



REFORMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
ACADEMIC CATALOG

2025 - 2027

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COURSE CATALOG 2025 - 2027

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INVITATION

Reformed 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 DMin degree in Sao Paulo, please contact RTS Jackson).

In addition to the nine degree-granting campuses, Reformed Theological Seminary has two additional locations at which the student may earn up to 49% of a Master of Arts degree: one campus in New York, New York and one extension site in Nashville, Tennessee.

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 www.rts.edu.

For the addresses of each campus and additional phone numbers, see the Directory on page 100.

PURPOSE OF CATALOG

While every effort is made to ensure 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.



GENERAL INFORMATION

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 two additional locations at which a student may earn up to 49% of an MA degree: New York, New York, which was approved in 2014 and Nashville, Tennessee, which was approved in 2025. As the Lord leads, RTS may seek degree-granting status for these locations.

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 and one partial degree extension site: Nashville, Tennessee.

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. All who are associated with it, however, 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 trustee, senior administrator, and voting faculty member, with solemn awareness of accountability to God in all that he feels, thinks, says, and does, engages in and annually subscribes to the following Statement of Belief and Covenant:

1. There is but one only, the living and true God; and there are three persons in the Godhead, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.
2. Scripture is the inspired, inerrant Word of God, the final authority, and only infallible rule of faith and practice. As the Word of God written, all Scripture is self-attesting and is verbally inspired by Almighty God, and therefore without error as originally given.
3. Reformed theology as set forth in the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Larger and Shorter Catechisms as adopted by the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America as its subordinate standard of doctrine at its first General Assembly in 1789 is founded upon the Word of God, and therefore is to be learned, taught, and proclaimed for the edification of God's people, the government of the Church, the propagation of the faith, and the evangelization of the world by the power of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.
4. I sincerely own and believe the statements above, and I will firmly and constantly adhere unto them, and to the utmost of my power I will assert, maintain, and defend the same.
5. 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 Provost should a change of any kind take place in his belief and feeling not in accord with this statement. Amen.

[Matters of exception or reservation pertaining to the Westminster Confession of Faith and Larger and Shorter Catechism must be disclosed to and approved by the Executive Committee.]

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 (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.

RTS/JACKSON	Master of Divinity Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) Master of Arts (Theological Studies) Master of Arts in Counseling
RTS/ORLANDO	Master of Divinity Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) Master of Arts (Theological Studies) Master of Theology Doctor of Ministry
RTS/CHARLOTTE	Master of Divinity Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) Master of Arts (Theological Studies) Master of Arts in Christian Counseling Doctor of Ministry
RTS/ATLANTA	Master of Divinity Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) Master of Arts (Theological Studies) Master of Arts (Religion)*
RTS/WASHINGTON DC	Master of Divinity Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) Master of Arts (Religion)
RTS/HOUSTON	Master of Divinity Master of Arts (Biblical Studies)
RTS/DALLAS	Master of Divinity Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) Master of Arts (Theological Studies)
RTS/SAO PAULO	Doctor of Ministry
RTS/GLOBAL	Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) Master of Arts (Theological Studies) Master of Arts (Religion)*
RTS/NEW YORK CITY	Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) (49%)
RTS/NASHVILLE	Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) (49%) Master of Arts (Theological Studies) (49%)

**The MAR at Atlanta and Global are in teach out and are therefore closed to new admissions.*

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

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

Reformed Theological Seminary's Master of Arts in Counseling (MAC) degree program is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP).

COUNCIL FOR ACCREDITATION OF COUNSELING AND RELATED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

500 MONTGOMERY STREET, SUITE 350, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314
TELEPHONE: 703-535-5990, WWW.CACREP.ORG

RTS Jackson holds full accreditation with the Mississippi Commission on College Accreditation, 3825 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211. Telephone 601-432-6336.

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 Authorization Unit of the University of North Carolina System Office serves as the official state entity to receive complaints concerning post-secondary institutions that are authorized to operate in North Carolina. If students are unable to resolve a complaint through the institution's grievance procedures, they can review the Student Complaint Policy (PDF) and submit their complaint using the online complaint form at Student Complaints Site. For more information contact:

North Carolina Post-Secondary Education Complaints, 223 S. West Street, Suite 1800, Raleigh, NC 27603, (919) 962-4550.

To file a complaint with the Consumer Protection Division of the North Carolina Department of

Justice, please visit The State Attorney General's web page at: NCDOJ site. North Carolina residents may call (877) 566-7226. Outside of North Carolina, please call (919) 716-6000. En Espanol (919) 716-0058. If you choose to mail a complaint, please use the following address: Consumer Protection Division, Attorney General's Office, Mail Service Center 9001, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001.

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 410-767-3300).

RTS Atlanta is operating in compliance with Georgia's requirements for exemption from authorization as set forth in O.C.G.A20-3-250.3 (a) (6). the Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission of the State of Georgia is located at 2082 East Exchange Place, Tucker, GA, 30084. 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 12234. Telephone 518-474-5889.

Reformed Theological Seminary has been granted regular Optional Expedited Authorization (OEA) by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. The Tennessee Higher Education Commission is located at 312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, Nashville, TN 37243 and can be reached at 615-741-5293.

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 MCCA regulations should contact: MCCA, 3825 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211. Telephone 601-432-6336; 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, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), and the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). Students who believe that RTS has violated ATS, SACSCOC, and/or CACREP 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, SACSCOC, and/or CACREP.

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.

CAMPUS 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 100.*

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI. The Jackson campus is located in one of Jackson's commercial and residential hubs and features two major buildings.

The seminary library has one of the largest theological collections in the region. Several clusters of seminary-owned housing provide accommodations for both married and single students.

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.

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.

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 sqft building, large library, and expansive grounds provide social and productive space for local and regional students as well as area pastors and leaders.

HOUSTON, TEXAS. The classes and administrative offices for the Houston 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 are located at Central Presbyterian Church. RTS NYC administrative offices are located at 1120 Avenue of the Americas, Floor 4, New York City, NY 10036.

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE. RTS offers classes at its Nashville extension site, which is located at Covenant Presbyterian Church at 33 Burton Hills Blvd, Nashville, TN 37215. Administrative offices are located on the RTS Atlanta campus.

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. For campuses that provide chapel services, 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. Each campus addresses women's needs through a variety of opportunities, including fellowship, ministry training, prayer, and intensive Bible study, while endeavoring to promote joy and confidence in their unique calling to serve Christ.

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 houses or apartments. 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 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.

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 degrees conferred by RTS meet standard educational requirements for certain ministry positions, the degree does not certify that the graduate necessarily adheres to the Reformed faith nor possesses the temperament, character, or other biblical qualifications requisite for those ministry positions. Graduation from Reformed Theological Seminary should not in itself be construed as a recommendation for ministry.

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



DEGREE PROGRAMS

THE MASTER OF DIVINITY PROGRAM

MASTER OF DIVINITY

DESIGN OF THE CURRICULUM

The MDiv 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 MDiv 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 male non-ministerial candidates may 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 MDiv 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 MDiv 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 twelve 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. MDiv students normally spend three years in residence in order to complete the required curriculum for the MDiv degree, including a total of at least 106 credit hours. At a minimum, MDiv students must take at least 54 credits at RTS, of which at least 36 credit hours must be face-to-face, including at least 20 credit hours at the same RTS MDiv-degree-granting campus.

2. A 2.0 (C) cumulative grade-point average (GPA) is required for all RTS courses taken.

3. The seminary must have on file official transcripts showing that the student holds a baccalaureate degree or foreign equivalent.

4. The student must complete the field education requirements.

5. The conduct and attitude of the student must be satisfactory according to the norms of Scripture and the *Westminster Standards*.

6. The student must pass the English Bible and *Westminster Shorter Catechism* examinations.

7. 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.

M DIV WITHOUT A BACCALAUREATE DEGREE

Students without a baccalaureate degree may apply for admission to the MDiv degree 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 who are at least 21 years of age and have life experience that has prepared them for theological study at the graduate level.

Upon admission, all non-baccalaureate students will be placed on academic probation. This probationary period matches exactly to an MDiv applicant with under a 2.6 GPA at the baccalaureate level. Following this initial probationary period, normal academic probation policies will apply.

For further details about the RTS Academic Probation policy, see page 44.

HYBRID & FLEX MDiv

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 and RTS Washington's Flex Master of Divinity programs offer a flexible way to gain a quality theological education. For purposes of residency requirements, Hybrid and Flex classes count towards both campus and face-to-face minimums. See Residency Requirements for more details.

Candidates in the Hybrid MDiv 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.

Candidates in the Flex MDiv program will finish at least 20 credits in residence, an additional 16 credits face-to-face at Washington or another residential

campus, and up to 70 credits online. Flex classes combine in-person class sessions with synchronous online sessions (i.e., videoconference such as Zoom). This enables students to meet residential requirements with minimal trips to the RTS Washington campus.

Please see the RTS Orlando and RTS Washington websites for more details.

MDiv/MA DUAL DEGREES

A student may complete the MA (Biblical Studies), the MA (Theological Studies), the MA (Religion), or the MA in Christian Counseling plus the MDiv 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 MA in Counseling degree may earn a dual MAC/MDiv degree with a total of 154 credits. For details about specific curricular requirements, students should contact their campus Registrar.

For more information about our dual MA degrees, see page 24.

MASTER OF DIVINITY

CORE CURRICULUM

Jackson | Orlando | Charlotte | Washington DC | Atlanta | 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 the Advanced Standing policy 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

Master of Divinity Total Credit Hours: **106 HOURS**

*Women will and male non-ministerial candidates may 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 website (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.

