal and to begin the research and writing of the project itself.

### DM8991 • DM8992 | 6 HOURS

**Doctoral Project.** The final written Project in the D.Min. program is the culmination of the student's academic work in the degree program. The Project involves a disciplined plan of independent research that results in a written piece that demonstrates student expertise in an area of practical theology. All of the reading, writing, and course work in the program is intended to help prepare the student for this final component. Students will register for their Project over two courses to track their progress from proposal to final presentation.

## HISTORICAL THEOLOGY

### HT5100 | 3 HOURS

**History of Christianity I.** This general introduction to Christianity in the early and medieval periods focuses on key Christian doctrines and great leaders from Justin Martyr to Martin Luther who made contributions of lasting significance to the Christian Church.

### HT5200 | 3 HOURS

**History of Christianity II.** A continuation of HT502, concentrating on great leaders of the church in the modern period of church history from the Reformation to the 19th century.

### 02HT6100 • 03HT6100 | 2 HOURS

**Latin I.** This course is an introduction to the Latin language, particularly Ecclesiastical Latin. Students will concentrate on basic vocabulary and analysis of the grammar of Latin as well as begin to read Christian texts from the early Church and Reformation.

### 02HT6110 | 1 HOURS

**Baptist History.** This course is a survey of Baptist history from its English roots to present-day American expressions.

### 03HT6120 | 1 HOUR

**ARP Church History.** This course will survey Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church history beginning with its ecclesiastical roots in Scottish Presbyterianism and then carry over into an overview of over 200 years of history in America. Attention will be given to connecting the church's history with theological and polity issues as well.

### 00HT6125 • 03HT6125 | 2 HOURS

**American Presbyterianism.** A survey of the history of American Presbyterianism from its roots in the Calvinist reformed tradition to the present. The course focuses on key historical events and controversies that shaped Presbyterian denominations, major leaders who influenced Presbyterian theology and its prominent institutions, movements that reflected Presbyterian leadership of American religions, and the reciprocal relation between Presbyterianism and American culture.

### 02HT6140 | 2 HOURS

**Reformation Readings of Paul.** This course offers indepth analysis of reformational readings of Paul, realizing that underneath the Lutheran, Reformed, and Anglican reformations was a concern to be faithful to Paul's teachings freshly reinterpreted. Students will gain experience in engaging primary sources in the history of biblical interpretation capably as well as familiarity with broader trends, texts, movements, cultural issues, and pastoral concerns that shaped reformational theology.

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**00HT6200 | 2 HOURS**

**Church and the World.** This is a survey course on the major cultural, theological, and historical developments of the Christian Church in the 20th century to the present. The course will deal with the impact of Christianity on contemporary culture as well as include key figures and movements.

**03HT6205 | 2 HOURS**

**Ministry in a Postmodern Context.** This course will concentrate on both intellectual and social aspects of the postmodern condition. The goal will be to describe the postmodern context, to reflect on both challenges and opportunities, and to suggest a “third way” beyond wholesale acceptance or rejection of current cultural trends.

**02HT6210 • 04HT6210 | 2 HOURS**

**Gospel and Race.** An introductory exploration of the intersection between the Gospel and racial issues. Attention will be paid to biblical-theological material, the history of race relations especially in the United States, and sociological data. Students will seek to work through these issues toward practical steps for ministry application in their local ministry contexts.

**04HT6211 | 2 HOURS**

**Theology of the Minority Church.** This course focuses especially on the development of theology within the major ethnic minority groups in the United States. Special attention is given to exploring the theology of the African American church and discussing such issues as the prosperity gospel and liberation theology and their consequent impact within the church.

**03HT6215 | 2 HOURS**

**The Church and Homosexuality.** This course will address the host of concerns facing Christianity in light of the gay rights movement that has pervaded society and the church in recent decades. Homosexual issues will be analyzed from a traditional Christian perspective, focusing on historical, biblical, and pastoral sources that address the current situation facing the church. The course will include discussion of the practical ministry opportunities and challenges, including legal questions for congregations.

**03HT6220 | 2 HOURS**

**Christianity in America.** A study of the church in America from its colonial beginnings to the current day, with emphasis on the numerous influences that have forged the current religious scene. Religious thought is traced from Calvinistic Puritanism to evangelicalism to liberalism. The nature and meaning of the American political experiment is explored. Key personalities are introduced, including George Fox, Ludwig von Zinzendorf, George Whitefield, Jonathan Edwards, John Wesley, Charles G. Finney, and D. L. Moody.

**00HT6300 • 03HT6300 • 04HT6300 | 2 HOURS**

**History and Theology of the Puritans.** This survey of the historical and cultural background of 17th century Puritanism in Great Britain and North America includes an examination of leading theologians, such as John Owen, Richard Sibbes, Thomas Goodwin, Samuel Rutherford, and Thomas Hooker, and of selected texts.

**03HT6310 | 2 HOURS**

**Life and Theology of Jonathan Edwards.** This course will focus on specific aspects of the life and theology of Jonathan Edwards.

