



REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN  
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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ACADEMIC CATALOG  
2025 - 2026

# BE INFORMED ABOUT THEOLOGY & BE TRANSFORMED FOR MINISTRY

The Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary  
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Volume 54

## WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT!



On behalf of Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary (RPTS), welcome to our Academic Catalog. As the fourth oldest seminary in North America, RPTS offers a rich theological education true to the doctrines and spirit of the Reformation.

Housed in the historic mansion known as Rutherford Hall on the east side of Pittsburgh, our beautiful setting encourages the study and serious contemplation of the confessional Reformed faith. We promote and seek to live and minister according to the biblical doctrines of the Westminster Confession of Faith. In an age of postmodern thought and theological unfaithfulness, RPTS is committed to historic orthodoxy as you will see in our core theological, language, and biblical studies courses.

Yet seminary education should not only address the mind but also the heart and life of students as well. As you will see in this catalog, RPTS seeks to unite true Christian practice and ministry with our doctrinal foundation. RPTS actively trains students in areas such as biblical counseling, discipleship, and preaching, as they are essential in preparing students for ministry in the local church. As such, RPTS combines orthopraxy with our orthodoxy.

RPTS is a worshiping community as well. Each day on campus we enjoy chapel services with one another, and you will find the following in attendance: our professors who are not only scholars but also pastors; highly competent RPTS staff who possess servants' hearts; a diverse student body of men and women along with their families who are from places as near as inner-city Pittsburgh and as far away as Asia. You will find RPTS to be a supportive, loving community, as we enjoy fellowship and learning together.

I invite you to peruse these pages to learn more about RPTS. If you have any questions, contact us as indicated on the inside cover page. Then I invite you to come and experience for yourself this wonderful crossroads of God's kingdom! I look forward to meeting you!

In Christ's service,

Barry J. York

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# ACADEMIC CALENDAR

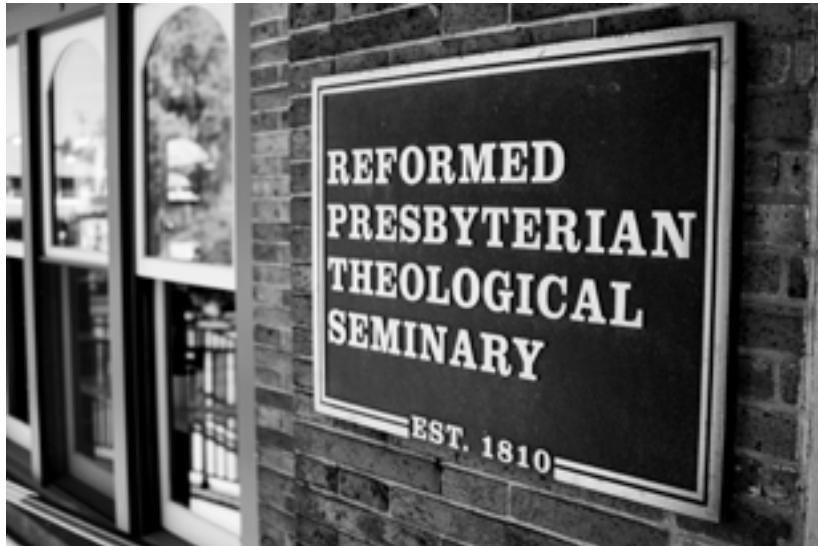
Fall Quarter	2025-2026	2026-2027
Final Day to Finish Incompletes from the Summer Quarter	Sept. 5	Sept. 4
Opening of Year Picnic	Sept. 4	
Classes Begin	Sept. 9	Sept. 8
Final Day to Add or Drop Classes	Sept. 12	Sept. 11
Registration Opens for the Winter Quarter	Oct. 20	Oct. 19
Final Day for Returning Students to Register for Winter Classes Without Late Registration Fee	Nov. 14	Nov. 13
Final Examinations	Nov. 18-21	Nov. 17-20
Quarter Break	Nov. 22 - Dec. 1	Nov. 21-30

Winter Quarter	2025-2026	2026-2027
Classes Begin	Dec. 2	Dec. 1
Final Day to Add or Drop Classes	Dec. 5	Dec. 4
Final Day to Finish Incompletes from the Fall Quarter	Dec. 12	Dec. 11
Last Day of Classes Before Winter Break	Dec. 19	Dec. 18
Winter Break	Dec. 20 - Jan. 5	Dec. 19 - Jan. 4
Classes Resume	Jan. 6	Jan. 5
Application Deadline for DMin Program	Jan. 10	Jan. 10
Registration Opens for Spring and Summer Quarter	Jan. 26	Jan. 25
Registration for DMin Summer Quarter	Feb. 1-14	Feb. 1-14
Final Day for Returning Students to Register for Spring Classes Without Late Registration Fee	Feb. 20	Feb. 19
Final Examinations	Feb. 24-27	Feb. 23-26
Quarter Break	Feb. 28 - Mar. 9	Feb. 27 - Mar. 8

# ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Spring Quarter	2025-2026	2026-2027
Classes Begin	Mar. 10	Mar. 9
Final Day to Add or Drop Classes	Mar. 13	Mar. 12
Final Day to Finish Incompletes from the Winter Quarter	Mar. 20	Mar. 19
Final Day for Returning Students to Register for Summer Classes Without Late Registration Fee	Apr. 10	Apr. 9
Registration Opens for the Fall Quarter	Apr. 20	Apr. 19
Final Day for Returning Students to Register for Fall Classes Without Late Registration Fee	May 15	May 14
Final Examinations	May 19-22	May 18-21
Commencement	May 22	May 21

Summer Quarter	2025-2026	2026-2027
Summer Quarter Begins	Jun. 1	May 31
Beginning of Summer Intensive(s)	Jun. 1	May 31
Final Day to Add or Drop Classes (end of 1st day for week-long intensives)	Jun. 5	Jun. 4
Applications for Incoming International Students for Fall Must be Finalized	Jun. 15	Jun. 14
Final Day to Finish Incompletes from the Spring Quarter	Jun. 19	Jun. 18
DMin Class (1)	Aug. 4-7	Aug. 11-14
DMin Class (2)	Aug. 3-6	Aug. 10-13
Summer Quarter Ends	Aug. 14	Aug. 13
End of Summer Intensive(s) (add/drop closes at the end of the 1st day of class)	Aug. 31 - Sep. 4	Aug. 30 - Sept. 3
Applications for Incoming Class for Fall Must be Finalized	Aug. 25	Aug. 24



## MISSION STATEMENT

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The mission of the Seminary is to educate students who love the Lord Jesus Christ and His Word, equipping pastors for the ministry of the gospel and preparing others in the church for effective service in His kingdom, all within the framework of the historic reformed faith.

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## PURPOSE STATEMENT

The founding purpose of the Seminary was to train men for the gospel ministry within the RPCNA. This fundamental purpose remains unchanged in the twenty-first century.

As God has provided opportunity, the mission of the Seminary has expanded to include the training of men and women from many Reformed and evangelical churches, and from various cultures and nations, for a variety of ministries.

Our instruction is guided by the theology and practice of the RPCNA, which wholeheartedly embraces the historic reformed faith and stresses Christ's Kingship over every area of life.

Our training emphasizes scholarship in biblical studies, systematic theology, and church history; the cultivation of personal godliness and interpersonal skills; and the development of spiritual gifts – all with a vision for discipling the nations of the world.

Our educational setting is in an urban environment with an international presence, which provides both challenges and opportunities for ministry. Because the redemptive grace of God is the basis for ultimate answers to the personal and interpersonal problems around us, our ministry presents a message of reconciliation to God and to one another through the Prince of Peace, our Lord Jesus Christ.

## OVERSIGHT AND STATEMENT OF FAITH

Since its inception, the Seminary has been under the direct oversight of the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America (RPCNA) and has been governed through a Board of Trustees elected by that body, which consists of ministers and ruling elders of the denomination.

The Seminary is committed to the inerrancy of Scripture and to the Reformed Faith as summarized in the Westminster Standards and the Testimony of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America.

The Seminary student population encompasses a variety of nationalities, ethnic groups, and denominations. The President's Council is an advisory group designed to represent the variety found in the student body.

# STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

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## Doctor of Ministry Program

The purpose of this program is to further equip men serving in the pastorate for continued labors in the ordained ministry of the Gospel (Pastoral Concentration) and to further equip men and women for counseling ministry in the Church (Counseling Concentration).

### *Student Learning Outcomes*

As a result of the successful completion of the Doctor of Ministry program, a student will:

- be able to engage in the practice of ministry with advanced competency in biblical interpretation, theological reflection, and the performance of ministerial duties as delineated in the required courses
- advance the practice of ministry through a doctoral project which will include analytic and ministerial research and will integrate advanced academic study with the practice of ministry



Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season;  
reprove, rebuke, and exhort,  
with complete patience and teaching.

2 Timothy 4:2

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## Master of Divinity Program

The purpose of this program is to prepare men for the ordained Gospel ministry in the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America and in other Reformed, Presbyterian, and Evangelical churches.