MDIV 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)	ON6200 Introduction to Biblical Theology (2 hours) OT6110 Exegesis in the Old Testament I (2 hours) OT6120 Exegesis in the Old Testament II (2 hours) NT6110 Exegesis in the New Testament I (2 hours) NT6120 Exegesis in the New Testament II (2 hours)

MDIV EMPHASIS IN COUNSELING

The MDiv 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 REQUIRED COURSES:
Elective Courses (10 hours)	CO5500 Counseling & Helping Relationship Skills (2 hours) CO5600 Couples & Family Counseling II (3 hours) CO5630 Human Sexuality (3 hours) CO5660 Substance Abuse & Addictions (2 hours)

*For the comprehensive MDiv curriculum, see page 19.
For the most updated version of the curriculum, see the RTS website (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.

MDIV EMPHASIS IN COUNSELING

The MDiv 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 REQUIRED COURSES:
Elective Courses (10 hours)	CO5500 Counseling & Helping Relationship Skills (2 hours) CO5600 Couples & Family Counseling II (3 hours) CO5630 Human Sexuality (3 hours) CO5660 Substance Abuse & Addictions (2 hours)

*For the comprehensive MDiv curriculum, see page 19.
For the most updated version of the curriculum, see the RTS website (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.

MDIV 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 MDiv curriculum. In addition, students pursuing an MDiv 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 40.

DROP THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:	ADD THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:
PT5200 Evangelism (2 hours)	PT6200 Planting & Growing a Campus Ministry (2 hours)
PT5250 Pastoral Ministry (2 hours)	PT6250 Pastoral Ministry: Local Church & College Campus (2 hours)
PT5275 Leadership & Discipleship (2 hours)	PT6275 Discipleship & Campus Ministry (2 hours)
Elective Course (2 hours)	HT6205 Ministry in a Postmodern Context (2 hours)
Elective Course (2 hours)	ST6455 Applied Apologetics (2 hours)

MDIV 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 40.

DROP THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:	ADD THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:
PT5200 Evangelism (2 hours)	PT6206 Evangelism in a Church Planting Context (2 hours)
PT5275 Leadership & Discipleship (2 hours)	PT6280 Church Planting Leadership (2 hours)
Elective Course (2 hours)	HT6205 Ministry in a Postmodern Context (2 hours)
Elective Course (2 hours)	PT6205 Principles of Church Planting (2 hours)
Elective Course (2 hours)	ST6455 Applied Apologetics (2 hours)

MDIV EMPHASIS IN CHRISTIAN COUNSELING

Adding an emphasis in Christian counseling to the MDiv 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 MDiv curriculum.

DROP THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:	ADD THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED COURSES:
Elective Courses (10 hours)	CO5100 Typical Problems in Christian Counseling (3 hours)
	CO5150 Marriage & Family Counseling (3 hours)
	CO5910 Counseling Practicum I (2 hours)
	CO5920 Counseling Practicum II (2 hours)

*For the comprehensive MDiv curriculum, see page 19.
For the most updated version of the curriculum, see the RTS website (www.rts.edu).

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.

Students wishing to take pastoral theology courses as electives toward an MA degree should 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.

MA (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 MA (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.

MA (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.

MA (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.

MA IN COUNSELING

This CACREP-accredited program is 78 credit-hours and is designed for the person who wishes to work in the specialized field of counseling, specifically licensure as a Licensed Professional Counselor, 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. The MAC degree requires 400 hours of face-to-face clinical experience.

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.

MA 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 are 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.

MA WITHOUT A BACCALAUREATE DEGREE

Students without a baccalaureate degree may apply for admission to the MABS, MATS, MAR, or MACC degree programs. 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 who are at least 21 years of age and have life experience that has prepared them for theological study at the graduate level.

Upon admission, all non-baccalaureate students will be placed on academic probation. This probationary period matches exactly to an MA applicant with under a 2.6 GPA at the baccalaureate level. Following this initial probationary period, normal academic probation policies will apply.

For further details about the RTS Academic Probation policy, see page 44.

MA DUAL DEGREES

Students in the MA 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 MA in Counseling degree may earn a dual MAC/MABS by completing 116 credit hours, or a dual MAC/MATS by completing 124 credit hours. For details about specific curricular requirements, students should contact their campus Registrar.

For more information about our dual MDiv/MA degrees, see page 18.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

1. MA students normally spend two years in residence in order to complete the required curriculum for the MA degree. At a minimum, residential students pursuing the MABS, MATS, and MACC must take at least 34 credit hours at RTS, of which at least 22 credits must be face-to-face, including 20 credit hours at the appropriate RTS MA-degree-granting campus. Residential students pursuing the MAR must take at least 20 credit hours at the appropriate RTS MAR-degree-granting-campus. Residential students pursuing the MAC must take at least 32 counseling-specific credit hours at the appropriate RTS MAC-degree-granting campus and 61 credits face-to-face somewhere at RTS. Global Education students do not have a residential requirement for their degree.
2. A 2.0 (C) cumulative grade-point average (GPA) is required for all RTS courses taken.
3. The seminary must have on file official transcripts showing that the student holds a baccalaureate degree or its foreign equivalent.
4. MAC and MACC students must complete their field education/internship requirement.
5. The conduct and attitude of the student must be satisfactory according to the norms of Scripture and the Westminster Standards.

6. For certain MA degrees, the student must pass the English Bible exam.

7. 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.

MASTER OF ARTS

COUNSELING

Jackson

This CACREP-accredited program is 78 credit-hours and is designed for the person who wishes to work in the specialized field of counseling, specifically licensure as a Licensed Professional Counselor, 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. This program is intended for students interested in state-licensed based counseling. The MAC degree requires 400 hours of face-to-face clinical experience.

COUNSELING (61 HOURS)

CO5500	Counseling & Helping Relationship Skills..	3 hours
CO5510	Psychodiagnostics.....	2 hours
CO5520	Social & Cultural Issues in Counseling.....	3 hours
CO5530	Human Growth & Development	3 hours
CO5540	Career & Lifestyle Development.....	3 hours
CO5550	Psychopathology	3 hours
CO5560	Assessment & Testing	3 hours
CO5570	Research & Program Evaluation	3 hours
CO5580	Professional, Ethical & Legal Studies	3 hours
CO5590	Couples & Family Counseling I	2 hours
CO5600	Couples & Family Counseling II.....	3 hours
CO5610	Theory & Practice of Counseling.....	3 hours
CO5620	Group Theories & Practice	3 hours
CO5630	Human Sexuality	3 hours
CO5640	Neuroscience Informed Counseling	2 hours
CO5650	Crisis and Trauma-Informed Counseling ...	3 hours
CO5660	Substance Abuse & Addictions	3 hours
CO5670	Application of Counseling & Theology	1 hour
CO5680	Practicum.....	3 hours
CO5690	Internship	9 hours

BIBLICAL STUDIES (6 HOURS)

NT5500	New Testament Foundations.....	3 hours
OT5500	Old Testament Foundations.....	3 hours

THEOLOGY (5 HOURS)

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

SPECIFIED ELECTIVES (6 HOURS)

Biblical/Theological Studies Electives*	6 hours
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MAC Total Credit Hours: **78 HOURS**

*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.

For the most updated version of the curriculum, see the RTS website (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 MACC Field Education by a field supervisor.

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)

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 (4 HOURS)

Free electives include any additional masters-level courses.

THEOLOGY (16 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
APPLIED THEOLOGY		
ST5450	Apologetics	2 hours
ST5500	Pastoral & Social Ethics	3 hours

MACC Total Credit Hours: **66 HOURS**

For the most updated version of the curriculum, see the RTS website (www.rts.edu).

MASTER OF ARTS

BIBLICAL STUDIES

Jackson | Orlando | Charlotte | Washington DC* | Atlanta | Houston | Dallas | Global Education* | New York City | Nashville

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 is approved for students to take 49% of the MABS degree (32 credits) in New York City or Nashville.

BIBLICAL STUDIES (33 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 Exegesis2 hours

OLD TESTAMENT

OT5200 Genesis – Deuteronomy.....3 hours
 OT5250 Joshua – Esther.....3 hours
 OT5300 Poets.....2 hours
 OT5350 Isaiah – Malachi3 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

ONS100 Hermeneutics.....3 hours

THEOLOGY (22 HOURS)

HISTORICAL THEOLOGY

HT5100 History of Christianity I3 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 Theology2 hours

APPLIED THEOLOGY

ST5450 Apologetics.....2 hours

PASTORAL THEOLOGY

PT5375 Personal Sanctification1 hour

FREE ELECTIVES (11 HOURS)

Free Electives include any additional masters-level courses.

MABS Total Credit Hours: **66 HOURS**

*For required curricular adjustments in the Global MABS, see page 31. For the Washington DC Anglican Studies, contact the Washington Registrar for more information.

For the most updated version of the curriculum, see the RTS website (www.rts.edu).

MASTER OF ARTS

THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

Jackson | Orlando | Charlotte | Atlanta | Dallas | Global Education* | Nashville

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.

RTS is approved for students to take 49% of the MATS degree (32 credits) in Nashville.

THEOLOGY (31 HOURS)

HISTORICAL THEOLOGY

HT5100 History of Christianity I3 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 Theology2 hours

APPLIED THEOLOGY

ST5400 Christian Thought & Philosophy.....3 hours
 ST5450 Apologetics.....2 hours
 ST5500 Pastoral & Social Ethics3 hours
 ST5600 Christ, Culture, Contextualization2 hours

PASTORAL THEOLOGY

PT5375 Personal Sanctification1 hour
 PT5400 Classics of Personal Devotions1 hour

SPECIFIED ELECTIVES (10 HOURS)

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

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 – Revelation3 hours

FREE ELECTIVES (3 HOURS)

Free electives include any additional masters-level courses.

MATS Total Credit Hours: **66 HOURS**

*For required curricular adjustments in the Global MATS., see page 31.

For the most updated version of the curriculum, see the RTS website (www.rts.edu).