**03HT6315 | 2 HOURS**

**Life and Thought of Martin Luther.** This course examines the life and thought of Martin Luther in context. Adopting a broadly chronological/biographical framework, it will assess Luther's relationship to the medieval Catholic Church, his role in the controversies of the time, and his ongoing significance for the Protestant church.

**03HT6320 | 2 HOURS**

**Theology of John Calvin.** This class will introduce Calvin's Institutes and also help students understand the nature of Calvin's theology. It will also provide a context for theological analysis of both pre- and post-Reformation theology.

**00HT6325 • 03HT6325 • 04HT6325 • 06HT6325 | 2 HOURS**

**C. S. Lewis.** This course will examine selected writings of C.S. Lewis which demonstrates his stature as a Christian apologist and mythologist. The goal is to gain a broader perspective on Lewis, the Christian man, and of the influence his theology has on the contemporary religious and cultural scene.

## NEW TESTAMENT

**NT5100 | 3 HOURS**

**Greek I.** An introductory study concentrating on basic vocabulary and analysis of the grammar of New Testament Greek.

**NT5125 | 3 HOURS**

*Prerequisite: NT5100.*

**Greek II.** This course continues the study of grammar, builds vocabulary, and develops techniques for the exposition of the Greek text.

**NT5150 | 2 HOURS**

*Prerequisite: NT5125.*

**Greek Exegesis.** By studying the text of selected passages students learn grammatical analysis, apply hermeneutical principles, and develop exegetical skills.

**NT5200 | 3 HOURS**

**Gospels.** Attention is given to each writer's literary art, theological teaching, pastoral purpose, and message for today's church and world.

**NT5250 | 2 HOURS**

**Acts and Romans.** A study of Acts and Paul's Epistle to the Romans that emphasizes both the original meaning and the modern meaning.

**NT5300 | 3 HOURS**

**Pauline Epistles.** An exposition of the epistles in chronological order that emphasizes the application of Paul's theology to the pastoral needs of the churches of his day and ours.

**NT5350 | 3 HOURS**

**Hebrews – Revelation.** An introduction to the General Epistles and Revelation that includes the history, setting, theme, purpose, and message of each book.

**NT5500 | 3 HOURS**

**New Testament Studies for Counseling.** This course constitutes is designed to provide a basic introduction to the New Testament. In this course, the New Testament will be approached from a canonical, covenantal, and redemptive-historical perspective with sensitivity to the original historical and literary context out of which it arose. This approach should provide students with the ability to contextualize the course material in a variety of personal and vocational contexts with special attention to the role of the New Testament in Christian counseling.

**02NT6100 • 03NT6100 • 06NT6100 | 1 and 2 credit courses available**

**Greek Readings.** A study of selected Greek texts. May be repeated for credit except for 03NT6100.

**01NT6110 | 2 HOURS**

*Prerequisite: NT5150.*

**Exegesis in the New Testament I.** This course constitutes an intense exegetical study of a discrete portion of the New Testament such as the Sermon on the Mount, John, 1 Timothy, Ephesians, etc.

**01NT6120 | 2 HOURS**

*Prerequisite: NT5150.*

**Exegesis in the New Testament II.** This course constitutes an intense exegetical study of a discrete portion of the New Testament such as the Sermon on the Mount, John, 1 Timothy, Ephesians, etc.

**04NT6240 | 2 HOURS**

**The Parables of Jesus.** Selected parables are carefully exegeted and applied. The study of the parables is designed to aid the student in his teaching and preaching ministry.

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### 00NT6500 • 03NT6500 | 2 HOURS

#### **The Origin and Authority of the New Testament Canon.**

This course will survey the historical development of the New Testament Canon within the context of the early Church, with special attention given to citations in the Church Fathers, manuscript collections, and canonical lists. In addition, the course will evaluate the various theological approaches to the issue of canon and the implications it has on one's view of Scriptural authority.

## OLD TESTAMENT

### OT5100 | 3 HOURS

**Hebrew I.** This course introduces basic elements of the Hebrew language. Lectures and small group sessions cover the Hebrew alphabet, pronunciation, and elementary grammatical structures.

### OT5125 | 3 HOURS

*Prerequisite:* OT5100.

**Hebrew II.** A continuation of OT5100.

### OT5150 | 2 HOURS

*Prerequisite:* OT5125.

**Hebrew Exegesis.** This course introduces basic tools for interpreting the Old Testament. Attention is given to a working knowledge of biblical Hebrew and to principles of interpretation.

### OT5200 | 3 HOURS

**Genesis – Deuteronomy.** This course takes an expository approach to the major developments in the history of redemption: creation, covenant, promise, and fulfillment of the promises. This portion of the biblical revelation covers the period from Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden to the second giving of the Law.

### OT5250 | 3 HOURS

**Joshua – Esther.** This overview of the literature, history, and themes of Joshua through Esther gives particular attention to the relevance of these books for the church and world today.