### *Student Learning Outcomes*

As a result of his successful completion of the Master of Divinity program, a student will be able to:

#### (Religious Heritage)

- interpret Scripture in its original languages as it is the inerrant, authoritative, sufficient, and perspicuous Word of God
- understand the Reformed faith, including the mediatorial Kingship of Christ, as it is summarized in the Westminster Standards and the Testimony of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America

#### (Cultural Context)

- understand the principles of the mission of the Church in light of contemporary cultural trends

#### (Personal and Spiritual Formation)

- understand and implement the spiritual disciplines necessary for a Gospel minister

#### (Religious and Public Leadership)

- perform the duties of an ordained Gospel minister according to the Scriptures, the Westminster Standards, and the Testimony of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America

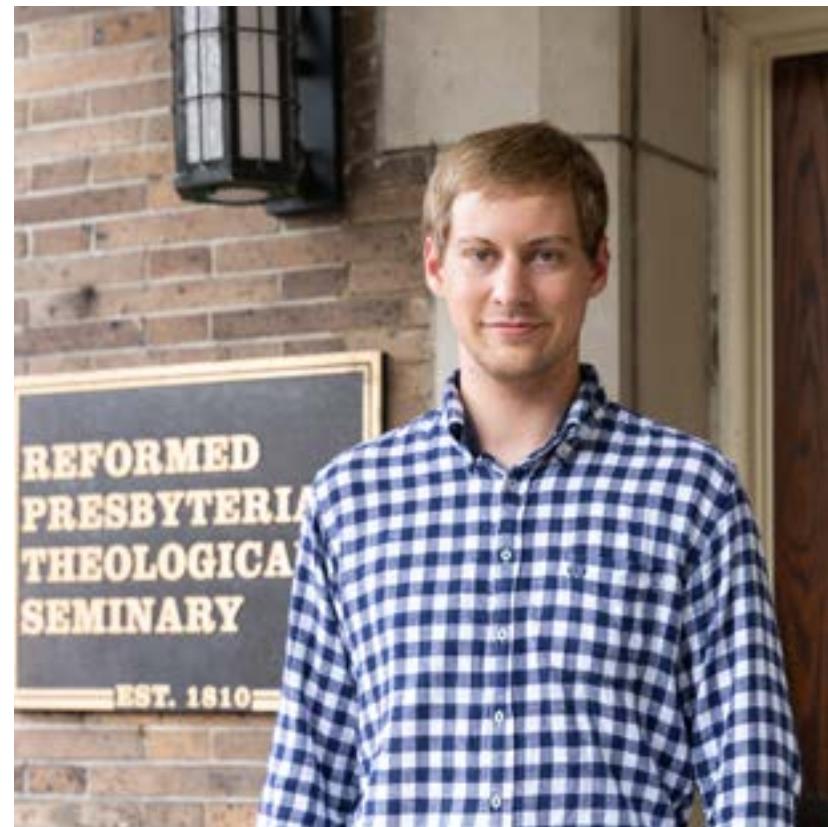
## Master of Theological Studies Program

The purpose of this program is to prepare men and women for Kingdom ministries in which concentrated graduate theological study is deemed valuable and/or essential.

### Student Learning Outcomes

As a result of participation in this program, a student will be able to:

- interpret Scripture as it is the inerrant, authoritative, sufficient, and perspicuous Word of God
- understand the Reformed faith as it is summarized in the Westminster Standards and the Testimony of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America
- show proficiency in advanced theological study necessary for specialized Kingdom service in the area of the student's concentration



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**R**PTS has had a great impact on my life, both in terms of my theological academics as well as in my love for the Lord. In every class, my knowledge grew, and the professors never failed to tie it to our hearts. I also learned from watching the lives of the professors and their love for Christ.

Paul Lauer, '25

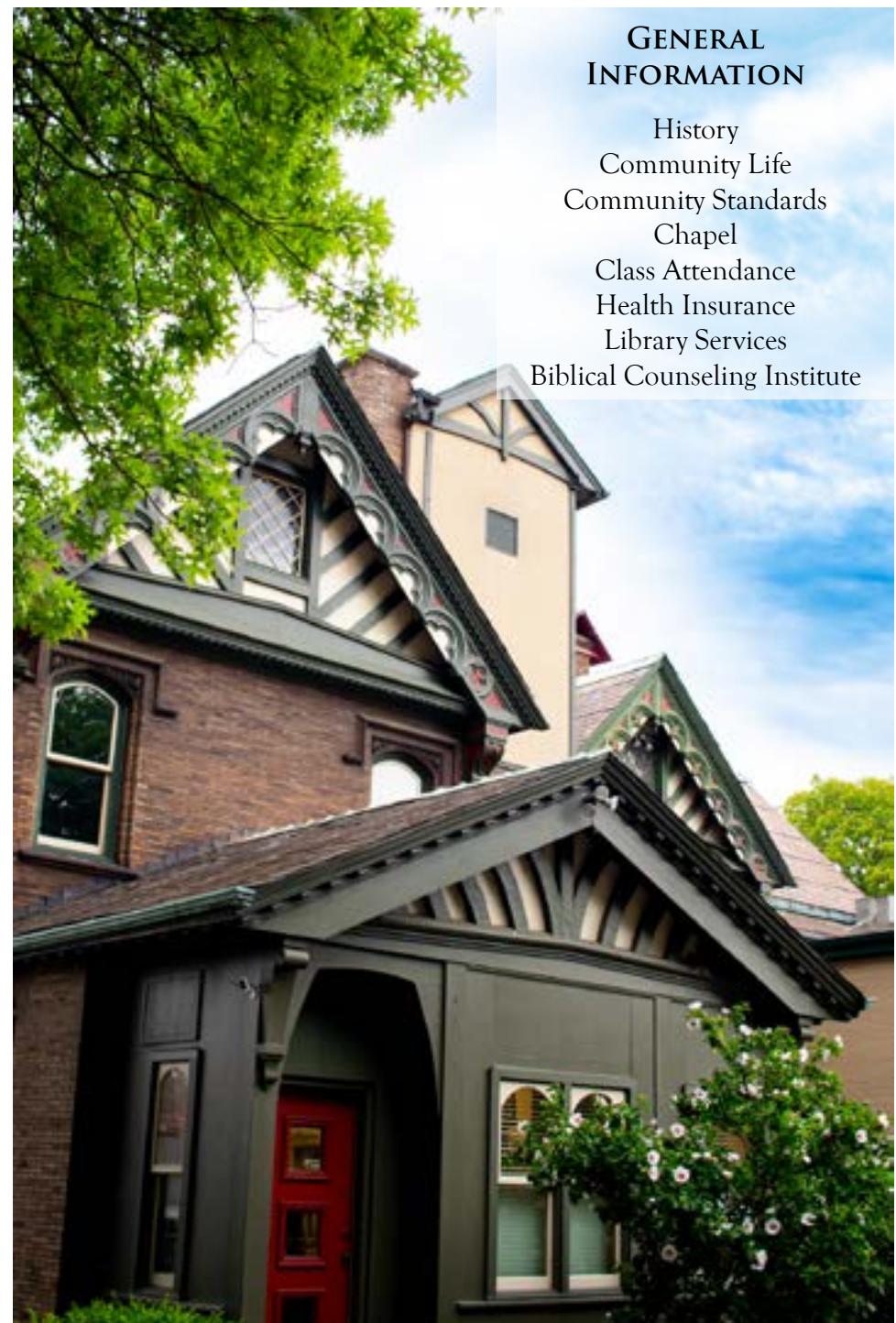
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# STATEMENT OF EDUCATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

The mission of the Seminary is to educate students who love the Lord Jesus Christ and His Word. We do this by equipping pastors for the ministry of the Gospel and preparing others in the Church for effective service in His Kingdom, all within the framework of the historic Reformed faith.

Each year the Seminary evaluates our success in achieving our goals and produces a Statement of Educational Effectiveness. This document provides data on how well we are meeting the goals or outcomes for each of our degree programs, as well as data from additional school-wide measures of educational effectiveness.

To view our *Statement of Educational Effectiveness*, visit the Academic page at [rpts.edu](http://rpts.edu) and follow the link at the bottom of the page.



## GENERAL INFORMATION

History

Community Life

Community Standards

Chapel

Class Attendance

Health Insurance

Library Services

Biblical Counseling Institute

# HISTORY

Faithfully Serving His Kingdom for Over 200 Years!

Soon after the organization of the Reformed Presbytery (now called the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America) in 1798 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, steps were taken to establish a seminary for the education of its students of theology. Dr. Samuel B. Wylie of Philadelphia served as the first professor when the doors of the institution were officially opened on May 15, 1810.

Prior to 1856, the Seminary was located in the cities where the professor also served a congregation as pastor: Philadelphia and New Alexandria, Pennsylvania; Coldenham, New York; Northwood and Cincinnati, Ohio. In 1856, the Seminary was relocated to Allegheny, now Northside, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and continued there until 1924.