MASTER OF ARTS

RELIGION

Washington DC*

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 (24 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

Students choose one of the following:

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

BIBLICAL STUDIES (23 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
 NT5300 Pauline Epistles... 3 hours
 NT5350 Hebrews – Revelation... 3 hours

OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

ON5100 Hermeneutics... 3 hours

INTEGRATIVE PAPER (4 HOURS)

ST5940 Integrative Paper... 4 hours

FREE ELECTIVES (9 HOURS)

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

MAR Total Credit Hours: **60 HOURS**

*The MAR at Atlanta and Global is in teach out for currently enrolled students, through May 31, 2029. For applicable curriculum, see the 2021-2023 RTS Catalog.

For the most updated version of the curriculum, see the RTS website (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	An optional 5-hour thesis may be completed with approval of the Global Academic Dean: PT5940 Integrative Thesis (3 hours) PT5945 Integration Seminar (2 hours)

*For comprehensive MABS and MATS curricula, see pages 28-29.

For the most updated version of the curriculum, see the RTS website (www.rts.edu).

THE MASTER OF THEOLOGY PROGRAM

MASTER OF THEOLOGY

Orlando

DESIGN OF THE CURRICULUM

The purpose of the RTS Master of Theology (ThM) program is to prepare students for doctoral studies (e.g., PhD) or to further equip them for faithful ministry, through advanced study and research. The ThM program builds upon the biblical and theological foundation of the Master of Divinity degree through seminar-style classes and rigorous research papers.

The ThM program is designed to be completed in two years, with at least one year in residence at the Orlando campus. However, students may complete the degree at a slower pace, without relocating, by travelling to RTS Orlando in the Summer and Winter terms for one-week intensive courses in addition to directed readings courses and synchronous online classes.

The ThM curriculum has two emphases—Bible or Theology. The Bible emphasis includes courses in Old and New Testaments, and requires proficiency in Greek and Hebrew. The Theology emphasis includes courses in Systematic and Historical Theology. Students will choose one of these emphases, taking at least half of their credits in their chosen field. Emphases will be listed on the student's transcript but will not be designated on the student's diploma.

Students must complete a total of 30 credit hours, which are offered in eight courses (three

credit-hours each) plus an optional thesis (two courses, three credit-hours each). A thesis must be written on a topic within the student's chosen emphasis. Students interested in writing a thesis must have completed fifteen credits (of which at least twelve credits must be earned at RTS) with a 3.75 cumulative GPA and be approved by the ThM Director. Students who are not interested in the thesis may replace those credits with additional courses.

On-campus ThM courses are offered in a one-week intensive format in the Summer and Winter terms. Fall and Spring term courses are offered in a once-a-week format in class or synchronous online (e.g., via Zoom). Typically, two courses are offered each term. In addition, two directed readings courses are available within each emphasis. (Additional directed study courses are not allowed.)

Students may complete the ThM in one year by taking two courses each term plus a directed readings course or registering for their thesis. However, a student may complete the degree at a slower pace as long as the student meets residency requirements through on-campus classes (see the Residency Requirements policy). Normally, the ThM must be completed in three years. However, students may request an extension after three years. Extension fees will apply. For maximum time allowed, see the Degree Time Limits policy.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants to the ThM program must hold a baccalaureate degree or its foreign equivalent and the MDiv degree or its educational equivalent (see below for details). A minimum 3.25 cumulative GPA on work towards the MDiv degree is required. Although not an admission requirement *per se*, students who graduated more than 18 months prior to enrollment, or have not had at least two semesters each of Greek and Hebrew, must pass Greek and Hebrew placement exams before registering for Bible courses.

For American baccalaureate degrees, RTS recognizes all schools accredited by a "regional" accreditor (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 ThM program who have not completed the requisite MDiv degree from an accredited seminary or graduate school may apply on the basis of having attained the educational equivalent of the MDiv degree. Applicants with a foreign master's-level degree will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. For more details, see International Students.

MDiv educational equivalency for the ThM program shall be defined as having an ATS-accredited MA degree of at least 61 credits in Bible and theology, including two semesters each of Greek and Hebrew.

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

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

1. ThM students must complete 30 credit hours, which may include a six-credit thesis. Of these 30 credits, at least half must be in the field of the student's chosen emphasis (including the thesis). At least 18 credits must be taken face-to-face at the Orlando campus.
2. The thesis, if chosen, 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.
3. A 3.0 (B) cumulative grade-point-average (GPA) is required to graduate. No grade lower than a C (2.0) will count towards the degree.
4. The seminary must have on file official transcripts showing that the student holds a baccalaureate degree or foreign equivalent, and an MDiv degree or its educational equivalent.

5. The conduct and attitude of the student must be satisfactory according to the norms of Scripture and the *Westminster Standards*.
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.

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 DMin program, all program requirements are the same, with slight curricular adjustments. For details regarding the Brazil curriculum, see page 38.

The purpose of the RTS Doctor of Ministry (DMin) program is to equip Christian leaders to be more effective in their ministries through advanced study and training (beyond the MDiv 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 DMin program is to help produce “theologically reflective practitioners” who learn to think theologically about ministry as a result of taking DMin 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 division of hours is indicated below:

Three emphasis courses*	9 hours
Four elective 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 (approximately 20 pages) growing out of the reading and class work. Written assignments for Winter courses should be submitted to the DMin 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. Normally, a maximum of six years is allowed for completion of the program.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must hold a baccalaureate degree or its foreign equivalent and in addition the MDiv degree (a minimum of 81 semester credits) 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 MDiv 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 DMin 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 MDiv degree.

MDiv educational equivalency for the DMin program 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 DMin Committee, and applicants will be advised by letter of their standing. In the event that MDiv equivalency has not been attained, a prescribed program of study leading to MDiv 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-MDiv may be admitted based on other ministry-experience factors that have prepared them for DMin studies.) Students are expected to continue their practice of full-time ministry for the duration of their Doctor of Ministry program.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

All DMin 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 DMin courses. Students may transfer a maximum of two 3-hour DMin 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.

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, and all financial obligations to the seminary must be settled. Ordinarily, degrees will be awarded at the conclusion of the Spring semester, but may be granted in December.

*Reformed Expository Preaching courses can be found in DM8100-DM8299. Reformed Theology & Ministry courses can be found in DM8300-DM8399. Free electives are in the DM8400 block.

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 offered with AJGTC, with RTS being “vested with control of the program.” 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 elective 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, and by the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools to award the Doctor of Ministry degree (for the full list of degrees, see page 8). The Andrew Jumper Graduate Theological Center at Mackenzie University is not accredited by the Commission on Colleges or the Commission on Accrediting, and the accreditation of Reformed Theological Seminary does not extend to or include Andrew Jumper Graduate Theological Center, Mackenzie University, or its students.

REFORMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY SPECIAL PROGRAMS

COUNSELING CERTIFICATES

A certificate is a non-degree credential intended to provide targeted training in a specific field to better equip students in professional or lay ministry. RTS offers two certificates: Certificate in Christian Counseling and Certificate in Advanced Christian Counseling. Students will complete courses in the field of Christian Counseling as well as supervised counseling experience. For more details about the curriculum and course availability, see the RTS Charlotte website.

All coursework for the Counseling certificates are offered at the graduate level. Admission requirements match masters-degree program requirements. Courses taken towards a certificate may be counted as progress toward RTS’s MACC degree. Counseling certificates may have limited transferability to other degrees at RTS. Counseling certificates will be indicated on the student’s transcript with a graduation date.

CERTIFICATES OF COMPLETION

A certificate of completion is not a credential. It reflects a series of courses intended to provide students with a foundational understanding of an individual discipline within the broader theological enterprise. Certificates of completion are not designed to meet ordination or other professional requirements in related fields. They are best suited

for continuing education for pastors, missionaries, church staff, or to support the volunteer ministry of lay-leaders in the church (e.g., elders, Bible study or Sunday School teachers, etc.).

RTS offers 8–13 credit certificates of completion in the core disciplines of Greek, Hebrew, Old Testament, New Testament, Systematic Theology, Historical Theology, and Applied Theology. Specialized certificates of completion are available at certain campuses in the fields of Theology & Public Life, Faith & Work, and Endurance Studies. See the RTS website for details about required courses and schedules.

Theological knowledge, by nature, is integrated knowledge comprising the disciplines of Old Testament, New Testament, historical, systematic, and applied theology. Therefore, while the knowledge and skills gained from a single certificate of completion can enrich one’s understanding of God and ability to interpret and teach the Scriptures, we hope that students will have opportunity to complete courses in multiple disciplines.

All coursework for certificates of completion are offered at the graduate level. Admission requirements match masters-degree program requirements. Courses taken may be counted as progress toward one of RTS’s master’s programs, within degree time limits. Specialized certificates of completion may have limited transferability. Contact your local registrar for advising on transferability. Certificates of completion are not noted on the student’s transcript.

THE CENTER FOR THE BIBLE

RTS New York City

The Center for the Bible at RTS New York City is devoted to equipping and inspiring New Yorkers of every background and vocation with Biblical teaching in the historical tradition of the Protestant Reformation. Courses and events feature RTS faculty from across the institution, as well as RTS Fellow of Philosophy and Culture, Dr. Christopher Watkin

Please refer to the RTS New York City website for the latest information about the Center for the Bible.

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 EDMISTON CENTER FOR CHRISTIAN ENDURANCE STUDIES

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 Edmiston Center 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 Edmiston Center 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 Edmiston Center.

THE INSTITUTE FOR FAITH, WORK, AND CULTURE

RTS Orlando

The purpose of the Institute for Faith, Work, and Culture (IFWC) at RTS Orlando is to help future pastors, as well as other interested participants,

cultivate a God-centered vision of work through a variety of curricular and cocurricular activities, special events, networking opportunities, and publications.

Please refer to the RTS Orlando website for the latest information about the IFWC.

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. Students will engage a Reformed approach to biblical and systematic theology in order to hone the doctrinal framework needed to form a sound public theology. Topical electives allow students to engage public issues with experts and practitioners.

A suite of courses are offered at RTS Washington DC. These include a foundational course (ST6605 Foundations of Theology & Public Life, 3 hours), two core systematic theology courses (ST5150 and ST5450, 5 hours), and electives from which students may choose. Students may take these courses individually, as a certificate of completion (12 hours), 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 and Greek are offered during Summer intensives 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.