### OT5300 | 2 HOURS

**Poets.** An examination of the literary structure, themes, and history of the Psalms and wisdom literature of the Old Testament.

### OT5350 | 3 HOURS

**Isaiah – Malachi.** An expository study of the message and times of the prophets that emphasizes the themes day of the Lord, judgment, restoration, promise and fulfillment, Messiah, kingdom, and the new people of God.

### OT5500 | 3 HOURS

**Old Testament Studies for Counseling.** This course is designed to provide a basic introduction to the Old Testament (Hebrew Bible). In this course, the Old Testament will be approached from a canonical, covenantal, redemptive-historical, and Christ-centered perspective with sensitivity to the original historical and literary context out of which it arose. This approach should provide students with the ability to contextualize the course material in a variety of personal and vocational contexts, but special attention will be given to the role of the Old Testament in Christian counseling.

### 03OT6100 | 1 OR 2 HOURS

*Prerequisite:* OT5125

**Hebrew Readings.** Selections of the Old Testament are read. Emphasis is on developing skills in translation for the purpose of ministry.

### 06OT6101 | 2 HOURS

*Prerequisite:* OT5150.

**Advanced Hebrew Readings.** This course will examine and analyze select portions of the Hebrew Old Testament Scriptures. Particular attention will be made upon the linguistic and literary nature of the text.

### 01OT6105 • 02OT6105 | 2 HOURS

*Prerequisite:* OT5125.

**Biblical Aramaic.** An introduction to the language of Biblical Aramaic, including basic grammar, syntax, and vocabulary.

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### 01OT6110 | 2 HOURS

*Prerequisite:* OT5150.

**Exegesis in the Old Testament I.** This course constitutes an intense exegetical study of a discrete portion of the Old Testament such as the book of Judges, the life of David, the Elijah narratives, Song of Songs, etc.

### 01OT6120 | 2 HOURS

*Prerequisite:* OT5150.

**Exegesis in the Old Testament II.** This course constitutes an intense exegetical study of a discrete portion of the Old Testament such as the book of Judges, the life of David, the Elijah narratives, Song of Songs, etc.

### 03OT6130 | 2 HOURS

**From Exegesis to Sermon Preparation.** This course will focus on the means and methods of preaching OT narrative texts.

## OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS

### 0N5100 | 3 HOURS

**Hermeneutics.** Emphasis will be placed upon the relationship between the OT and the NT. Background hermeneutical issues will also be covered, including the role of the interpreter, the use of creeds and confessions in interpretation, and the relationship between original meaning and modern meaning.

### 03ON6100 | 2 HOURS

*Prerequisites:* NT5125, OT5125.

**Greek and Hebrew Readings.** This is an intensive reading course that seeks to expand the language skills developed in Greek I & II and Hebrew I & II. Special consideration will be given to the linguistic, grammatical, and syntactical constructions of a particular New Testament and/or Old Testament passage.

### 02ON6105 | 2 HOURS

*Prerequisites:* NT5125, OT5125.

**Septuagint Readings.** Students will read and exegete primary sources from the Greek OT (Septuagint), with special attention on the Pentateuch, Psalms, Isaiah, Daniel, and the Minor Prophets.

### 01ON6200 | 2 HOURS

**Introduction to Biblical Theology.** This course investigates the covenantal nature of the Christian Bible from a biblical-theological perspective. The study of biblical theology includes: (1) the history, definition, task, method, and goal of biblical theology; (2) the attempt to identify the “center” of biblical theology as a way of understanding the relationship of the various parts to the whole; and (3) selected themes in biblical theology as those threads that make up the fabric of the biblical canon.

### 01ON6205 | 2 HOURS

**Introduction to Biblical Hermeneutics.** This course focuses on approaches to the interpretation of Scripture. Various critical-interpretive systems are considered and special attention is given to the historical-grammatical method. Emphasis is placed on understanding the original, intended meaning of Scripture in its canonical context as the basis upon which to prepare expositions and make appropriate contemporary applications.

### 06ON6210 | 2 HOURS

**Bible Survey.** This course introduces the literature and content of the whole Bible. Its goal is to increase knowledge of the biblical canon. The biblical languages are not required.

### 03ON6300 | 2 HOURS

**Prayer in the Bible.** Selections from the Bible’s prayers and teachings about prayer are examined, with special attention to the language and theology of prayer.

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**04ON6305 | 2 HOURS**

**Archaeology of the Bible and the Ancient Near East.** This course examines the contribution of archaeology to our understanding of the lands of the Bible. The archaeology of Egypt, Mesopotamia, Canaan, and especially Israel is presented through a series of slide lectures and discussions.

**02ON6310 | 2 HOURS**

**Martin Luther: Theology for Ministry.** This course examines the theology of Martin Luther. Attention is given to the context in which Luther's theology emerged, the scriptural basis for his reforming work, and the themes, patterns, and distinctions that shape his theology. For Luther, theology is a form of life and theology is for ministry. Correspondingly, this course will consider Luther's understanding of the nature and purpose of theology and work to connect his theology to the practices of reading Scripture, preaching, and pastoral care.