In 1923, our main building, Rutherford Hall, formerly belonging to Durbin Horne of the Horne Department Store, was purchased in the Point Breeze area of the East End of Pittsburgh. The three-story brick mansion has been renovated several times, including work in 1960-1961, when a chapel was added in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Seminary's founding. A two-story library wing was constructed in 1970, providing stacks, study carrels, and a library office. A Rare Books Room was completed in commemoration of the Seminary's 175th Anniversary in 1985. Another major renovation of the Seminary building was completed in 1999, providing more library, office, and classroom space, to meet the needs of our growing ministry. The Willson Center was purchased in 2008 to provide space for the Biblical Counseling Institute, library storage, and student housing.

The Department of Education gave approval for the Seminary to grant the Master of Divinity (MDiv) degree in 1971. The Association of Theological Schools (ATS) granted full accreditation to the Seminary in 1994. The Seminary has also been approved by the Department of Education and ATS to grant the Master of Theological Studies (MTS) and the Doctor of Ministry (DMin) degrees. In November 2013, RPTS received approval from ATS for a comprehensive distance education program.



First RPC, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



Coldenham Parsonage, New York



Northwood Seminary, Ohio



Durbin Horne Home



Rutherford Hall



Northside in 1856



Willson Center

# COMMUNITY LIFE

A tremendous sense of community exists among students, faculty, and staff at the Seminary. Opportunities for formal and informal interaction abound, both inside and outside the classroom. Several of our single male students live in the dorms on the third floor of Rutherford Hall and enjoy close fellowship. A number of married students and their families live in Seminary apartments adjacent to the campus.

Students and faculty informally participate in various athletic, social, cultural, and spiritual activities. The Seminary offers a number of opportunities for the entire student body to be together for fun and fellowship, including an opening day school picnic, a Christmas dinner, and an end-of-the-year picnic. There are also several student-led groups meeting regularly.



Seminary Women, a group consisting of faculty wives, student wives, and female students, meets throughout the academic year for fellowship, instruction, and encouragement and provides opportunities for fellowship and personal growth.

A significant aspect of Seminary life involves times of praying together. Faculty members meet regularly

with their advisees for prayer, and on Tuesday afternoons, all are welcome to meet in the President's Office to pray together for different topics each week. Informally, students often get together in groups of two or three to pray, and prayer commonly marks the one-to-one times between faculty and students.

More than two dozen denominations and independent congregations comprise the student body. This diversity offers a valuable opportunity in the setting of a denominationally-governed seminary for students to learn to appreciate their distinctive denominational contributions while developing an understanding of the basis for scriptural ecumenicity.

An indispensable educational component for students preparing for future ministry is active participation in a local church while studying at the Seminary. Therefore, students are expected to become involved in the life and ministry of the congregation of their choice.



# RPTS STATEMENT ON HUMAN IDENTITY AND CHRISTIAN BEHAVIOR

## Statement on the Sanctity of Human Life

We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life (Psalm 139).

## Statement on Gender

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary sexes together reflect God's image and nature (Genesis 1:26-27). We acknowledge that in this fallen world, on rare occasions, a person is born with anatomical ambiguity. We affirm the dignity and image of God fully shared by such persons and support their efforts to determine with competent medical counsel their anatomical sex and coordinate gender calling (2017 Minutes of Synod, page 122). Nevertheless, the vast majority of persons are born with clear anatomical sex distinction. God has called each person to live within the gender indicated by his or her anatomy (2017 Minutes of Synod, page 120). We believe it is sinful behavior to reject one's sex given by God at conception or attempt to alter one's sex given by God at conception, including dressing in such a way as to willfully reject one's sex given by God at conception.

## Statement on Marriage

We believe the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture (Genesis 2:18-25). We believe that marriage between one man and one woman, for life, uniquely reflects Christ's relationship with His Church (Ephesians 5:21-22). We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other (1 Corinthians 6:18; 7:2-5; Hebrews 13:4). We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.

## Statement on Sexuality

We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, cohabitation, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, attempts to alter one's sex, bestiality, incest, or use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God (Matthew 15:18-20; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10).

# COMMUNITY STANDARDS

## COMMITMENT

*We commit ourselves to the historical gospel of our Triune God.*

John 17:3

As a community of believers devoted not only to the accumulation of knowledge but also to the development of practical ministry skills, a starting point for our fellowship is a commitment to the historic Christian faith. This includes acknowledging the only true God to be one God in three distinct persons and that eternal life is a gift of God received by faith alone through the righteousness of Christ alone.<sup>1</sup>

## HONOR

*We honor one another in our relationships and work for Christ's glory.*

Romans 12:10

Further, all Christians are called by God to a life of holiness. At the Seminary, where we train those who are preparing for service in Christ's church, we are especially concerned to be above reproach in our conduct. In our study and in our relationships with one another, we seek to be faithful, wise, and filled with the fruit of the Spirit.

## ACCOUNTABILITY

*We promote healthy communication to achieve accountability in the Spirit's strength.*

Galatians 5:25

We are committed to holding one another accountable in matters of Christ-like-ness and spiritual maturity, seeking to encourage and strengthen one another in a spirit of meekness.<sup>2</sup> All members of the community – faculty, staff, students, board members – are called to respect one another in regard to diversity of denomination, ethnicity, and culture.<sup>3</sup> All members are expected to refrain from behavior which Scripture forbids, including sexual misconduct (sexual relations outside of marriage, sexual harassment, sexual abuse, same-gender sexual relations,<sup>4</sup> use of pornography, and any other sexual or gender deviation contrary to God's Word),<sup>5</sup> theft,<sup>6</sup> academic or personal dishonesty,<sup>7</sup> substance abuse,<sup>8</sup> misuse of property,<sup>9</sup> threats to the health and safety of others<sup>10</sup> physical or emotional abuse,<sup>11</sup> financial irresponsibility,<sup>12</sup> disrespect,<sup>13</sup> or violation of campus regulations.<sup>14</sup> These behaviors damage or even destroy true fellowship and the spiritual vitality which Christ purchased with His own blood.<sup>15</sup>

The Seminary may deny admission, admonish, warn, place on probation, suspend, expel, withhold a degree, deny employment, terminate employment, or take other action in response to beliefs or personal conduct outside of these Standards.

1 WLC Q 8 to Q11, Q70

2 WLC Q 122 – Matt. 22:39; Matt. 7:12, Gal. 6:1-2

3 WLC Q 126 – Eph. 5:21; 1 Pet. 2:17; Rom. 12:10

4 SHICB

5 WLC Q 137 to Q 139 – 1 Thess. 4:4; Job 31:1; Matt. 5:28; SHICB

6 WLC Q 140 to Q 142 – Ps. 15:2; Rom. 13:7; Phil. 2:4

7 WLC Q 140 to Q 142 – Ps. 15:2; Rom. 13:7; Phil. 2:4

8 WLC Q 134 to Q 136 – Eph. 4:26-27; Eph. 5:28-29; Luke 21:34; 1 John 3:15 9 WLC Q 140 to Q 142

10 WLC Q 134 to Q 136 – Eph. 4:26-27; Eph. 5:28-29; Luke 21:34; 1 John 3:15 11 WLC Q 134 to Q 136 – Eph. 4:26-27; Eph. 5:28-29; Luke 21:34; 1 John 3:15 12 WLC Q 140 to Q 142 – Ps. 15:2; Rom. 13:7; Phil. 2:4

13 WLC Q 124 to Q 133

14 WLC Q 124 to Q 128 – Eph. 5:21; 1 Pet. 2:17; Rom. 12:10

15 WCF 26.1, 26.2 – 1 John 1:3; Heb. 10:24-25

WLC – Westminster Larger Catechism

Q – Question

WCF – Westminster Confession of Faith

SHICB – Statement on Human Identity and Christian Behavior

## CHAPEL

Chapel services are an important part of the life of the Seminary community and are held Tuesday through Friday mornings from 10:00-10:30 a.m.

Professors, students, and guest preachers lead us during these worship times together. All students are required to attend chapel when they are on campus during that period of time and on days when they have classes either immediately before or immediately after chapel. Any exceptions must be arranged with the President or the Dean of Faculty.

## CLASS ATTENDANCE

Christian maturity and stewardship imply responsibility to attend classes regularly, participate in class discussions, and complete course requirements. Class attendance is expected, and arrangements for absence from class due to illness or other emergencies should be made directly with the professor.

## HEALTH INSURANCE

Health insurance is not provided by the Seminary. It is strongly urged that all students have some form of health insurance coverage while they are studying at the Seminary. RPTS will not be liable for healthcare expenses for any student. Check with your personal insurance provider for information on coverage. The Admissions Office has information on a limited number of healthcare options available to students.

## LIBRARY SERVICES

The Library is the primary workshop for professors and students. The quiet, well-lit reading rooms and open stacks provide an atmosphere in which you may acquire the habits, techniques, and information that you will need in ministry. The library staff is ordinarily available on weekdays to assist you between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Carefully selected materials in Old and New Testaments, systematic and historical theology, and the practical fields of the Church's service are included among the nearly 92,000 cataloged items in the collection. The physical collection consists of circulating books, compact discs (CD), digital media, digital video discs (DVD), microfiche, microfilm, periodicals, rare books, and reference books.