A photograph of a woman with long blonde hair sitting in a pink armchair in a library or study area. She is reading a book. In the background, another person is sitting at a table, and there are bookshelves and a window. The scene is warmly lit.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE AND APPEALS PROCESS

Students may appeal academic matters (e.g., grades or plagiarism discipline decisions) via the process outlined below. Students wishing to appeal an academic matter must do so within 30 days of the decision (e.g., date grades are posted, or date of probation decision).

1. Academic matters pertaining to individual courses (e.g., grades) that cannot be resolved directly with the professor-of-record should be appealed to the Academic Dean.
 - a. The student should submit a written appeal of the matter to the campus Academic Dean regarding the issue.
 - b. The campus Academic Dean will either affirm the professor-of-record's decision in whole or in part or reverse the professor-of-record's decision in whole or in part, rendering a written decision to the student that will be considered final. (If the Academic Dean is the professor-of-record or chooses to recuse himself for some other reason, then the campus President/Executive-Director will render a decision on the appeal.)
2. Decisions of the campus Academic Dean pertaining to academic standing (e.g., plagiarism, cheating, or extenuating circumstances regarding overall GPA) should be appealed to the Provost.
 - a. The student should submit a written appeal to the Provost requesting reconsideration of the decision of the campus Academic Dean.
 - b. The Provost may or may not grant consideration of the request. If granted, the

Provost will appoint an ad-hoc committee consisting of faculty from at least two campuses.

- c. This ad-hoc committee will either affirm the campus Academic Dean's decision in whole or in part or reverse this decision in whole or in part, rendering a final decision, subject only to review by the Executive Committee of the Board to ascertain whether the appeals process was properly observed.
- d. The decision of the ad-hoc committee will be communicated to the student, the Provost, and the campus Academic Dean.

ACADEMIC PROBATION / DISMISSAL

A master's student who has a GPA under 2.6 for the baccalaureate degree, or a student without a 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 master's student whose GPA falls below 2.0 after attempting 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. Students readmitted after a one-year dismissal will remain on probation until their GPA rises to 2.0 or above, as this is the minimum requirement for graduation.

An RTS ThM or DMin student whose GPA falls below 3.0 after attempting nine credits will be placed on academic probation. The student is permitted to continue studies for an additional six credit hours. If the cumulative GPA remains below 3.0, the student is dismissed. After a period of one year, a student dismissed for academic reasons may apply for re-admission. Students readmitted after a one-year dismissal will remain on probation until their GPA rises to 3.0 or above, as this is the minimum requirement for graduation.

ADMISSIONS

The Seminary admits students of any race, color, and national/ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, and national/ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and other school-administered programs.

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 MAC students normally enroll in the Summer term. DMin students may enroll in the Summer or Winter terms. All other

student's may enroll in any term. Applications for admissions can be found at www.rts.edu.

The following materials are required for all degree programs and should be submitted to the Director of Admissions on the appropriate campus. Additional degree-specific admission requirements can be found in the appropriate degree section of the Catalog:

1. *A completed application form.*
2. *References from two 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.*

In addition to the above, as well as any degree-specific admission requirements, 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 \$150 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 any accreditor recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. For North American master's level degrees, RTS recognizes all schools accredited by the Association of Theological Schools. Concerning foreign equivalency, see below under "International Students." Concerning non-SACS or ATS accredited 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, ThM, 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).

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.

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.

To demonstrate that the international student has sufficient financial resources, the admitted student must send the completed "International Student Application Supplement" 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. International students are legally

required to be full-time students (see Course Load for definition of full-time status for each degree program).

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 for master's students allows a maximum of 18 semester hours of master's-level courses. Special student status for ThM students allows a maximum of six semester hours of ThM-level courses. Special students are not allowed at the DMin level.

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. ThM Special students should also submit an additional reference.*
4. *A statement of Christian faith (see below).*
5. *An official transcript indicating a baccalaureate degree or its foreign equivalent. ThM Special students should also submit a transcript indicating an MDiv or its educational equivalent. A minimum GPA of 3.25 is required.*
6. *A recent photograph.*

Concerning the above requirement of a statement of Christian faith, applicants who do not hold to

historic orthodox and evangelical 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 degree program, students must apply to a specific master's degree or the ThM and submit the remaining application requirements outlined on page 45.

VISITING STUDENTS. Students pursuing a graduate or postgraduate degree at another ATS-accredited institution may apply as a visiting student. To apply as a visiting student, the following items should be sent to the Office of Admissions:

1. *A completed application form.*
2. *The application fee.*
3. *A letter from the applicant's program advisor verifying that (a) the student is in good standing and (b) that the courses the student wishes to take at RTS will be transferable to fulfill degree program requirements at the institution in which the student is enrolled.*

CROSS REGISTRATION STUDENTS. RTS has several cross-registration agreements. Visiting students participating in existing cross registration agreements do not normally need to submit an application form. Other aspects of the agreements may affect admission requirements. RTS students interested in participating in a cross-registration agreement should contact their local campus registrar.

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.

1. With prior approval of the academic dean, advanced standing with credit will be given on the basis of a satisfactory oral or written assessment. The maximum of exam-based advanced standing for an MA student is 10 hours, and the maximum for an MDiv 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 MA student and up to six hours for an MDiv student).

2. 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 granted by the local academic dean 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 awarded (less any advanced standing credits awarded by #1 or #3 in this policy).

3. 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 will be granted by the local academic dean advanced standing with credit for this coursework, and the work may be applied to all MA and MDiv degree programs, excepting the MAC 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 granted by the local academic dean 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.

APPROVAL OF GRADUATES

All students expecting to graduate must make formal application for graduation to the faculty through the Registrar. Upon recommendation of the local faculty, the Board of Trustees approves all degree-seeking graduates. This approval is pending

only the final certification of degree requirements for graduation by the local Registrar.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE USE IN COURSEWORK

The following policy pertains to the use of AI-enabled tools (including, but not limited to, generative chatbots like ChatGPT and Claude, writing assistants like Grammarly, and other AI-enabled assistants like Google Gemini, Microsoft Copilot, and Apple Intelligence).

It is noted that the policy allows for a limited use of AI. This will be the default RTS policy. *A professor, however, has the right to modify this policy, including denying the use of AI altogether. Any modifications to these policies by a professor for a specific RTS course will be explicitly noted by the professor.*

GATHERING RESEARCH LEADS. AI-enabled tools may be employed in a manner similar to using Wikipedia, blogs, social media, or other online sources in generating basic raw material (e.g., “What verses in the Old Testament use the word ‘covenant?’”) or leads for further reading (e.g., “What recent books deal with the topic of divine simplicity?”). Such uses *do not generally have to be disclosed*, but the student is encouraged to consult with the professor of record if there are any questions or doubts. Note: even the best AI tool is not infallible and often generates junk data; the student is, therefore, fully responsible for vetting the accuracy or validity of any such information generated.

GENERATING OR ANALYZING CONTENT. AI-enabled tools *may* be used to generate small portions of content that would be used in a

manner equivalent to quoting a commentary or other written or digital sources. Any use of such information in an assignment, either through direct quotation or indirect summarization, *must be fully disclosed* in keeping with the guidance provided by the Chicago Manual of Style and APA. The following examples illustrate appropriate methods of citation.

Footnoting direct usage (e.g., quotation) of the result generated by an AI tool:

1. Text generated by ChatGPT, Open AI, March 7, 2024 (<https://chat.openai.com>).
2. Text generated by Claude, Anthropic, March 20, 2024 (<https://claude.ai>).

Footnoting indirect use of AI results that are further modified/summarized by student:

3. ChatGPT, response to “What are the differences between Calvinists and Arminians concerning regeneration?” OpenAI, March 12, 2024.
4. When given a prompt of “What is the traditional Reformed view of church discipline,” the Claude-generated text outlined three reasons: “Obedience to God’s word,” “protection of the church,” and “restoration of the sinner” (<https://claude.ai>, April 2, 2024; see Appendix A for the full transcript).

Bibliographic entry:

- CMS/SBL: OpenAI, *ChatGPT* [large language model]. March 7, 2024. <https://chat.openai.com>.
- APA: OpenAI (2024). *ChatGPT* (March 7 version). [Large language model]. <https://chat.openai.com>.

PROOFREADING. AI writing assistants (e.g., Grammarly) *may* be used for standard help with

basic spellchecking and grammatical proofreading; such uses *do not have to be disclosed*. However, AI *may not* be used to *fully rewrite* sentences or paragraphs.

CREATIVE PROCESS AND TEXTUAL COMPOSITION. All writing in every course assignment must be, for all intents and purposes, the original work of the student. Thus, AI *may not* be used to generate key components of a writing project that are aimed at cultivating certain competencies in the student, such as thesis/topic sentences, outlines, critical engagement with other views, and so forth. In addition, AI *may not* be used to write full sentences or paragraphs.

OTHER. AI-enabled tools *may not* be used in any way for online-discussion forum posts (e.g., TDQs), response papers, quizzes, and examinations.

Illegitimate uses of AI are subject to penalties in line with the severity of the violation, ranging from letter-grade reductions, a grade of F for a course, or academic probation. For a discussion of plagiarism, see the Plagiarism policy.

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.

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.

(For DE courses, a slightly different process exists. See the Global Education Student Handbook.)

COURSE LOAD

Master's-level students are considered full-time if they take 12 or more hours in the Fall and Spring terms. Full-time status is not defined for Summer and Winter terms. However, 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.

ThM students who take fifteen credit hours in one year are considered full-time. ThM students are also considered full-time while making progress in the thesis phase.

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

COURSE MODALITIES

RTS offers courses in several modalities: traditional, synchronous online, and asynchronous online. Some courses, such as Hybrid or Flex courses, may blend two modalities. In limited circumstances, students may take directed study courses. See "Directed Study Courses" for more details.