## PASTORAL THEOLOGY

**PT5000 | 1 HOUR**

**Orientation Seminar.** An introduction to distance learning techniques, theological bibliography, and academic disciplines in the seminary curriculum. Special emphasis is given to the unique aspects and requirements of the Global Education M.A. programs.

**PT5100 | 2 HOURS**

**Communication I.** This course introduces the theological framework and basic skills required for interpreting and communicating the Bible within the context of the church's ministry (both formal and informal).

**PT5125 | 2 HOURS**

*Prerequisite: PT5100.*

**Preaching Laboratory I.** Students will preach multiple sermons. Women and other non-ministerial candidates will substitute additional elective course hours for all Preaching Labs.

**PT5150 | 2 HOURS**

*Prerequisite: PT5125.*

**Communication II.** A continuation of Communication I. This course continues to develop the skills required for interpreting and communicating the Bible. Special emphasis is given to sermon composition, including its constituent parts, as well as to the different ecclesial contexts of sermon delivery (e.g., weddings, funerals).

**PT5175 | 2 HOURS**

*Prerequisite: PT5150.*

**Preaching Laboratory II.** Students will preach multiple sermons. Women and other non-ministerial candidates will substitute additional elective course hours for all Preaching Labs.

**PT5200 | 2 HOURS**

**Evangelism.** The purpose of this course is to train students to be effective evangelists and to understand and use biblical principles and methods of church growth. Emphasis is placed on having an intense desire to reach the lost for Christ. The value of small group ministries and mobilizing the laity for growth and ministry are considered.

**PT5225 | 2 HOURS**

**Missions.** This course examines issues in the world mission enterprise in light of today's challenges, opportunities, and obligations. The call to mission service is examined, the theological mandate for missions is clarified, the historical advance of the Church through missions is reviewed, and strategies for effective contemporary missions are considered.

**PT5250 | 2 HOURS**

**Pastoral Ministry.** This course will lay the foundations of a biblical theology of the pastor in relation to the church and the world. Students will begin to formulate a philosophy of ministry, assess readiness, and attain progress in their calling. A variety of pastoral skills and competencies will be included.

**PT5275 | 2 HOURS**

**Leadership & Discipleship.** A study of leadership philosophy, principles, and skills through which a pastor can lead a session in developing a culture of discipleship to fulfill the church's mission in its life and witness. A variety of leadership, discipleship, Christian education, and philosophy of ministry topics will be discussed.

**PT5300 | 2 HOURS**

**Worship.** The purpose of this course is to provide students with the biblical foundations for worship. This course will convince students that gathered worship is legitimate, necessary, important, and should be conducted biblically in both form and content. In addition, the course will address the crucial matters of music, congregational singing, contextualization, "worship styles," and more. The goal is to prepare students to be biblical worshippers, to help others be biblical worshippers, and to be effective leaders in worship.

**PT5325 | 1 HOUR**

**Church Polity.** Students examine the biblical data relative to church government and the Book of Church Order. The organization and function of church courts, including discipline and appeals, are considered, and parliamentary procedure is emphasized.

**PT5350 | 3 HOURS**

**Pastoral Counseling.** An overview of current trends in counseling theory and practice and the role of counseling in public, private and church settings. Basic counseling skills taught in this course include interviewing, assessment, and therapeutic listening in a laboratory situation. Application is made to premarital, family crisis, grief and substance abuse counseling, with emphasis on developing strategies and applying scriptural principles.

**PT5375 | 1 HOUR**

**Personal Sanctification.** This course emphasizes methodology and responsibility for personal growth in Christ. This involves the study of Scripture for personal nurture and the exercise of certain disciplines necessary for spiritual growth.

**PT5400 | 1 HOUR**

**Classics of Personal Devotions.** Devotional writings from the history of the church, as well as from more contemporary Christians, are read and discussed to deepen the student's knowledge of and love for God.

**PT5905 | 0 HOURS**

*Prerequisite: 400 hours of field education experience*

**Field Education Seminar.** This seminar provides opportunity for theological reflection and discussion of problems, needs, and experiences in ministry. Students are required to write papers about their field experiences and present them to the class for discussion led by the professor. This may be taken in the fall or spring semester.

**PT5940 | 3 HOURS**

**Integrative Thesis.** Independent study with a summary review paper of a theological topic from an interdisciplinary perspective based on the seminary curriculum.

**PT5945 | 2 HOURS**

**Integration Seminar.** Presentation of the student's Research Thesis and Online Portfolio, and review by faculty and colleagues.

**00PT6100 | 2 HOURS**

**Educational Ministry of the Church.** A study of the pastor's role as teacher and administrator within the educational program of the church. Careful attention is given to philosophy, history, organization, curriculum, recruiting and training teachers, and the special needs of each age group.

**03PT6105 | 2 HOURS**

**Communication for Women: Theory and Lab.** This course will prepare women to teach in a variety of settings. Included in this course will be principles of communication, hermeneutics, and multiple speaking requirements.