The Rare Books Room on the second floor houses a significant collection of theological books from the early sixteenth to the early nineteenth centuries. The nearby Reformed Presbyterian Room provides a unique collection of books, periodicals, minutes, and archival materials on the Covenanter Churches around the world.



In addition to the physical collection, the Library provides a wide array of digital resources on the research portal called Aspen Discovery. Some of these resources are comprised of digital journals, e-books, periodical databases, open access and public domain books, reference materials, and many other open access resources. For a full list of the digital resources on Aspen Discovery, visit <https://library.rpts.edu>.

The RPTS Library has reciprocal relations with over 100 ATLA Libraries in North America. If you would like more information on how to patronize another ATLA library, speak with a member of the Library staff. In particular, students who live in Western Pennsylvania will find Barbour Library (Pittsburgh Theological Seminary), McCartney Library (Geneva College), and the Library at Trinity School for Ministry to offer additional opportunities for research and study within a close driving distance of RPTS.

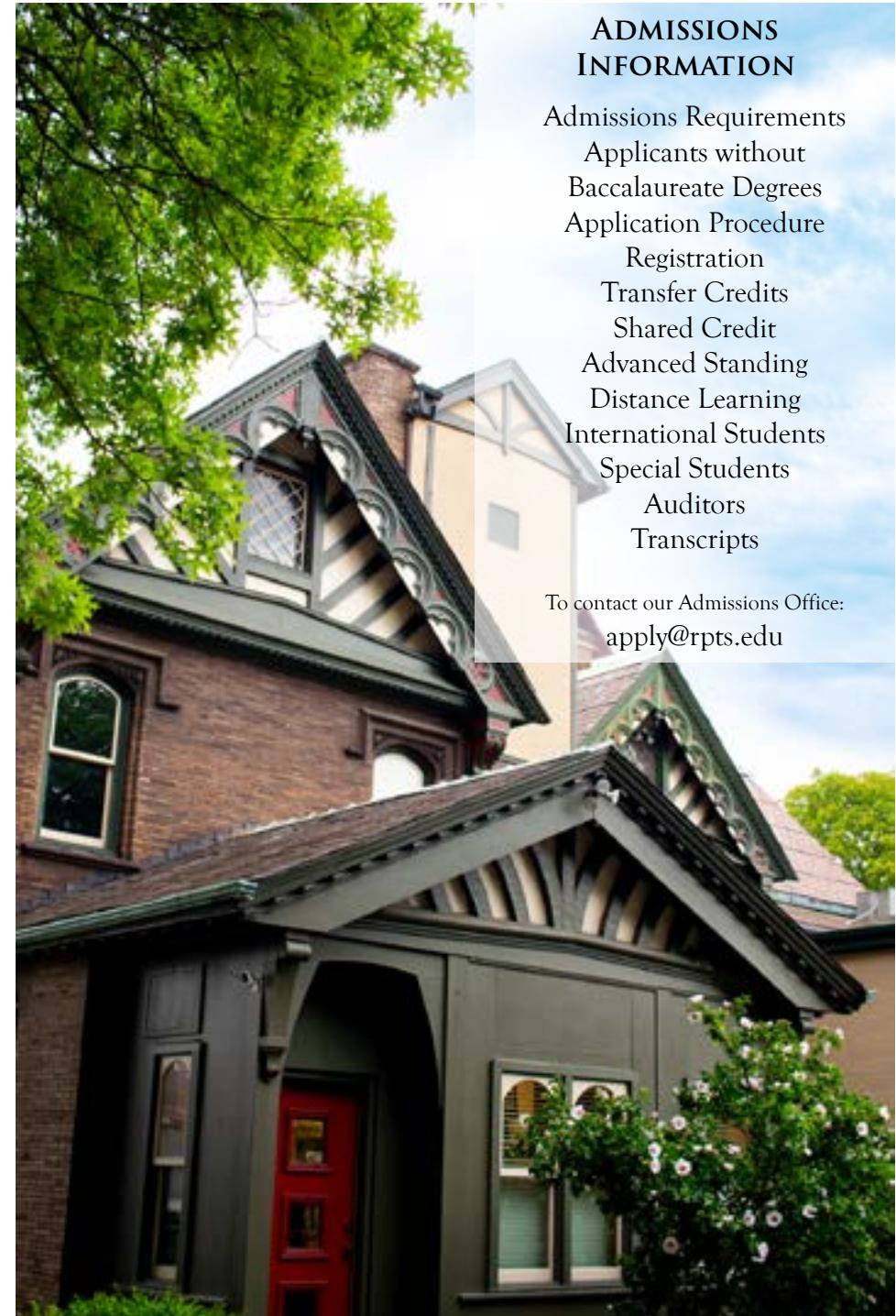


## BIBLICAL COUNSELING INSTITUTE

The Biblical Counseling Institute (BCI) resides in the Willson Center which is across the street from the main RPTS building. The BCI serves as a training center for RPTS students who wish to grow in their ability to do biblical counseling and as resource for those in the body of Christ in need of biblical counsel to address personal problems.

At the BCI, students are able to observe live counseling, role play counseling situations, and counsel under the BCI Director's supervision. Concentrations in biblical counseling are available at all levels of study in our degree programs. RPTS is a certified training center for the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors (ACBC).

In addition, counselors are available to help anyone in the Seminary community in the areas of marital concerns, sexual sin, drug/alcohol abuse, or other issues of faith and life. Appointments can be scheduled by emailing [bci@rpts.edu](mailto:bci@rpts.edu) or calling 412-731-3000.



## ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

Admissions Requirements  
Applicants without Baccalaureate Degrees  
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Distance Learning  
International Students  
Special Students  
Auditors  
Transcripts

To contact our Admissions Office:  
[apply@rpts.edu](mailto:apply@rpts.edu)

# ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

## Doctor of Ministry: Strengthening Ministry in the Kingdom of God

The Strengthening Ministry in the Kingdom of God program is for those who minister to the people of God, have earned an accredited Master of Divinity degree, and have significant ministry experience.

Applicants without an accredited MDiv degree may be admitted subject to the following requirements:

- Applicant has earned an accredited master's degree in the theological disciplines, such as an MTS or MA degree in a ministry-related field, i.e. biblical counseling or Christian education.
- Submission of an additional recommendation from a leader in your church, addressing your gifts, calling, and spiritual maturity which evidence your suitability for doctoral-level theological study.
- Submission of a resume that documents a) general work experience since high school, including pertinent training courses taken; b) any full-time vocational ministry; c) any part-time or volunteer ministry experience. This should include a full description of work and ministry roles.
- DMin applications also include a previously-submitted paper from your master's degree work of approximately 10 pages. For applicants without an MDiv degree, this paper will also be used to evaluate your ability to thoughtfully interpret Scripture and the theological tradition of your ministry context.

Normally, applicants should have at least three years of ministry experience before applying to the DMin program. However, a student may be enrolled without the requisite experience upon the approval of the Director, who has responsibility to assess the applicant's other experience which has prepared the student for advanced, professional studies. DMin applicants who desire to take classes for credit, but do not desire to pursue the degree may be admitted as Visiting Students.

These are the only requirements for the Strengthening Counseling Ministry concentration. For an individual to be admitted to the Strengthening Pastoral Ministry concentration, the applicant must be an ordained minister in addition to the above requirements.\* Prior study of the biblical languages is also strongly recommended.

## Master's Applicants

### Master of Divinity\*

### Master of Theological Studies

### Graduate Theological Studies Diploma

The bachelor's degree, or its equivalent, is required for those students seeking to be admitted to our master's-level degrees and diploma programs. (See "Applicants Without Baccalaureate Degrees" on the following page.)

\* *Because of the biblical convictions of the sponsoring denomination of the Seminary regarding the qualifications of those who serve the church as ordained pastors, the Doctor of Ministry (DMin) Strengthening Pastoral Ministry concentration and the Master of Divinity (MDiv) degrees are restricted to men.*

# APPLICANTS WITHOUT BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

## THREE AND THREE PARTNERSHIP STUDENTS

RPTS has a partnership with Reformation Bible College, whereby a student may take three years of undergraduate credit and three years at RPTS, which allows the student to get both a bachelor's degree and master's degree in six years. Students accepted at RPTS under this partnership are admitted directly into the MDiv program.

## OTHER NON-BACCALAUREATE APPLICANTS

Except for three and three partnership students as noted in the previous section, all other non-baccalaureate applicants or those who achieved less than a cumulative GPA of 2.5 for the Baccalaureate degree will be evaluated on the following basis:

- In addition to official transcripts from colleges and universities attended, copies of educational certificates, certificates of ministry training, and/or continuing education credits must be submitted.
- Submit a resume that documents a) general work experience since high school, including pertinent training courses taken; b) any full-time vocational ministry; c) any part-time or volunteer ministry experience. This should include a full description of work and ministry roles.
- Submit an additional recommendation from a leader in your church, addressing your gifts, calling, and spiritual maturity which evidence your suitability for graduate-level theological study.
- Submit an additional recommendation from a facilitator of prior educational training which addresses your ability to engage in graduate-level study.
- Submit a 2 - 4 page essay addressing the following question: "How has your professional life and educational experience prepared you to be successful at graduate theological study at RPTS?"
- Submit a paper of about 5 pages that has been previously submitted or prepared for an educational, ministry, or professional setting.