TRADITIONAL. Traditional courses occur when all students and the professor are in the same physical classroom (i.e., face-to-face).

SYNCHRONOUS ONLINE. In synchronous online courses, the professor and students meet for lectures and interaction via a video conferencing platform (such as Zoom). RTS distinguishes between two types of synchronous online courses:

Remote Live courses are synchronous online courses where all of the students and the professor interact over a video conferencing platform.

Sync courses are synchronous online courses where online students join the professor and students in an existing traditional course via video conferencing technology.

Though typically offered by one of the residential campuses, neither Remote Live nor Sync courses are considered residential or face-to-face for the purpose of graduation requirements (see pages 17, 25).

ASYNCHRONOUS ONLINE. In asynchronous online courses, students listen to lectures and complete course assignments at their own pace. RTS Global offers more than 40 online courses via this modality.

DEFINITION OF A CREDIT HOUR

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. One credit hour is awarded for 13 hours of classroom instruction joined with 26 hours of out-of-class work, plus the final exam. One-week intensive courses contain

the same number of instruction hours as courses scheduled for a full 13-week semester. Online courses are adjusted so that total work hours are equivalent to traditional face-to-face courses.

Concerning ThM courses, 3-credit-hour ThM courses must have a minimum of 26 hours in the classroom. The combination of work outside of class plus class-time must be a minimum of 159 hours.

Concerning DMin courses, 3-credit-hour DMin 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.

DEGREE TIME LIMITS

Students enrolled in a master's degree program have seven years to complete the degree requirements. ThM students have three years to complete the degree requirements. Students enrolled in the DMin degree program have six years to complete the degree requirements. After the standard time limit has been reached for a degree program, the student may apply for an extension through their campus registrar. For ThM and 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 normally be earned within ten years of completing the DMin degree, five years of completing the ThM degree, and fifteen years of completing a master's 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. Students who are on an

approved military leave-of-absence (LOA) will not need to reapply if they reenroll at the end of the LOA period, nor will this time count towards their degree time limit.

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

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. For DMin courses, a directed study must be three credits and require three components: approximately 2600 pages of reading, an integration paper of approximately 20 pages based on the student's reading and professor interactions, and at least three hours of professor-to-student synchronous interactions (either in-person or virtually) with a minimum of two meetings. The ThM program offers four readings courses. Additional directed studies are not allowed in the ThM program.

All master's-level directed study courses must be approved by the professor and the Academic Dean; DMin directed study courses must be approved by the professor and the DMin Director. 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/DMin Director only when a course is required for graduation and cannot be worked into a student's schedule.

Directed study courses do not count towards a student's minimum required credits at their degree-granting campus or via the face-to-face modality.

For more details about course modalities and residency requirement, see pages 50-51, 56.

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 many of the courses are taken through distance education. These students may take up to 100% of either the MABS or MATS 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 (see page 56). Most residential students take at least a few distance education courses.

For questions about registration or procedures specific to Distance Education courses, see the Global Education Student Handbook or contact the Global Registrar.

DROP / ADD DATES

Students are permitted to add courses for a period of two weeks following the first day of the Fall/Spring semesters. 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 Fall/Spring semesters. 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. Certificate students who have received discounted tuition may not be eligible for a tuition refund for dropped courses.

For drop/add dates related to online (Global) courses, Winter/Summer terms, and other intensive courses, contact the local campus registrar.

ENGLISH BIBLE AND CATECHISM REQUIREMENTS

Successful completion of a comprehensive examination in biblical content is required prior to graduation for the MDiv, MABS, MATS, MACC degrees. This examination may be repeated until it is passed. A grade of C is considered a passing grade.

All MDiv 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.

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 by the original due date. 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.

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 maximum degree time limits and are now ineligible to be applied to a degree, these courses will not be applied to the student’s GPA.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Students who are required to report to active duty within any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces may temporarily suspend their enrollment at RTS via a Military Leave of Absence. Such students should notify their campus registrar with documentation of their orders. A military leave of absence grants a student academic and financial provisions that will be determined (in conjunction with the academic dean) depending on the timing of the active duty orders within the affected academic term. In addition, the duration of the student’s active duty service will not be included in the normal degree time limits (e.g., a three month tour of duty will extend the student’s time limit by three months). For purposes of reenrollment, the student will be considered active during their active duty and will not need to reapply if they reenroll within one year of their return from active duty.

NAME CHANGE

Students may request that their academic record, including RTS transcript, be updated to reflect a legal name change. Such a request must be submitted to the campus registrar with authorized, government-approved documents that demonstrate the official name change. RTS will maintain a record of all legal names associated with the student’s academic record.

Diplomas issued by RTS are historical documents showing successful completion of a course of study. As such, diplomas shall reflect the student’s legal name at the time the student graduates. RTS will not reissue diplomas in the event of a legal name change of any kind.

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.; 9th ed.; Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2018), 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 applies to improper citations of sources from human authors as well

as artificial intelligence (AI) tools. For more details on how to cite AI sources and allowable uses of AI tools in research and coursework, see the Artificial Intelligence Use in Coursework policy.

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*

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 the amendment request is a related to an individual course, see Academic Discipline & Appeals Process. If the amendment request is a matter of a simple error (e.g., a wrong address), the Registrar will amend the record with appropriate documentation (e.g., a valid driver’s license). If the matter requires further investigation to determine whether the student’s record should be amended, the Registrar will work with the Academic Dean and any other necessary personnel (e.g., professor-of-record) to determine a decision. If a request for amendment is denied, the student may appeal the decision to the Provost. The Provost will appoint an ad-hoc committee consisting of faculty or senior staff from at least two campuses. This ad-hoc committee will either affirm the campus’s decision in whole or in part or reverse the decision in whole or in part, rendering a final decision, subject only to review by the Executive Committee of the Board to ascertain whether the appeals process was properly observed. The decision of the ad-hoc committee will be communicated to the student, the Provost, the Academic Dean, and the Registrar.

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 to school officials, to other institutions to which the student intends to enroll (if the disclosure is about the student’s

enrollment/transfer), subpoenas, in situations of health or safety emergencies, directory information, and other scenarios as outlined in §99.31 of FERPA regulations.

When presented with a subpoena request for a current or prior student's educational records, RTS will provide the requested records only after the student in question is notified of the subpoena request, unless the court or other issuing agency has ordered that the student not be notified of the existence or the contents of the subpoena. RTS will attempt to notify the student in question by: (1) sending an email to the email address currently on file and (2) sending a certified letter to the address on file. Within five business days from delivery or delivery attempt of the certified mail, RTS will comply with the subpoena request.

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. Directory information does not include a student's social security number or RTS-issued student identification number.

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

To ensure good educational quality, students are required to take a certain percentage of their credit hours in a face-to-face modality, of which a certain number of credits must be at the same RTS degree-

granting campus. These minimum requirements are as follows:

- A. For DMin, a minimum of 12 credit hours plus the doctoral project must be taken at the same RTS DMin-degree-granting campus.
- B. For ThM, a minimum of 18 credit hours must be taken face-to-face at the RTS ThM-degree-granting campus or via synchronous online courses (e.g., Zoom).
- C. For MDiv, a minimum of 36 credits must be face-to-face, of which at least 20 credit hours must be taken at the same RTS MDiv-degree-granting campus.
- D. For MABS/MATS/MACC, a minimum of 22 credits must be face-to-face, of which at least 20 credit hours must be taken at the same RTS MABS/MATS/MACC-degree-granting campus.
- E. For MAR, a minimum of 20 credit hours must be taken face-to-face at the same RTS MAR-degree-granting campus.
- F. For MAC, normally all credit hours must be taken at the same RTS MAC-degree-granting campus due to the unique nature of this degree. A minimum of 61 credit hours must be face-to-face, of which at least 32 counseling-specific credits must be taken at the same RTS MAC-degree-granting campus.

The above minimums apply to RTS residential campuses. RTS Global Education offers the MABS and MATS degrees through distance education. These degrees do not have a face-to-face or campus residency requirement.

Directed studies and online courses (either synchronous or asynchronous) do not count towards face-to-face or campus residency requirements.

In situations that involve transfer credits and advanced standing, the following additional minimums apply:

- A. For DMin, at least 24 credit hours must be taken somewhere in the RTS system.

- B. For ThM, at least 24 credit hours must be taken at RTS.

- C. For MDiv, at least 54 credit hours must be taken somewhere in the RTS system.

- D. For MABS/MATS/MACC, at least 34 credits must be taken somewhere in the RTS system.

- E. For MAR, at least 31 credits must be taken somewhere in the RTS system.

- F. For MAC, at least 61 face-to-face credit hours must be taken somewhere in the RTS system.

The above minimums apply to RTS residential campuses.

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 complaint in a biblical manner and assures fairness to all parties concerned. For complaints and appeals specific to academic matters (e.g., incorrect grades or academic discipline), see the Academic Discipline & Appeals Process. For complaints and appeals specific to Student Conduct violations, see Student Conduct Discipline and Appeals Process. For appeals regarding the accuracy of a student's record, see Privacy of Student Records. Complaints specific to operational issues (e.g., repairs) should be directed to the campus administrator/director-of-operations.

For complaints regarding a possible violation of accreditation standards or applicable state regulations, students should submit their complaint in writing to their local academic dean. The academic dean will work with the Provost to review and respond in writing

to the student's complaint within 30 days. If further time is needed to address or resolve the complaint, the procedures and timeline for such action will be outlined in the written notice to the student. The decision of the Provost is final, subject only to an appeal to the Executive Committee to confirm that the Seminary's policy and procedure for complaints was followed. At this point, if the student is not satisfied with the written response from RTS, the student may file a complaint directly with the appropriate accreditor and/or state governing body. For contact information, see page 8-10.

In all the above cases, the student initiating the complaint will not be subject to adverse actions for this initiation *per se*.