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**02PT6115 • 03PT6115 • 04PT6115 • 06PT6115 | 2 HOURS**

**Theological Research and Writing.** This course will give special attention to using the library, writing graduate level research papers, and the problem of plagiarism. This course is designed to help you communicate well. Written communication and oral communication overlap, so whether you are going on for graduate studies or studying to become a pastor, you will need to learn how to develop and deliver a thesis.

**03PT6200 | 2 HOURS**

**Planting and Growing a Campus Ministry.** This course will discuss the general principles and practice of Christian ministry, with emphasis on the college age group. Topics will include logistics of initiating a ministry on a college campus and the continuance of that ministry, qualifications of a campus minister, stages of group growth, and relationship with the local church.

**03PT6205 | 2 HOURS**

**Principles of Church Planting.** This course will cover the spiritual, personal, relational and organizational dimensions of church planting. It will offer a detailed task analysis for every stage of the church planting process from before going to the field to the reproduction of daughter churches. Topics include: a theology of church planting, self-assessment of suitability for church planting, personal and family life of the church planter, developing a philosophy of ministry, conducting basic demographic studies, outreach in the church plant, leadership development, understanding and applying church health principles, and developing the basic ministries necessary for the planting of a healthy, growing, reproducing church.

**03PT6206 | 2 HOURS**

**Evangelism in a Church Planting Context.** This course equips potential church planters and established church pastors to preach the gospel in various missional situations in order to establish a church plant through personal and corporate evangelistic outreach. Students will explore the first principles of evangelism, discernment of the cultural context for gospel proclamation, personal evangelism rhythms, as well as, inculcation of an evangelistic culture and community into a young church.

**04PT6207 | 2 HOURS**

**Planting Biblically Healthy Churches.** An introduction to and an overview of the key biblical dynamics and important practical steps in planting a biblically healthy church. Includes the biblical basis for church planting, different strategies and models for planting churches, the key marks of a church planter, the path of becoming a church planter, and the critical factors in becoming a church planting church, presbytery, or denomination.

**04PT6208 | 2 HOURS**

**Church Planting: What You Need to Know.** This course is designed to provide an overview of the process of effective gospel-centered church planting, to assist a prospective church planter in assessing his calling, and to provide practical instruction in key areas of church planting. The course will include hands-on exercises for application, as well as interaction with experienced and successful planters. Students will complete a group church planting ministry plan for an assigned target area, and an individual initial ministry plan for a student's choice of location.

**03PT6250 | 2 HOURS**

**Pastoral Ministry: Local Church and College Campus.** A study of general pastoral care, shepherding of the flock, ministerial conduct, interpersonal relationships, and possible pitfalls for pastors. This course will also examine pastoral ministry in both the context of the local church and the college campus.

**02PT6260 | 2 HOURS**

**Baptist Theology and Ministry.** This course seeks to familiarize students with different paradigms of Baptist ministry while promoting a Reformed Baptist understanding of the primacy of the church, the priority of preaching, and the right use of the Lord's Supper and Baptism.

**06PT6265 | 2 HOURS**

**Foundations for Youth Ministry.** This course helps the student develop a biblical and theological foundation for an effective youth ministry. Based upon this foundation, the course presents an overview of adolescent culture and models for youth ministry.

**03PT6275 | 2 HOURS**

**Discipleship and Campus Ministry.** This course addresses the need for developing a philosophy of ministry that focuses on building followers of Christ among college students in particular. Attention is given to the concept of disciple-making in general, as well as to plans and strategies for creating a disciple-building environment that can be used in a campus ministry and/or in conjunction with a local church located near a college or university campus. A Reformed theological and philosophical perspective will undergird the content of the course.

**03PT6280 | 2 HOURS**

**Church Planting Leadership.** Students will come to a better understanding of the biblical concept of leadership, its character, competencies and practices. They will evaluate their own leadership effectiveness and develop a plan for growing in their character and competencies as a leader. They will develop a philosophy of leadership and also a plan for developing leaders in their own church or church plant.

**03PT6325 | 1 HOUR**

**Church Polity (ARP).** This course introduces students to the theory and practice of Presbyterian polity. The purpose of this course is for students to acquire an understanding of the polity and procedures of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (ARP) sufficient for ministry in this denomination.

**02PT6330 | 1 HOUR**

**Baptist Polity.** This course surveys different approaches to polity in Baptist life and seeks to promote a distinctively Reformed Baptist polity that is both biblical and practical.

**04PT6350 | 2 HOURS**

**Marriage and Family Counseling.** This class is a general introduction to the Biblical foundations of marriage, parenting, and family dysfunction issues involved in marriage and family counseling for pastors, ministry staff, and ministry leaders. Topics to be included in this study are: premarital counseling, infidelity, divorce and remarriage, sexual issues, and contemporary issues on sexuality.

**04PT6375 | 2 HOURS**

**The Christian Life.** The purpose of this course is to assist the student in growth toward a deeper relationship with the Lord and more mature Christian interaction with the world in which we live.