Applicants without a Baccalaureate Degree or with a GPA under 2.5 for their most previous academic degree will be admitted into the Graduate Theological Studies Diploma and are required to complete it before requesting from the faculty (through the registrar) permission to migrate into a degree program.

# APPLICATION PROCEDURE

1. Submit a completed application. The Application for Admission is available at the Seminary's website ([www.rpts.edu](http://www.rpts.edu)) or via this link: [s.rpts.edu/apply](http://s.rpts.edu/apply).

- Applications include the online application form and a 2 - 4 page autobiographical statement describing the following:
  - How you came to know Christ and how you are walking with Him today, who has influenced your life and in what ways, and your service in the local church and other ministries.
  - For master's applications: your sense of calling and why you want to attend RPTS.
  - For DMin applications: why you want to pursue a DMin at RPTS and a description of your plan for your doctoral project.
- DMin applications also include a previously-submitted paper from your master's degree work of approximately 10 pages.

2. Submit official academic transcripts for all college coursework, including all post-high school institutions. These need to be sent from the institution directly to RPTS either by postal mail to Admissions, 7418 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15208, or electronically to [apply@rpts.edu](mailto:apply@rpts.edu).

Applicants without a baccalaureate degree or with a GPA under 2.5 for their most previous academic degree will have the additional requirements listed under Applicants without Baccalaureate Degrees

3. Submit references:

- From a pastor or other church officer
- From another acquaintance of the student's choice
- From an faculty advisor or professor (master's level classes only—not required for special students)
- All references should be requested through the links on the applicant's checklist on their account in the RPTS student portal

4. Pay a non-refundable application fee of \$50. This fee will be refunded if your application is completed by the start of classes in the academic quarter prior to the quarter you plan to begin study.

Once the application and its supporting documentation have been received, the Seminary will promptly make a decision regarding admittance, and the Registrar will notify you of the result in writing. The Seminary may decline admission to persons who hold to theological views which would be entirely incompatible with the standards of the Seminary.

A new application, with all of its accompanying materials, will be required if you do not matriculate within five years of being accepted at the Seminary. Incomplete applications will be held for up to six months, after which you will need to start the application process again.

The Seminary encourages prospective students to apply as early as possible. We recommend that you submit all application paperwork two months prior to the first day of the quarter in which you want to start classes. Applications must be finalized (application, all references, transcripts, and application fee submitted) by two weeks prior to classes beginning in your intended quarter. Late applications are subject to a \$50 late application fee.

If you are seeking financial aid, please apply early, as aid is awarded upon acceptance, and funds may be limited for later applicants.

For all application questions contact the Admissions Office at [apply@rpts.edu](mailto:apply@rpts.edu) or 412-731-6000.

*No applicant shall be excluded from study at the Seminary on the basis of nationality, race, ethnicity, or gender, and all students shall be afforded equal dignity and respect as members of the student body.*

## REGISTRATION

The ideal time to begin classes at the Seminary is at the opening of the academic year in September, which is the fall quarter, as the suggested course sequences for all programs of study begin in the fall. However, it is possible to begin taking classes in the winter or spring quarters if necessary. The end of the first week of classes in each quarter is the last day possible to register for credit in any course. Returning students are expected to register during regularly announced registration periods, or they will be assessed the late registration fee.

Each school year, students must subscribe to the following:

- I promise to adhere to the Community Standards as stated in the Academic Catalog.
- I promise to attend chapel when I am on campus during the time of chapel and/or on any day when I have class immediately before or immediately after chapel. I will arrange any exceptions ahead of time with the President or the Dean of Faculty.
- I promise to submit all typed work via the Seminary's Learning Management System according to professor submission requirements, and I give my permission for my work to be used in the RPTS institutional assessment process.
- I understand that RPTS may use still images and/or audio and video of me for marketing or in the process of recording classes for distance education.

## TRANSFER CREDITS

Once accepted, students who have completed graduate level theological studies may request their credits be considered for transfer to RPTS. Students requesting transfer credits must fill out a form substantiating the course description, qualifications of the instructor, and rigor of the course before transfer credit will be considered.

Students who transfer from another seminary must be enrolled at RPTS for a minimum of one full academic year in order to receive the MDiv or MTS degree. This year must be in-person rather than online for MDiv students. Furthermore, transfer credits count against the total number of allowed distance learning credits for the MDiv Degree (see Distance Learning).

Credits transferred from seminaries accredited by a recognized accrediting body may not exceed 90 total credits for the MDiv and 45 total credits for the MTS. Transfer credits from accredited educational institutions must have a grade of C or better.

Credits transferred from non-accredited seminaries or institutions not overseen by the Reformed Presbyterian Church may not exceed 15 credits, are received as electives, and are subject to a \$25 per credit processing fee. Credits transferred from theological halls or institutions overseen by a Reformed Presbyterian Church presbytery or synod may not exceed 45 credits, and are subject to a \$25 per credit processing fee. Transfer credits from all non-accredited educational institutions must have a grade of B or better.

Courses which are accepted by RPTS as transfer credits from other institutions will count as both attempted and earned, but grades received in courses transferred to RPTS from another institution will not count in calculating a student's GPA.

While it is our general policy to give transfer credit according to the above guidelines, we reserve the right to require particular courses or their equivalent for graduation. Transfer credit will normally not be granted for the following courses (although elective credits may be granted) except from schools significantly sharing the biblical and theological perspective of RPTS:

NT520	Interpretation of the Bible	BC510	Introduction to Biblical Counseling
ST501	Introduction to Reformed Theology	BC610	Counseling Observation
ST510	Doctrine of Revelation	BC620	Counseling Role Play
ST720	Doctrine of Civil Government	BC630	Supervised Counseling
PT520	Ministry of Worship	SH510	Introduction to Preaching
PT720	Readiness for Pastoral Ministry	CH620	History of the Reformation

Additionally, no more than four courses may be transferred in any of the following fields: Old Testament, New Testament, Systematic Theology, or Pastoral Ministry. No more than three courses may be transferred in any of the following fields: Church History, Missions, or Homiletics.

## SHARED CREDIT

A student at the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary may earn more than one degree from the Seminary by applying up to 45 credits from one degree toward the requirements for the other degree. Because the MTS degree requires completion of a large subset of the required courses for the MDiv degree, and because the Seminary does not have a large number of elective courses, it may be difficult to earn both degrees. In order to make up for this gap, the student always has the option of pursuing independent studies at the Seminary or of transferring credits from another seminary (online or traditional).

Graduates with an MTS degree who qualify for entrance into the MDiv program may use most of their credits toward an MDiv degree if they are willing to forfeit their MTS degree upon completion of the MDiv requirements. Students may also request permission to migrate from one program to another. In every case, the Registrar will work with students to determine the specifics.

## ADVANCED STANDING

Students who have completed a masters-level theological degree from an accredited theological seminary may request advanced standing toward the MTS or the MDiv. Where the student has completed or surpassed 30 semester credits or 45 quarter credits in their previous degree, the registrar may grant up to 45 quarter credits toward the MTS and up to 90 quarter credits toward the MDiv. Advanced standing credits do not count toward in-person requirements for the MDiv. Although these credits are not transfer credits, the credits will be evaluated by the same standard as transfer credits.

When students have studied the biblical languages prior to matriculating at the Seminary, they may request to be given credit toward the language courses at the Seminary by passing an examination. In such cases, the following provisos apply:

- No more than six courses may be granted for credit by examination.
- No more than 18 credits may be granted for credit by examination.
- No replacement credit need be earned at the Seminary for courses in which credit by examination is granted.
- The professor for each required course determines the method used to permit students to earn credit by examination credits for that course.
- The examination should be taken during the first quarter of studies at the Seminary, on the basis of previous academic work.
- There will be a \$100 fee for each course where credit by examination is attempted.

# DISTANCE LEARNING

RPTS is committed to in-person theological studies. We believe the classroom model provides a superior method of instruction, allowing students to ask questions immediately and to interact with professors and peers during breaks and after class. Additionally, there are many other valuable aspects of our students' educations that occur on and around RPTS's campus. However, we understand that in some cases coming to Pittsburgh to study with us is not possible or ideal. And so, RPTS offers the following distance learning options.

A distance learning (DL) student is a student who conducts the majority of their academic course load through the school's online learning platform.

For the MDiv degree, RPTS allows up to 45 credits (equivalent to one year of full-time studies) to be taken through distance learning. These first 45 credits do not require any special approval or time on campus.