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 DISCIPLINE & APPEALS PROCESS

Student conduct is normally under the supervision of the Dean of Students. Students found to be in violation of the seminary's Student Conduct policy may be subject to discipline as outlined below. If desired, the student can appeal the discipline according to the appeals policy below.

STUDENT CONDUCT DISCIPLINE

Depending on the gravity of the conduct violation, any one of the following categories of discipline may apply:

Warning:

A letter of written warning will be issued to a student and placed in the student's file. The warning letter will clearly identify the conduct violation and subsequent consequences. Any student not satisfactorily meeting the terms of the warning letter is subject to probation or dismissal. Warning letters are retained only until graduation.

Probation:

A written notice of probation will be issued to a student and placed in the student's file. The notice will clearly identify the conduct violation, the terms of continued enrollment, and the duration of these terms. Any student not satisfactorily meeting the terms of probation is subject to dismissal. Probation notices are retained permanently.

Dismissal:

A written notice of dismissal will be issued to a student and placed in the student's file. The notice will clearly identify the conduct violation and any

eligibility for readmission (including timeframe under which application would be reconsidered). Dismissal notices are retained permanently.

Disciplinary decisions will not be recorded on the student's transcript. However, on a case-by-case basis, the Provost may communicate the substance of the disciplinary issue to another educational institution if the student seeks enrollment at that institution. If such issues are communicated, the Provost will also inform the student of the communication. If the student makes a formal, written request for the communication, the Provost will provide to the student a copy of the communication.

Minor issues (e.g., unexcused absences, foul language, non-violent disputes between students) will be handled by the local-campus Dean of Students (or in the case of Dallas, Houston, and Global, the Academic Dean). Such matters may result in a written warning.

In matters that could rise above a written warning, the Dean of Students will consult the campus President/Executive-Director and inform the campus Academic Dean. If the Dean of Students and campus President/Executive-Director determine that probation or dismissal could be appropriate to the matter, the Provost will assign an ad-hoc committee (made up of staff and/or faculty from more than one campus). This committee will be tasked with investigating the matter, determining the appropriate level and terms of discipline, if warranted, and communicating the outcome to the student, Provost, campus Dean of Students, campus President/Executive-Director, and campus Academic Dean.

In matters entailing an immediate threat to the health or safety of the campus, or significant violations of civil law, the Dean of Students and/or campus President/Executive-Director is authorized to remove the student from Seminary property immediately and/or contact local law enforcement irrespective of the above process.

STUDENT CONDUCT APPEALS PROCESS

Students may appeal any of the formal disciplinary sanctions as follows. Students wishing to appeal a conduct matter must do so within 30 days of the decision.

Written warning:

1. The student may submit a written appeal to the campus President/Executive-Director regarding the decision.
2. The campus President/Executive-Director will either affirm this decision in whole or in part or reverse this decision in whole or in part, rendering a written decision that will be considered final. (If the President/Executive-Director has already been involved in the matter, then the Provost will render a decision on the appeal.)
3. The written decision regarding the appeal will be communicated to the student and the Dean of Students and placed in the student's file, retained only until graduation.

Probation or Dismissal:

1. The student may submit a written appeal to the Provost requesting reconsideration of the decision of the ad-hoc committee.

2. The Provost may or may not grant consideration of the request. If granted, the Provost will appoint a new ad-hoc committee consisting of new membership (from at least two campuses, which may include the student's home campus).
3. This new ad-hoc committee will either affirm the original ad-hoc committee's decision in whole or in part or reverse the decision in whole or in part, rendering a written decision that will be considered final, subject only to review by the Executive Committee of the Board to ascertain whether the appeals process was properly observed.
4. The written decision regarding the appeal will be communicated to the student, Provost, campus Dean of Students, campus President/ Executive-Director, and campus Academic Dean. The decision will be placed in the student's file and retained permanently.

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.

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 courses graded as pass/fail or 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.

Grade point 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 DMin, a maximum of 6 DMin credit hours
- B. For ThM, a maximum of six ThM credit hours
- C. For MDiv, a maximum of 52 master's credit hours
- D. For MABS, MATS, or MACC a maximum of 32 master's credit hours
- E. For MAR, a maximum of 29 master's credit hours
- F. For MAC, normally few transfer credits are allowed due to the unique nature of this degree.

Concerning RTS counseling certificates and certificates-of-completion, normally transferring credits from other schools is not allowed.

[Courses taken toward a degree program at one RTS campus are recognized at all RTS campuses that offer that same degree program. Students interested in transferring to a campus that does not offer their degree program (e.g., an MAR) should contact their registrar for academic advising. Normal residency requirements apply. See page 56 for details on Residency Requirements.]

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. [For withdrawal related to an individual course, see Grading System, page 53]

A group of five young adults (three men and two women) are standing outdoors under a large tree with autumn foliage. They are engaged in a conversation. One woman is holding a coffee cup. The scene is bright and sunny, with fallen leaves on the ground. A dark grey rectangular box with a white border is overlaid on the image, containing the text 'FINANCIAL INFORMATION' in white, all-caps, serif font.

FINANCIAL
INFORMATION

TUITION AND FEES

For all tuition and fees, see page 105 or the RTS web page: www.rts.edu/admissions/tuition.

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 the online student portal, 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. 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

Auditors are welcome to enroll in RTS courses, provided there is room in the class. Those interested in auditing courses should contact their local campus registrar. Except for asynchronous courses through RTS Global, auditors must be at least 21 years of age.

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.

Alumni of any RTS degree program are permitted to audit classes at any campus free of charge. Master’s-level graduates are permitted to audit masters-level courses, Master of Theology graduates may audit masters-level and ThM-level courses, and Doctor of Ministry graduates may audit masters-level courses and DMin courses (space permitting and with professor and DMin Director approval). Certain MAC courses may not be open to alumni as determined by the Academic Dean.

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.

All others 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 \$150 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.

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,

and certificate/certificate-of-completion students for 2 years. Special students are ordinarily 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 up to one-third of the student’s tuition.

No time limit. Any course of study.

MINISTRY AWARDS. 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 www.rts.edu/admissions/financial-aid.

Time limits apply. Degree restrictions apply.

SPOUSE PARTNERSHIP. Spouses of full-time students may apply for a 100% tuition award for MDiv, MA, Counseling Certificate, and certificate-of-completion 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 after the graduation of their spouse.

Time limits apply. Degree restrictions apply.

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 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 residential 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 www.rts.edu/admissions/financial-aid/campus.

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS

Students are expected to be good stewards of financial aid by maintaining satisfactory academic progress. RTS reserves the right to revoke financial aid based upon student conduct violations or unusually poor academic performance (e.g., failures of multiple courses).

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 administrative assistants, library assistants, 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 (www.rts.edu/jobs).



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Course Numbering System:

5000 LEVEL – MASTER’S LEVEL CORE COURSES | 6000 LEVEL – MASTER’S LEVEL ELECTIVES* | 7000 LEVEL – THM LEVEL | 8000 LEVEL – DOCTORAL LEVEL**

COUNSELING (MA IN COUNSELING)

CO5500 | 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.

CO5510 | 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.

CO5520 | 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.

CO5530 | 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.

CO5540 | 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.

CO5550 | 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.

CO5560 | 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.

CO5570 | 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.

CO5580 | 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.

CO5590 | 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.

CO5600 | 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.

CO5610 | 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.

CO5620 | 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.

CO5630 | 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.

CO5640 | 2 HOURS

Neuroscience Informed Counseling.

Recent developments in neuroscience and psychopharmacology have contributed greatly to the fields of psychology and counseling. 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.

* Not all electives are offered at every campus. See local campus course schedules for detailed course availability.

** Reformed Expository Preaching courses can be found in DM8100-DM8299. Reformed Theology & Ministry courses can be found in DM8300-DM8399. Free electives are in the DM8400 block.

CO5650 | 3 HOURS**Crisis and Trauma-Informed Counseling.**

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.

CO5660 | 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.

CO5670 | 1 HOUR

Prerequisite: Admission to MAC program, and completion of CO5680 Practicum and at least one semester of CO5690 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.

CO5680 | 3 HOURS

Prerequisite: Admission to MAC program and CO5500, CO5550, CO5610, CO5620.

Corequisite: CO5510, CO5580.

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.

CO5690 | 3 HOURS (REPEATABLE)

Prerequisite: Consent of the MAC clinical director, and CO5680.

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 CO5690 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 counsees 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.

CO6125 | 2 HOURS

Trauma & Abuse Recovery Counseling This course introduces students to the care of those who have suffered trauma and/or abuse. Special attention will be given to recognizing and understanding the dynamics of different forms of abuse, including physical, emotional, verbal, economic, and spiritual abuse. The basic methodology of stabilization, grieving losses, and restoration will be presented as a template for trauma-informed Christian counseling.

CO6130 | 2 HOURS

Spiritual Warfare in Christian Counseling. This course seeks to develop a Reformed understanding of spiritual warfare within the context of counseling. Students will explore how pastors and counselors should approach spiritual dynamics in the present epoch, local culture, and individual experience. Special attention will be given to the theological implications of spiritual warfare and their impact on practical ministry.

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.

DM8225 | 3 HOURS

Preaching and Paul's Use of the Old Testament. This course covers how to understand Paul's use of the Old Testament and the practicalities of preaching Pauline passages that deal heavily with the Old Testament.

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.

DM8275 | 3 HOURS

Preaching from the General Epistles. The General Epistles (James-Jude) contains some of the most neglected books in the New Testament. Yet these epistles have a contemporary word for the church today. The purpose of this class is to equip students to grasp the message of these epistles more fully, with an eye to contemporary application. The course will thus consider both exegetical and practical issues arising from these texts.

DM8281 | 3 HOURS

Preaching from Hebrews & the General Epistles. This course will equip students to grasp the message of Hebrews and the General Epistles with an eye to contemporary application. Both exegetical and practical issues arising from the text will be considered.

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.

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.

DM8340 | 3 HOURS

Reformation Readings. This course focuses on key primary source readings in the Protestant Reformation (1517-65) from the Reformers, Anabaptists, and Roman Catholics. These readings will give students a first-hand knowledge of the texts that sparked and shaped Reformed theology.