**09PT6380 | 3 HOURS**

**Living the Christian Life in Secular Culture.** This seminar assists the student in understanding and relating to secular culture. Art forms, political and economic structure, and other elements of culture are examined.

**02PT6500 | 2 HOURS**

**A Theology of Work.** This course explores the meaning and ministry of work which engages people for most of their waking hours.

**03PT6520 | 2 HOURS**

**Redemption Unfolded.** The redemptive plan of salvation displayed in Scripture will be studied in order to provide the student with the overarching “big picture” of the plan of God as unfolded in the Bible. Topics such as Systematic Theology, Bible book surveys, applying Scripture to one’s personal Christian growth and need for sanctification, and evangelism will be addressed in order to assist the student in his or her daily walk with Christ.

**04PT6525 • 06PT6525 | 2 HOURS**

**Formed for Image and Identity in Community.** Groups furnish people with an identity. One of those groups that plays a significant role in identity formation is the local church. The Bible indicates that God intends for his church to represent humanity’s diversity even in its local expression. This course explores the way churches that are healthy in diversity form its members for robust ecclesial and public life. It examines the biblical and theological foundation for the church imaging God in redemptive ethnic unity, and the implications of that unity for life in the present world.

Campus prefixes for course numbers: 01–JACKSON | 02–ORLANDO | 03–CHARLOTTE | 04–ATLANTA | 05–HOUSTON | 06–WASHINGTON DC | 09–NEW YORK CITY | 00–DISTANCE ED | 11–DALLAS

### 06PT6535 | 1 HOUR

**Preparing for Ordination.** The class will help students prepare for examinations by presbyteries. Students will take practice exams in Bible, theology (including the Westminster Standards), polity, church history, and personal religion, in a seminar format. Discussion of current issues will be included (e.g., “Open Theism,” “New Perspective on Paul,” “Federal Vision,” women’s ordination, contemporary Roman Catholic theology, theistic evolution, inerrancy, “theonomy,” etc.).

### 04PT6900 | 6 HOURS

*Prerequisite: 04ST5100 and permission of the Director of Field Education.*

**Clinical Pastoral Education.** In conjunction with completion of one unit of CPE through an ACPE accredited program, this course provides the M.Div. student with supervised, professional training for ministry to the physically ill and challenges the student to bring the elements of faith, character, and commitment to actual situations of interpersonal ministry. See the Atlanta Registrar for details.

## THEOLOGY

### 04ST6516 | 2 HOURS

**World Christianity and Perseverance.** Using the lens of Virtue Ethics, this course will examine the story of the covenant people of God to uncover the habits, practices, and priorities that lead to the distinctiveness of this set apart community. Special attention will be given to exploring how this eternal minority has persevered under hostile circumstances especially in recent times.

### ST5100 | 3 HOURS

**Introduction to Pastoral and Theological Studies.** This course introduces students to biblical, theological, and pastoral aspects of ministry preparation in the Reformed tradition.

### ST5150 | 3 HOURS

**Systematic Theology: Scripture, Theology Proper, Anthropology.** This course explores biblical doctrine from a systematic perspective. Topics include Scripture, theology proper, and anthropology.

### ST5200 | 3 HOURS

**Systematic Theology: Christology, Soteriology, Eschatology.** This course explores biblical doctrine from a systematic perspective. Topics include Christology, Soteriology, and Eschatology.

### ST5250 | 2 HOURS

**Systematic Theology: Ecclesiology and Sacraments.** This course explores biblical doctrine from a systematic perspective. Topics include Ecclesiology and Sacraments.

### ST5300 | 2 HOURS

**Covenant Theology.** An examination of covenant theology from exegetical and historical perspectives. Consideration is given to such issues as the relation of the Old and New Testaments, the significance of the covenants for sacramental theology, and the hermeneutics of Dispensationalism and Theonomy. Emphasis is placed on the role of the biblical doctrine of the covenants in preaching and pastoral ministry.

### ST5350 | 2 HOURS

**Theological Foundations for Counseling.** This course will present the Reformed view of General and Special Revelation and the traditional theological loci (e.g., theology proper, creation, anthropology, salvation, means of grace) that should serve as the foundation for any human endeavor. In addition, special attention will be given to various loci and issues that more directly relate to counseling.

### ST5355 | 3 HOURS

**Systematic Theology Studies for Counseling.** This course introduces Christian doctrine and addresses its implications for the practice of soul care. In introducing Christian doctrine, students will gain familiarity with and competence in thinking exegetically, historically, and synthetically about the rule of faith and rule of love. In considering the ways in which Christian doctrine shapes the practice of soul care, students will grasp the canonical, hermeneutical, and contextual facets of therapeutic practice.

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**ST5400 | 3 HOURS**

**Christian Thought and Philosophy.** An introduction to Christian philosophy from a Reformed perspective. Topics include the relationship between philosophy and theology, major figures and movements in the history of Christian thought, and the application of philosophical thinking to Christian faith and practice.