Special permission must be requested for a second 45 credits to be taken through distance learning. This request may be granted if the following criteria are met:

- The student has achieved a GPA of 3.25 or higher.
- The session and/or the overseeing body of the student grants approval.
- The student has demonstrated a respectful attitude towards staff and faculty, and has been punctual in submitting work.
- The student commits to a minimum of two weeks of on-campus studies (typically through summer intensive classes, or a week or two during a term(s)).
- The student has an administration-approved pastor-mentor who attends with the student two days of training at RPTS to encourage fuller engagement with the seminary community and to be further instructed in mentoring.

The RPCNA Directory for Church Government states regarding the theological student that "under ordinary circumstances he shall be expected to attend at least one full year in a Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary" (D-15). In light of this statement, the RPTS Board has directed that these possible 90 DL credits are to be the upper limit for MDiv students and has communicated to presbyteries to counsel its students toward this end.

In extraordinary circumstances, the RPTS Board has decided that an exception may be requested. A student's request to waive this upper limit of DL credits may be granted only if the following conditions are met:

- The student must receive approval from his session and presbytery (or their equivalent) to do a third year of distance learning. Such approval must be submitted as a written statement explaining the extenuating circumstances that make a year of study onsite at RPTS overly burdensome.
- The student has worked with an approved mentor and completed his first 90 credits of DL training with a 3.5 GPA or higher.
- The student is of mature age, with significant years of ministry experience.
- The student commits to spending at least five weeks in total during the course of the MDiv program on the RPTS campus taking one-week intensive courses...

...and/or attending his DL classes in person.

- A formal request completed by the student and his pastoral mentor is approved by the administration.

With the exception of one one-week intensive courses, the MTS degree in the Biblical Studies and Doctrinal and Historical Studies concentrations may be fully earned through distance learning courses. The Biblical Counseling concentration of the MTS requires that the counseling practicum courses be completed in person.

The Graduate Theological Studies Diploma may be fully earned through distance learning courses.

Distance learning credits transferred to RPTS from other institutions will be evaluated by the Registrar on a case-by-case basis. The Seminary will not normally accept distance learning courses offered by non-accredited institutions. All transfer credits from another institution count against the total number of allowed distance credits for the MDiv Degree.

RPTS strongly encourages any students taking courses through distance learning to do so under the oversight of the leadership of their local congregation. All students who take distance learning courses for credit or audit must apply and be accepted to RPTS prior to beginning. Distance learning courses are subject to a non-refundable content delivery fee and are generally only offered concurrently with the corresponding on-campus courses.

Visit the student portal to see the quarterly schedules, which list the distance learning options for each quarter.

## *DL Technical Requirements*

- Internet-enabled device (PC, MAC, iPad, tablet, etc.).
- High speed internet access. All course materials are delivered through the Seminary's Learning Management System (LMS). No materials will be mailed, emailed, or otherwise distributed. Lectures are delivered as online video files. You must have, and maintain, an internet connection that is adequate to stream video.
- Access to YouTube and Vimeo, as all of our lectures are delivered through private links embedded into the LMS. You will not be able to view lectures if you cannot access YouTube or Vimeo. If you can watch a video on YouTube or Vimeo with your device, you can watch RPTS lectures.

## *Student Responsibilities*

- Students must have the ability to navigate and use online resources such as email, our student portal, and LMS, along with the ability to manage passwords and order books online.
- Students must complete the RPTS new-student online orientation process. Students must complete all coursework on time, as it is easy to get behind in a distance learning course. You must be self-motivated and stay on top of your workload.
- Distance learning students must abide by all policies as found in the RPTS *Academic Catalog* and the *Student Handbook*.

# INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Qualified applicants from other countries are welcome to become part of the student body as the Seminary is authorized under federal law to enroll non-immigrant students who desire to serve the Church worldwide. To ensure success in graduate level studies and ministry preparation, applicants must meet the following requirements:

1. Oversight Approval: The ecclesiastical body that oversees the applicant must submit a letter indicating you have permission to pursue studies at RPTS.
2. English Proficiency: Applicants must demonstrate their proficiency in English by submitting a satisfactory score on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) exam. Students must score a minimum of 85 to be considered for acceptance into RPTS.
3. Complete a face-to-face interview with the Admissions department via video calling.

If admitted, international students who have not completed a Bachelors or higher degree in an English-speaking program must also take and pass CH500 Theological English online before advancing on to any other courses.

## Student Visa for International Students

In order to receive a student visa (F-1) for study at the Seminary, each student must be issued an I-20 form by those authorized to do so at RPTS. All necessary information must be submitted from the student to the Seminary. By U.S. immigration law, an international student seeking an F-1 visa must provide documents proving sufficient funds to study for at least one year at the Seminary in order for us to issue an I-20.

Once the student has received the I-20 form(s), he or she should contact the nearest Consulate of the U.S.A. to schedule a visa interview with a consular official. Scheduling can take anywhere from a few weeks to a several months. This visa interview may not be scheduled earlier than 4 months prior to the beginning of classes.

Approval by the government of the U.S.A. is not automatic, so do not purchase plane tickets before receiving the F-1 visa. International students may not enter the U.S. earlier than 1 month prior to the beginning of classes.

Any student in the U.S. on an F-1 visa must have their I-20 form updated and signed each term and approved for any travel outside of the U.S.

International students studying in the U.S.A. on an F-1 student visa who wish to enroll in online courses must be aware that the U.S.A. Patriot Act places certain restrictions on the use of distance education courses to complete degree requirements.

Federal regulation 8 C.F.R. § 214.2(f)(6)(i)(G) states:

“For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken online or through distance education and does not require the student’s physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An online or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student’s course of study is in a language study program, no online or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student’s full course of study requirement.”



## SPECIAL STUDENTS

An individual may be admitted as a special student (e.g., not enrolled in a specific program, but taking courses for credit) for a variety of reasons, such as a student taking one or a few courses for transfer to another institution; a student taking one or a few courses in a particular area of interest who desires to take courses for credit; or, a student who is uncertain which program to pursue at the Seminary.

An individual applying for admission as a special student must possess a baccalaureate degree, complete the regular admissions process, and be admitted as a special student. Special students pay the regular tuition rate and any applicable fees, and credit is earned for courses taken. Special students may not earn more than 24 total credits, including a maximum of 24 distance learning credits. Special students may petition migration into a diploma or degree program by sending a letter (addressed to the Faculty) to the Registrar, requesting migration to the student's chosen program.

## AUDITORS

A student may register as an auditor under the following circumstances:

- The auditor submits an application and is accepted to RPTS.
- The auditor pays applicable auditing fees.
- The instructor permits auditors in the class.
- Adequate classroom facilities are available.

There is no application fee for auditors. Spouses of students and credit students taking credit classes may audit courses in-person free of charge, although they must register for all classes they wish to audit. For online courses, spouse auditors and credit students taking credit classes will pay the applicable per credit hour fee (see tuition and fees page). Courses being audited are not eligible for scholarships. Some prerequisites may apply depending on the judgment of the professor.

As a service to the church, qualified applicants who desire educational enrichment without pursuing a DMin degree may audit DMin courses at half the regular tuition cost. Such individuals must still apply and be accepted into the program as auditors.