DM8345 | 3 HOURS

The Westminster Assembly and Pastoral Ministry. This course focuses on an important chapter in the history of pastoral care. The years 1643-1653 mark the one decade in the lifespan of English puritanism where godly divines could serve as architects for the remodeling of a national church. The course will explore the assembly's debates and discussions about preaching, pastoral care, and church governance. Students will also examine the ideals and realities of the puritan experiment and consider how lessons from the past can impact our ministries today.

DM8350 | 3 HOURS

Culture and Contextualization: Theological Foundations and Ministry Applications. This course will explore a biblical theology of culture and contextualization with specific application to pastoral ministry. Students will seek to (1) develop an integrated theology of culture from a Reformed biblical perspective, (2) understand and critically evaluate different models for cultural engagement, (3) develop a biblical perspective on the principles, pitfalls, and practices of contextualization, and (4) reflect on the concrete application of the preceding points to local church ministry.

DM8351 | 3 HOURS

The Church in an Age of Polarization. In the midst of deep cultural polarization, the mission of the church has often been compromised. We know there is no quick or easy method to follow as the church lives out its missionary calling today, and so it is imperative to examine ordinary intuitions and experiences of difference and the manner in which they both help and hinder us from reaching a clearer grasp on the fabric of the church. In the end it is the Scriptures themselves which give us wisdom for living in a thickly pluralized culture, both inside the church and outside its walls.

DM8360 | 3 HOURS

Augustine & the City of God. This course will explore the life and theology of Augustine of Hippo, reflecting particularly on his City of God and the long, varied reception history of this work. Students will consider how it serves as a guide to engaging in apologetic discussion with non-Christians, whether in antiquity or in contemporary form. The course will also consider how it guides public theology and engagement of a host of pastoral challenges. Through exploring this classic text, students grow in their confidence and competence to engage Augustine's works on their own as a prompt and resource for pastoral theology and leadership today.

DM8366 | 3 HOURS

Reformed Political Theology & Ministry. By looking at a variety of representative Reformed theologians and philosophers from across the centuries up to the present time, this course will examine the contours of Reformed political thought (including whether there is such a thing). We will explore important ideas like two kingdoms theology, the spirituality of the church, toleration, classic liberalism, republicanism, the establishment principle, theonomy, reconstructionism, and Christian nationalism.

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. This course is a survey and analysis of current trends in counseling, alongside key considerations for pastoral shepherding in light of modern cultural shifts.

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.

DM8455 | 3 HOURS

Church Planting Mission in a Post-Christian Culture. Gospel mission is changing in our ever shifting and post-Christian culture. Church planters and church planting leaders are searching for theological and strategic solutions for carrying out the great commission with love and without compromise. This class will explore the fresh and common challenges of reaching communities with the gospel while offering new and old models for developing church planting churches and movements.

DM8990 | 3 HOURS

The Doctoral Project and Research Methodologies. This required online course will assist the student to understand the components of the DMin 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

Prerequisite: DM8990.

Doctoral Project. The final written Project in the DMin 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, ancient creeds, 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 HT5100, concentrating on creeds and great leaders of the church in the modern period of church history from the Reformation to the 21st century.

HT6100 | 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.

HT6101 | 2 HOURS

Prerequisite: HT6100.

Latin II. Latin II will build on HT6100 Latin I through reading and analyzing Christian texts, especially from the early Church and Reformation. Discussion will include the theology of these texts as well their vocabulary and grammar.

HT6110 | 1 OR 3 HOURS

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

HT6120 | 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.

HT6125 | 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.

HT6200 | 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.

HT6205 | 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.

HT6211 | 2 HOURS

Christianity as a Cultural Minority. 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.

HT6216 | 2 HOURS

Personhood, Sexuality, and Identity Politics. This class will look at the modern sexual revolution through the lens of changing notions of personhood with specific reference to broader cultural concerns, matters of sexuality and the rising politics of identity. It will examine changes in how human personhood has been understood since the seventeenth century and culminate in an analysis of the current state and cultural significance of sexual identity, specifically as this shapes public discourse and pastoral responses.

HT6235 | 2 HOURS

Early Christian Women. This course explores the lives of Christian women in the first through fifth centuries by examining primary texts written by, about, and to Christian women; common themes and figures in those writings; and the social and legal expectations of women in the late antique Roman Empire.

HT6305 | 2 HOURS

Life and Theology of Augustine. This course examines the life and theology of Augustine of Hippo, and considers his thought in context through a chronological/biographical framework. Key teachings will include: grace and the Christian life; the interpretation of Scripture; the nature of the Church; the Trinity; and the relationship between the Church/Christian and the world.

HT6306 | 2 HOURS

Augustine: City of God. This course will explore the life and theology of Augustine of Hippo, reflecting particularly on his City of God and the long, varied reception history of this work. Students grow in their confidence and competence to engage his works on their own.

HT6320 | 2 HOURS

Theology of John Calvin. This course will introduce Calvin's Institutes and help students understand the nature of Calvin's theology.

HT6325 | 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.

HT6330 | 2 HOURS

Advanced Readings in Herman Bavinck and Modern Thought. This course is a reading seminar that works through Bavinck's texts systematically and chronologically, paying specific attention to those texts that lie outside of the dogmatics. Students will be trained to engage Bavinck's own writings, and discern some of his main interlocutors within the context of modern theology in the 19th-20th centuries, with an eye toward contemporary theological issues and debates.

HT6345 | 2 HOURS

Life and Theology of John Owen. This course examines the life and theology of John Owen, and explores his thought in context through a chronological framework, considering important doctrinal emphases, and helping students understand the nature of his theology.

HT6350 | 2 HOURS

Life & Theology of the Cappadocian Fathers. This course examines the lives and theology of the Cappadocian Fathers (Basil of Caesarea, Gregory of Nazianzus, and Gregory of Nyssa), who lived in the fascinating and consequential period of the latter half of the fourth century.

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 Foundations. This course is designed for counseling students. It will provide a basic introduction to the New Testament.

NT6100 | 1 AND 2 CREDIT COURSES AVAILABLE

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

NT6110 | 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.

NT6115 | 2 HOURS

Prerequisite: NT5125.

Greek Syntax. This course continues from Greek Exegesis the study of grammar, builds vocabulary, and develops techniques for the exposition of the Greek text.

NT6120 | 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.

NT6361 | 2 HOURS

Prerequisite: NT5125.

Hebrews: Greek Text to Modern Meaning. This course will include exegesis of portions of the Greek text of Hebrews and a “cloud” of related topics. Related topics will include Christology, hermeneutics (NT quotes of OT), perseverance, covenants, and modern practical and academic issues.

NT6500 | 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.

NT7000 | 3 HOURS

Prerequisite: Admission to the ThM program and passing Greek competency exam.

Readings in New Testament Criticism. The purpose of this course is to familiarize the student with key texts relating to New Testament Criticism.

NT7315 | 3 HOURS

Prerequisite: Admission to the ThM program and passing Greek competency exam.

Current Issues in Text and Canon. The purpose of this course is to familiarize the student with recent developments in the fields of New Testament textual criticism and biblical canon.

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 Foundations. This course is designed for counseling students. It will provide a basic introduction to the Old Testament (Hebrew Bible).

OT6100 | 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.

OT6105 | 2 HOURS

Prerequisite: OT5125.

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

OT6110 | 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.

OT6120 | 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.

OT7000 | 3 HOURS

Prerequisite: Admission to the ThM program and passing Hebrew competency exam.

Readings in Old Testament Criticism. The purpose of this course is to familiarize the student with key texts relating to Old Testament Criticism.

OT7010 | 3 HOURS

Prerequisite: Admission to the ThM program and passing Hebrew competency exam.

Akkadian. The course is a basic study of Akkadian, which is a Semitic language. Students will also be introduced to the cuneiform script. Throughout the course, various primary sources will be consulted

OT7270 | 3 HOURS

Prerequisite: Admission to the ThM program and passing Hebrew competency exam.

Exegesis of Malachi. This course is an examination of the book of Malachi in its theological, exegetical, and historical significance with particular emphasis placed on covenant theology and the history of interpretation.

OT7300 | 3 HOURS

Prerequisite: Admission to the ThM program and passing Hebrew competency exam.

Old Testament as Christian Scripture. This seminar explores the history, nature, and task of Old Testament Theology. Beginning with a doctrine of Scripture, this course will address the history of the discipline as well as key figures and approaches to Old Testament theology. The seminar will conclude by addressing Old Testament Theology’s relation to Biblical Theology and Christian Dogmatics.

OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS**ON5100 | 3 HOURS**

Hermeneutics. This course will cover traditional hermeneutical issues, including the relationship between the OT and the NT, the role of the interpreter, the use of creeds and confessions in interpretation, and the relationship between original meaning and modern meaning.

ON6100 | 2 HOURS

Prerequisites: NTS125, OTS125.

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.

ON6101 | 1 HOUR

Prerequisites: OTS125, NTS125, or OT6105.

Readings in Biblical Languages. Students will read up to thirty (30) hours in the biblical languages in any combination desired – Hebrew, Greek, and/or Aramaic. Class time will be spent discussing readings.

ON6105 | 2 HOURS

Prerequisites: NTS125, OTS125.

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.

ON6200 | 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.

ON6335 | 2 HOURS

The Transforming Power of God’s Love: A Biblical-Theological Case. Through careful attention to significant texts (Old and New Testament) this course will paint a Biblical-Theological picture of God’s love, with the firm hope and prayer that each student will “know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.”

ON7300 | 3 HOURS

Prerequisite: Admission to the ThM program and passing Greek & Hebrew competency exams.