**ST5450 | 2 HOURS**

**Apologetics.** Students examine the various approaches to apologetic methodology and engage the most frequently raised objections to the Christian faith.

**ST5500 | 3 HOURS**

**Pastoral and Social Ethics.** Students are introduced to terminology, major views, and problems in the study of ethics and to a biblical basis for morality. Basic concerns and current issues in social ethics are covered.

**ST5550 | 2 HOURS**

**Christian Encounter with Islam.** An introduction to the history, culture, traditions, beliefs, and practices of Islam. Students will reflect on the ways in which Islamic faith and life have been shaped by historical and cultural circumstances, study the diversity of Islam both in history and in contemporary expression, and develop a deeper understanding of Islam in order to love Muslims as their neighbors and witness more effectively to them.

**ST5600 | 2 HOURS**

**Christ, Culture and Contextualization.** This course will explore a biblical theology of culture from a Reformed perspective, evaluate different models for Christian cultural engagement, and develop a biblical perspective on the principles and practice of contextualization. Attention will be given to the application of cultural analysis and contextualization in church ministry.

**ST5940 • ST5940 | 5 HOURS**

**Integrative Paper.** Independent interdisciplinary study culminating in a paper synthesizing research and degree program curriculum content.

**02ST6100 • 03ST6100 | 2 HOURS**

**Doctrine of the Trinity.** The biblical foundations and the ecclesiastical creedal formulations of Trinitarian theology are examined, as well as related developments in the history of thought— ancient, medieval, and modern.

**04ST6105 | 2 HOURS**

**Doctrine of Baptism.** The doctrine of baptism elective is a comprehensive study including a historical survey of the doctrine, a biblical-theological survey, and systematic-theological formulation. The survey of the history of the doctrine begins with the apostolic church, covering key church fathers and baptismal documents, the middle ages covering key theologians, and a survey of the Reformation and post-Reformation periods. The biblical-theological survey traces baptism from Genesis to Revelation. The systematic-theological formulation will address topics such as the sacraments in general, baptism as a means of grace, the doctrine of baptism, recipients, and baptism and ecclesiology.

**02ST6110 | 2 HOURS**

**Doctrine of Sanctification.** A study of the doctrine of sanctification in its biblical, historical, and theological development.

**02ST6120 | 1 HOUR**

**Eschatology.** This course explores the doctrine of last things (eschatology): its roots in the biblical writings, development in Christian history, relationship to other themes in Christian doctrine, and significance for ministry and the Christian life.

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**03ST6125 • 04ST6125 | 2 HOURS**

**Jesus: God and Man.** To know Jesus who is called Christ in the knowledge of faith is itself a requirement of faith. But who is Jesus? What, in fact, do we know about him? From information in the Gospels, to theological reflections in the epistles, to creedal formulations fought at the point of the sword, we confess that he is the Second Person of the Trinity, very and eternal God, of one substance with the Father, who took human flesh and blood with all the essential properties (apart from sin). Then, holding our breath, we affirm such things as this: “So that two whole, perfect and distinct natures, the Godhead and the manhood, were inseparably joined together in one person, without conversion, composition, or confusion.”

**02ST6130 | 2 HOURS**

**Contemporary Theology.** This course offers in-depth analysis of significant works in contemporary theology. Students will gain experience in engaging primary sources in modern theology capably as well as familiarity with broader trends, texts, movements, cultural issues, and pastoral concerns that have shaped theology in recent times.

**02ST6350 | 2 HOURS**

**Baptist Confessions.** This course is a survey of the major Baptist confessions and their Reformed backgrounds.

**01ST6370 | 2 HOURS**

**Theology of the Westminster Standards.** In this historical and theological survey of the Westminster Assembly and its work, the major documents produced by the Assembly are studied in detail, with attention also given to the historical, political, and theological context of the Assembly. Such issues as the Westminster doctrine of Scripture, the Confession’s relation to the theology of Calvin, and the debate over church government are discussed.

**03ST6375 | 2 HOURS**

**Westminster Standards and Reformation Creeds.** A Study of Reformation creeds, emphasizing their theology and usefulness for today, especially in public worship and pastoral care. Approximately half of the course will concern the Westminster Standards.

**01ST6400 • 02ST6400 | 2 HOURS**

**Topics in Philosophical Theology.** This course is a detailed examination of a philosophical issue or an issue relevant to Christian theology. The Christian view of knowledge and its implication, philosophical foundations and biblical interpretation, and key philosophical views that have influenced theological expression since Kant are the types of topics covered in this course at different times.

**04ST6450 | 3 HOURS**

**Biblical World and Life View.** This course introduces students to four major areas of religious and philosophical inquiry that constitute a worldview: theology/anthropology; epistemology; cosmology and social-ethical relationships. Each of these areas of thought provides the essential elements in a worldview. We shall follow a chronological development of ideas formed by prominent thinkers from the ancient Greeks up to postmodern times in each of these four topics. We shall note how the ideas of God, humanity, knowledge, the cosmos, society and ethics determine how people live and think. Special attention will focus on how a person integrates his/her presuppositions to form a coherent and consistent world and life view.