## TRANSCRIPTS

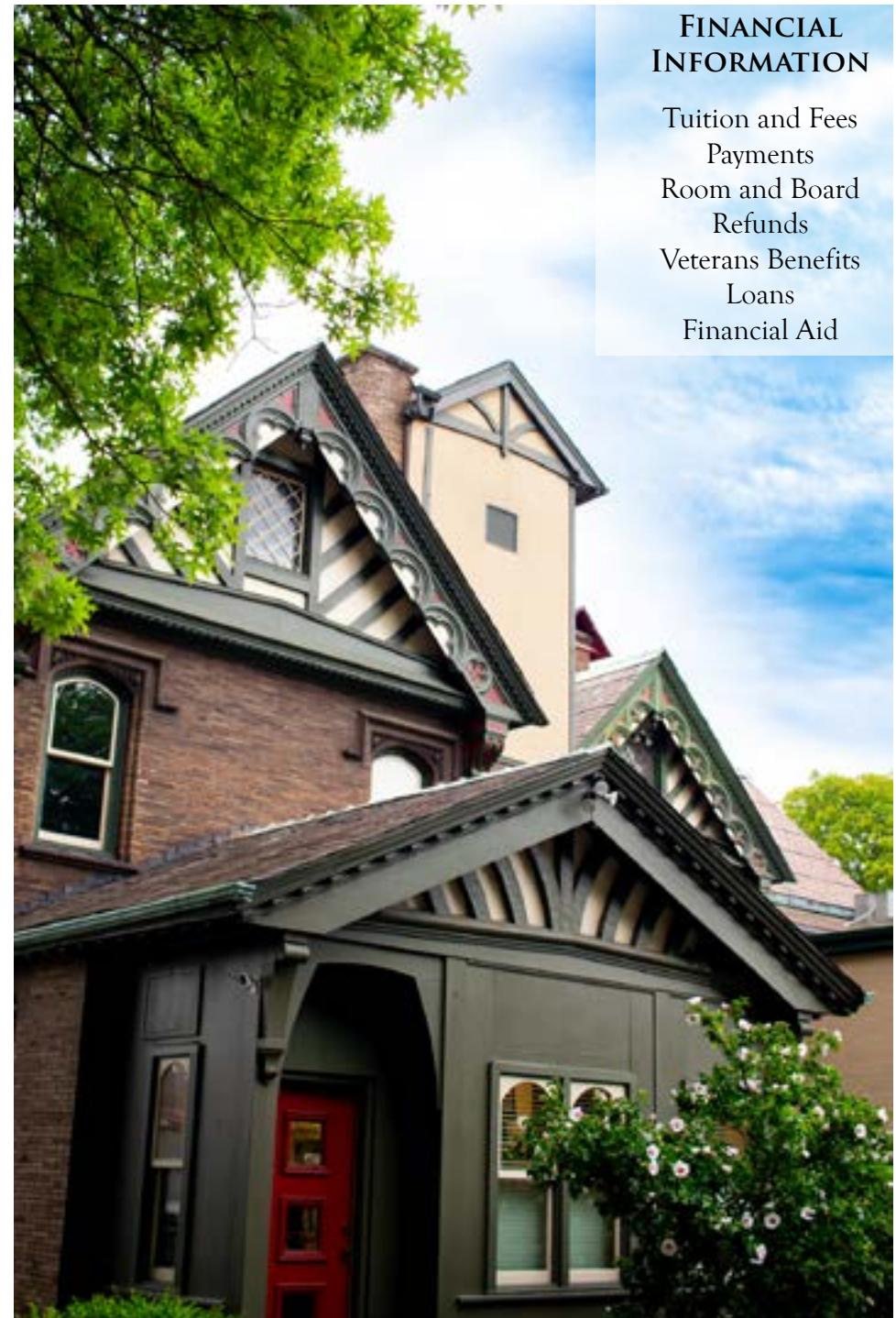
RPTS has authorized the National Student Clearinghouse to process secure online orders for official transcripts using any major credit card. The cost is \$7 each, plus a processing fee.

The Clearinghouse website, accessible from the student portal or the Seminary website, includes instructions on placing your order, including delivery options and fees. Although you can order as many transcripts as you like in a single session, a processing fee will be charged per recipient. Your card will only be charged after your order has been completed. Email updates and online order tracking are available.

Please note that all outstanding balances due to RPTS must be paid and any administrative holds resolved before transcripts will be released.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

- Tuition and Fees
- Payments
- Room and Board
- Refunds
- Veterans Benefits
- Loans
- Financial Aid



Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary

# TUITION AND FEES

RPTS is committed to helping its students graduate debt-free. Since 2018, President York has led the RPTS Board and Administration in a “Tuition Freeze” approach, meaning RPTS has not raised its tuition over the past six academic years. Additionally, through a growing number of scholarships, partnerships with congregations and denominations, and initiatives such as the RPTS Match 100! Program, students are finding ways to receive their education and then graduate into ministry without the burden of debt. We encourage ALL incoming students to apply for financial aid and be guided through the process of seeing substantial support raised for your education.

MASTER'S LEVEL FEES		
Tuition per credit hour	\$	374.00*
Tuition per quarter (15 credits)	\$	5,610.00*
Tuition per year (15 credits per quarter)	\$	16,830.00*
Content Delivery Fee per credit (DL* only)	\$	60.00
Independent Study Fee per credit	\$	75.00
Audit Fee per 3-credit course		
In class (spouse auditor or credit student—no charge)	\$	150.00
Online	\$	180.00
Online class in a quarter the class is not offered	\$	405.00
Credit by Examination Fee per course	\$	100.00
Graduation Fee (payable by seniors in the spring quarter of the year they plan to graduate)	\$	200.00
OTHER FEES		
Late Registration Fee		
- per quarter, when classes are added before the Add/Drop deadline (not applicable for first-time registrants)	\$	50.00
- per class, when classes are added during Week 2 of the quarter	\$	50.00
Late Payment Fee (per charge)	%	3
Leave of Absence Fee (per quarter)	\$	200.00
Application Fee (payable once, at time of application)	\$	50.00
Late Application Fee	\$	100.00
Non-Refundable Tuition Deposit	\$	100.00
Re-enrollment Fee	\$	200.00
Room & Board (dorm students only; fee is per quarter)*	\$	2,200.00
Digital Resources Fee (credit students per qtr)	\$	200.00
Supervised Counseling for ACBC	\$	750.00

\*Distance Learning

DMin Fees		
Tuition per Course (due on March 1)	\$	1,290.00
Project Fee (equal to twice the cost of the per course tuition at the time students are registered for their projects. Due on March 1.)		
Directed Research Fee	\$	250.00
DMin Graduation Fee	\$	250.00

\*For 2023-2024, students received, on average, a 34% tuition reduction after initial financial aid, work-study, and other relief was granted. This means that our truer rates of tuition are as follows. These rates do not include our additional tuition relief programs such as RPTS Match 100! that encourage debt-free graduation. For more information about these programs, please see pages 39-41.

Average tuition per credit hour: \$247.53

Average tuition per quarter (15 hours): \$3712.95

Average tuition per year (15 hours per quarter): \$11,138.85



## PAYMENTS

The Seminary reserves the right to change the cost of tuition and fees at any time. Tuition and fees are payable by the second Friday of each quarter by cash, check, credit (subject to processing fee), or by an established payment plan.

Anyone desiring to pay their fees on a three-month payment plan must arrange a payment plan with the Administrative Coordinator no later than the end of the first week of classes. The payment plan will be as follows:

- One-third of tuition and fees are due by the Friday of week 2 each quarter;
- One-third of tuition and fees are due on the 1st of the month following the start of the quarter;
- One-third of tuition and fees are due on the 1st of the second month following the start of the quarter.

Accounts not paid in full 10 days after due date will be assessed a 3% late payment fee. Please note that all payments submitted by international students must be by check or credit card and made payable in U.S. dollars. If a credit or debit payment is returned, a \$5 fee will be added to the student's account.

## ROOM AND BOARD

A limited number of furnished rooms for single men are provided in Rutherford Hall.

Rutherford Hall dorm students are charged a fee of \$2,200 per quarter for room and partial board. They are expected to work 66 hours each quarter (including finals week) on assigned tasks in exchange for a work study scholarship which reduces the \$2,200 to \$1,200. Any incomplete work study hours are charged back to the student. An additional per day charge is incurred for arrivals prior to September 1 and departures after May 31 each year.

A few apartments are available on campus for married students. There are also other accommodations readily available in the community, since the Seminary is located near three major universities in a large metropolitan area. The rental rates vary and must be assumed by the student, but reasonable rates can generally be found.

The Seminary provides a lunch daily Tuesday through Friday during the academic year. Those not living in the dorms may arrange to eat these meals by purchasing a meal plan at the beginning of each quarter. A limited number of meals are available each day for those students not on a meal plan. These meals must be purchased at the reception desk.

## REFUNDS

No refunds on fees are given, and no tuition refunds will be made after the end of the fourth week. Tuition refunds and financial aid awards will be prorated on the following scale:

- 100% to the end of the first week
- 80% to the end of the second week
- 60% to the end of the third week
- 40% to the end of the fourth week

The DMin program has the following refund schedule for withdrawals:

- Coursework:
  - 100% to the end of March
  - 80% to the end of April
  - 70% to the end of May
  - 60% to the end of June
- DMin Project: 100% by June 1 (in the year the student is registered for DM490); 50% until December 1 (in the year the student is registered for DM490); 0% thereafter. Please note that no refund is given for withdrawing from DM490 once a project has been submitted to the Seminary.

## FINANCIAL AID

Having frozen tuition since he became president in 2018, President York is dedicated to seeing every RPTS student graduate debt-free.

A student has the majority responsibility for educational and living expenses, and aid awarded by RPTS is intended to augment the student's efforts. If you are seeking financial assistance through scholarships or veterans benefits, you need to have been accepted into a program of study. Due to the comparatively low cost of our DMin program, DMin students are not eligible for scholarship funds. Other students should complete and submit their online financial aid application as early as possible after acceptance in order to maximize scholarship eligibility.

Except in circumstances of a late acceptance to the Seminary, all financial aid applications must be submitted prior to the first day of class, or earlier if indicated by a specific scholarship application, in order to receive scholarship funds for that quarter. Applications received after the first day of class will be considered for the next period of enrollment. Students must submit a new financial aid application each year.

All aid is intended to be personal, pastoral, and confidential. The amount of aid offered is based upon the scholarship for which the student is applying, a student's financial need, limitations within the scholarships themselves, and other factors at the discretion of the Seminary. By accepting aid, all students agree to comply with any requirements for their scholarships, which are outlined on the individual applications.