Current Issues in Septuagint Research. This course will introduce the broad contours of academic research on the Septuagint (LXX). Given that most of the corpus is a Greek translation of the Hebrew Bible, firm grasp on both languages is required. Because of the nature and history of the corpus itself, Septuagint scholarship touches on a wide range of adjacent areas of research, both within biblical studies and beyond it. These include, for example, post-Classical Greek linguistics, Ptolemaic Egyptian society and culture, Greek papyrology and epigraphy, Hebrew Bible textual criticism, Dead Sea Scrolls scholarship, Second Temple Judaism, New Testament citation and interpretation, Patristics, the history of biblical philology, Reformation textual theory, and others besides. While not all such neighboring disciplines can come into detailed focus in this course, students are allowed and encouraged to pursue them in the course assignments.

ON7940 • ON7945 | 6 HOURS

Prerequisite: Approval of the ThM Director.

ThM Thesis. Independent study on an approved topic culminating in a paper synthesizing research in the field of Biblical studies. Students will register for their thesis over two courses to track their progress from proposal to final defense. For ThM students only. Students interested in a thesis must have completed at least 15 ThM credits with a cumulative 3.75 GPA and receive approval from the ThM Director.

PASTORAL THEOLOGY

PT5000 | 1 HOUR

Prerequisite: Admission to a Global MA degree program.

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

Corequisite: PT5100.

Preaching Laboratory I. Building upon PT5100, students will preach multiple sermons. Women and other non-ministerial candidates will substitute additional elective course hours for all Preaching Labs. (As a corequisite, PT5100 may be taken before or concurrent with PT5125. See local campus schedule for sequencing of courses.)

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

Preaching Laboratory II. Building upon PT5150, 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, catechesis, 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 emphasize that gathered worship is legitimate, necessary, important, and should be conducted biblically in both form and content. In addition, the course will address the liturgical use of creeds, matters of music, congregational singing, contextualization, and “worship styles.” 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, the Book of Church Order, and creedal subscription. 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, including creeds, 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.

MDiv 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.

PT6106 | 2 HOURS

Women's Teaching Lab I. This lab will equip women to know the Bible as a teacher, to know themselves as a teacher, and to know their audience as a teacher. This course will prepare women for leading small group study and teaching in larger group formats, including practice and feedback.

PT6107 | 2 HOURS

Women's Teaching Lab II. This course will prepare women for leading small-group and large-group formats, with opportunity for practice and feedback. Building on Women's Teaching Lab I (focused on handling the biblical text), Women's Teaching Lab II focuses on developing communication skills and connecting with the audience. This course also emphasizes systematic theology as a tool to inform teaching. Taking PT6106 first is encouraged but not required.

PT6115 | 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.

PT6200 | 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.

PT6205 | 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.

PT6206 | 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.

PT6227 | 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.

PT6228 | 2 HOURS

Principles of Leadership: Daniel and Nehemiah. This course draws out and examines the leadership principles and methods of biblical minorities living within a dominant global superpower. It introduces the student to dynamic leaders throughout world history who have paralleled the lives of Daniel and Nehemiah, and the impact they had on their surrounding culture.

PT6250 | 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.

PT6275 | 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.

PT6280 | 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.

PT6330 | 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.

PT6350 | 2 HOURS

Marriage & Family Counseling. This course focuses on the pastoral counselor's vital and challenging work of marriage, family, and parenting counseling. A biblical understanding of the nature of marriage and family life will be provided, as well as a biblical approach to solving problems which arise within marriages and families—ranging from basic struggles to more complex issues. Case studies will also be discussed in class for more practical help.

PT6355 | 2 HOURS*Prerequisite: PT5350.*

Practical Issues in Pastoral Counseling. This course builds upon the basic concepts and principles of PT5350 Pastoral Counseling, with a continued focus on pastoral counseling in the local church. The first hour of each class will be a discussion on the typical issues pastors and ministry leaders face, with instruction in individual, marital, and group counseling. The second hour will be dedicated to simulated counseling sessions, including critique, recommendations, and individualized feedback. Readings on various current counseling subjects will be required, as well as some practice hours of counseling/discipleship outside of class.

PT6395 | 2 HOURS

Theology & Mission of Prayer. This course is a study in training yourself and others in gospel-centered, missional prayer. This course is designed for prayer leaders, pastors, church planters, and ministry leaders who want to disciple their team/church in prayer. Students will be equipped to lead others in prayer in any ministry context.

PT6501 | 2 HOURS

Forming Disciples for Faith and Work This course explores the process of forming disciples for faith and work integration. We will explore the foundations of faith and work theology as it relates to disciple making and pastoral practices that cultivate a discipleship culture of faith and work integration.

PT6512 | 1 HOUR

Understanding the Role of Religion in International Affairs. The fundamental religious nature of human beings means that religion will be a perpetual factor in world affairs. This course will explore questions such as: How can a Christian perspective on human nature and the role of faith in the lives of individuals and communities inform the fields of national security and international relations? How might this outlook shape the callings of individual Christians, whether as citizen or specialist? What are the religious trends and dynamics that influence international politics and security today?

PT6513 | 1 HOUR

Bioethics: Biblical Principles and Ministry Applications. Confronting challenges to the admonition to protect human life created in the image of God requires a grounding in theological anthropology as well as familiarity with beginning- and end-of-life issues. This course will cover theological principles and relevant scientific and medical background to equip ministry leaders and Christians in other callings.

PT6514 | 1 HOUR

Religious Liberty and Foreign Policy. This course will explore how world affairs is affected by government policy allowing or denying the freedom to live, speak, and act in accord with our design to worship God and with our whole lives. Students will also examine the implications for U.S. international religious freedom policy.

PT6515 | 1 HOUR

Religious Freedom Essentials for Ministry Leaders. Confessional groups seeking to uphold biblical teaching in their organizational policies and practices have increasingly faced friction due to changes in law and society. This course is designed to equip ministry leaders committed to maintaining a biblical confession with a greater understanding of the policy and legal environment so they can navigate shifting circumstances with wisdom and sound judgment.

PT6516 | 1 HOUR

Effective Compassion. This class will explore how to integrate compassion with public policy. The biblical admonition to care for our neighbors in need is clear. But how should we help? How can we ensure that our compassion for those in poverty is also effective in addressing their needs as human beings made in the image of God? In addition to reflecting on our personal efforts and church-based mercy ministries, how should Christians think about public policy related to poverty?

PT6520 | 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.

PT6530 | 1 HOUR

Abuse and the Church. This course explores how to recognize, prevent, and respond to sexual and domestic abuse. Specifically, it will focus on how to minister to those who are victims of abuse, how to respond to perpetrators of abuse, how to respond in a crisis, and how to build a healthy church culture before there is a particular crisis.

THEOLOGY

ST5100 | 3 HOURS

Introduction to Pastoral and Theological Studies. This course introduces students to biblical, theological, creedal, 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, hermeneutics, and the role 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 Foundations. This course is designed for counseling students. It will provide a basic introduction to Christian doctrine.

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. The biblical basis for morality will be emphasized along with aspects of the WLC. Basic concerns and current issues in social ethics are also 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 | 4 HOURS

Integrative Paper. Independent interdisciplinary study culminating in a paper synthesizing research and degree program curriculum content. For MAR students only.

ST6100 | 2 HOURS

Trinitarian Theology. 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.

ST6105 | 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.

ST6370 | 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.

ST6375 | 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.

ST6405 | 2 HOURS

Political Theology. This course explores the biblical, theological, and historical resources needed to provide students with a theological vision for how to pursue and engage the common good as disciples of Christ.

ST6455 | 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.

ST6458 | 2 HOURS

Commending Christianity in Contemporary Culture. This course will explore prominent cultural narratives in light of which the Christian faith is considered to be implausible and morally objectionable. We will also discuss how to critically and compassionately engage these stories to demonstrate the superior explanatory power, beauty, and goodness of Christianity.

ST6516 | 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.

ST6605 | 3 HOURS

Foundations of 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.

ST7000 | 3 HOURS

Prerequisite: Admission to the ThM program.

Readings in Early Christian Theology. The purpose of this course is to familiarize the student with primary texts from the first four centuries of Christian theology, until the time of Athanasius of Alexandria and the first Council of Nicaea and including exegetical, theological, moral, and polemical writings.

ST7010 | 3 HOURS

Prerequisite: Admission to the ThM program.

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

ST7300 | 3 HOURS

Prerequisite: Admission to the ThM program.

Readings in Modern Systematic Theology. The purpose of this course is to familiarize the student with key texts relating to modern systematic theology, particularly as it has developed since the Enlightenment.

ST7350 | 3 HOURS

Prerequisite: Admission to the ThM program.

Reformed Catholicity in the 16th Century. This course explores works by Protestant theologians in the sixteenth century to consider the way in which they sought to pass on the catholic tradition and also to develop or reform it. The course focuses especially on the works of Martin Luther, Huldrych Zwingli, Martin Bucer, John Calvin, Heinrich Bullinger, and Peter Martyr Vermigli.

ST7355 | 3 HOURS

Prerequisite: Admission to the ThM program.

Union with Christ in Post-Reformation Reformed Theology. A survey of the exegesis and theology of the doctrine of union with Christ in the early modern Reformed tradition that focuses upon the study of primary source texts.

ST7365 | 3 HOURS

Prerequisite: Admission to the ThM program.

The Thought of Herman Bavinck. This course is a reading seminar that works through Bavinck's texts systematically and chronologically, paying specific attention to those texts that lie outside of the dogmatics.

ST7600 | 3 HOURS

Prerequisite: Admission to the ThM program.

Divine Attributes. This course focuses on the doctrine of the being and attributes of God. Topics include the doctrine's biblical foundations, philosophical presuppositions and implications, historical development and debates, and systematic coherence.

ST7940 · ST7945 | 6 HOURS

Prerequisite: Approval of the ThM Director.

ThM Thesis. Independent study culminating in a paper synthesizing research in the field of theological studies. Students will register for their thesis over two courses to track their progress from proposal to final defense. For ThM students only. Students interested in a thesis must have completed at least 15 ThM credits with a cumulative 3.75 GPA and receive approval from the ThM Director.

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