**03ST6455 | 2 HOURS**

**Applied Apologetics.** This course will entail the practical application of apologetic strategies by critiquing major non-Christian world views such as atheism, postmodernism, Islam and Eastern religions. Aberrant theological views from within the Christian church will also be evaluated. This course is a purposeful continuation of the more theoretical Apologetics course (03ST530), however Apologetics (03ST530) is not a prerequisite.

**04ST6505 | 2 HOURS**

**Bioethics.** Advances in medical technology have expanded the options available for medical care. These options have made medical decision making increasingly complex. Patients, family members, pastoral care givers, and health care workers are regularly called upon to make choices that are spiritually taxing, financially momentous, and ethically difficult. This course will consider the challenges surrounding medical decision-making, from the ethics of reproduction, to legitimate forms of therapy and experimentation, to the morality of foregoing treatment, to the choices involved in end of life care. While some attention will be given to grand theories, the course will focus on the practical needs of those who must bear the burden of making the many, many decisions as they arise.

**03ST6510 | 2 HOURS**

**The Problem of Pain.** An examination of the theological and pastoral issues related to “the problem of pain” involving systematic, historical and exegetical theological perspectives on suffering. The course will examine the Book of Job and other related biblical material as well theological constructs that address this issue. The focus will be pastoral.

**04ST6515 | 2 HOURS**

**Christian View of Human Rights.** This course will focus especially on helping students to build a Christian view of Human Rights. Special attention will be given to key historical conflicts and the worldviews and ideologies behind them, their impact on legislation, and how they have affected various philosophies of human rights. Themes examined will include Jim Crow legislation, the rise and fall of totalitarian regimes, and the response of the church in and through all of these things.

**ST6605 | 2 HOURS**

**Theology & Public Life.** This foundational course for the Institute of Theology & Public Life focuses on a biblical and systematic theological framework for approaching issues related to government and the public square.

**ST6606 TPL | 2 HOURS**

**Theology of Public Life: Terms of Cultural Engagement.** A second foundational course for the Institute of Theology & Public Life, this class considers the challenges of increasing pluralism for public moral discourse and theologically-informed responses to it.



# RTS PERSONNEL



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Effective June 1, 2019

Some previous MDiv core classes have been dropped, as content is covered in other courses under the unified curriculum. These include: OT512 Psalms-Chronicles, NT510 Synoptics & Acts, NT514 Johannine Literature, and NT518 Acts & Pauline Epistles.

COURSE NAME	NEW COURSE NUMBER	OLD COURSE NUMBER
History of Christianity I	HT5100	HT502
History of Christianity II	HT5200	HT504
Greek I NT5100	NT502	
Greek II NT5125	NT504	
Greek Exegesis	NT5150	NT506
Gospels NT5200	NT508	
Acts & Romans	NT5250	NT516
Pauline Epistles	NT5300	NT520
Hebrews – Revelation	NT5350	NT522
Hermeneutics (previously Advanced Biblical Exegesis)	ON5100	ON504
Hebrew I	OT5100	OT502
Hebrew II	OT5125	OT504
Hebrew Exegesis	OT5150	OT506
Genesis – Deuteronomy (previously Genesis – Joshua)	OT5200	OT508
Joshua – Esther (previously Judges – Esther)	OT5250	OT510
Poets OT5300	OT512	
Isaiah – Malachi	OT5350	OT516
Communication I	PT5100	PT508
Preaching Lab I	PT5125	PT510
Communication II	PT5150	PT522

COURSE NAME	NEW COURSE NUMBER	OLD COURSE NUMBER
Preaching Lab II	PT5175	PT524
Evangelism	PT5200	MS508
Missions	PT5225	MS518
Pastoral Ministry	PT5250	PT518
Leadership & Discipleship <i>(previously Theo of Ministry II/ Leadership &amp; Ed Ministry of the Church)</i>	PT5275	PT512, CE514, PT530
WorshipPT5300	PT526	
Church Polity	PT5325	PT520
Pastoral Counseling	PT5350	PT516
Personal Sanctification	PT5375	ST526
Classics of Personal Devotion	PT5400	HT508
Field Education Internship	PT5900	PT536
Field Education Seminar	PT5905	PT534
Introduction to Pastoral & Theological Studies	ST5100	ST502
Systematic Theology: Scripture, Theology Proper, Anthropology	ST5150	ST515
Systematic Theology: Christology, Soteriology, Eschatology	ST5200	ST517
Systematic Theology: Ecclesiology and Sacraments	ST5250	ST519
Covenant Theology	ST5300	ST601
Christian Thought & Philosophy <i>(previously History of Philosophy and Christian Thought)</i>	ST5400	ST504
Apologetics	ST5450	ST530
Pastoral & Social Ethics	ST5500	ST528
Christian Encounter with Islam	ST5550	ST540
Christ, Culture, and Contextualization	ST5600	HT612



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