## Institutional Scholarships

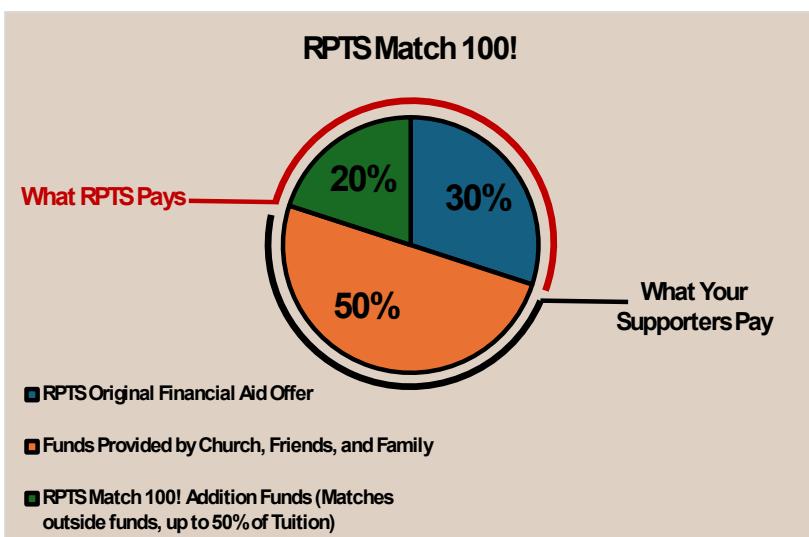
Scholarships are only available for master's level courses and apply to tuition charges for credit courses only (not to any additional fees or the charges for auditing courses). Scholarships will not apply to courses that are being retaken (such as to replace a failed course, a "W" grade, or a low grade).

Scholarships are applied and disbursed to a student's account on the second Monday of each quarter, which is after the end of the add/drop period. RPTS does not require or review FAFSA forms to award institutional scholarship funds. **A full list of scholarships can be found at the end of the catalog.**

## RPTS Match 100! Scholarship

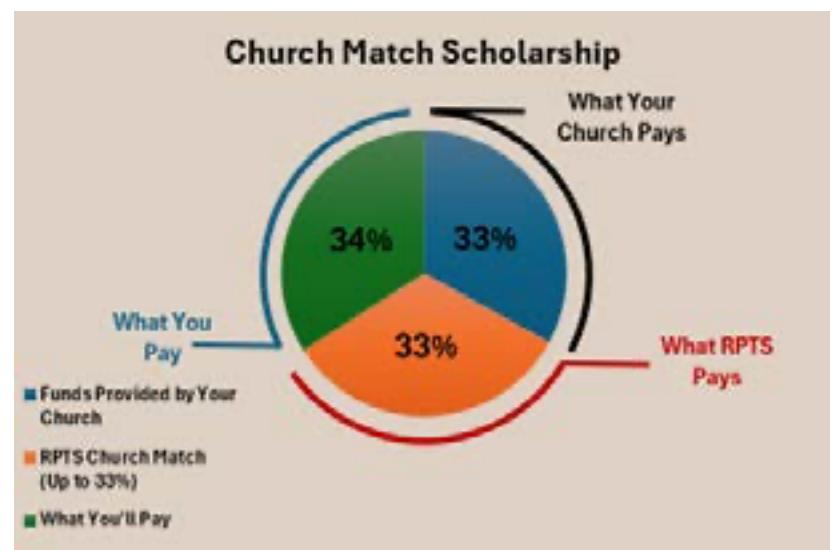
In our Match 100! Scholarship Program, RPTS will match contributions on a student's behalf up to one-half of the total tuition cost. This generous provision, made possible by donors to the seminary, gives you the opportunity to have your tuition fully covered! Please select the Match 100! option in the Financial Aid Application if you, your church, and your ministry partners would like to participate in this program. This selection will ensure that the relevant information is forwarded to your church and to you to send information to your ministry partners. Our financial aid team is dedicated to coaching you and helping you find those partners so you can graduate debt-free!

Below is an example of the financial aid you could receive through this program.



## Church Match Scholarship

One popular award available for students enrolled in master's level courses is the Church Match Scholarship, in which RPTS will match church contributions on a student's behalf up to one-third of the total tuition cost. Please select the Church Match option in the Financial Aid Application if you and your church would like to participate in this program. This will forward the relevant information to your church so they can participate.



## "Sponsor Our Student" (SOS) Tuition Program

Though not a scholarship, RPTS does have the SOS program, where friends and family can contribute toward your tuition. Although RPTS raises funds to keep your tuition as low as possible, this is an opportunity for you to help toward your educational costs. If you have questions about this program, please contact [aid@rpts.edu](mailto:aid@rpts.edu).

# VETERANS BENEFITS

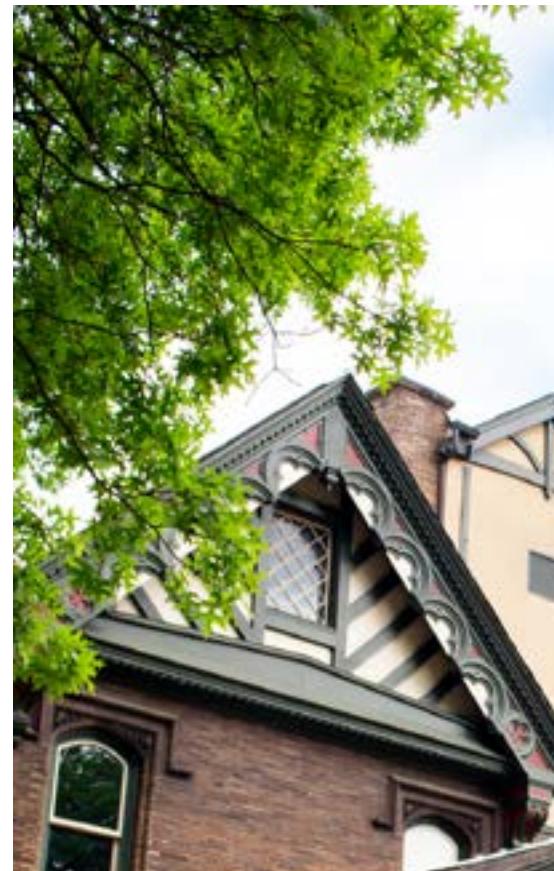
The Pennsylvania State Approving Agency determined that the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary no longer meets all of the criteria for approval for Veterans Education under the provisions of "Title 38, United States Code, Section 3675," thus we were no longer able to offer VA Benefit acceptance after December 2022.

However, in some cases students may qualify for our "G.I. Bill Substitute Program" which will match the VA benefits thanks to our generous donors. Contact the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to determine your VA benefits eligibility and then speak with the RPTS Financial Aid Office to see if you qualify.

## LOANS

RPTS does not participate in the Title IV federal loan program. If you have incurred debt from student loans during your undergraduate work or previous graduate studies, you should contact your loan servicer regarding deferral options.

For all financial aid questions or to receive the appropriate application forms, contact the Financial Aid Office at [aid@rpts.edu](mailto:aid@rpts.edu) or 412-731-6000



## ACADEMIC INFORMATION

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# ACCREDITATION

The Seminary offers the Doctor of Ministry, the Master of Divinity, and the Master of Theological Studies degrees, which are approved by the Department of Education of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary is accredited by the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) and is approved to offer the following degrees: the Doctor of Ministry, the Master of Divinity, and the Master of Theological Studies degrees, along with comprehensive distance education. The Commission contact information is:

The Commission of Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada  
10 Summit Park Drive  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15275 (USA)  
Telephone: 412-788-6505; Fax: 412-788-6510  
[www.ats.edu](http://www.ats.edu)

# DEGREES

## Doctor of Ministry Degree (DMin)

### Strengthening Ministry in the Kingdom of God

The Doctor of Ministry program is a professional degree designed to strengthen ministry in the Kingdom of God by providing advanced training for pastors and others who minister to God's people. It is a program of study and research intended for ministry renewal, reinvigoration in biblical and theological studies, integration of theological convictions with societal issues, and enhancement of the skills needed for effective biblical ministry. It integrates advanced academic research in the various fields of theological study with the practice of ministry.

The DMin program has a choice of two concentrations:

*Strengthening Pastoral Ministry\** - designed for ordained pastors who perform the full range of pastoral duties. This concentration focuses on advanced study in matters related to the doctrine, worship, and overall life and ministry of the Church.

*Strengthening Counseling Ministry* - designed for pastors and others in the Church whose ministry has a significant focus on counseling. This concentration focuses on the skills necessary to understand and apply the Word of the Lord to the needs of people, with advanced study in biblical counseling rooted in a thorough knowledge of Scripture.

Ordinarily, the Doctor of Ministry Degree should be completed within six years, beginning with the first on-campus course taken.

## Master of Divinity Degree (MDiv)\*

The Seminary offers the MDiv degree, a full and balanced preparation for the pastoral ministry. Satisfying the degree requires the successful completion of 135 credits in our quarter system, which has traditionally been accomplished in three years. Many students choose to stretch out their studies over four or five years, or even longer. Ordinarily, the MDiv degree should be completed within ten years. The following requirements apply to all MDiv degree candidates of the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary for graduation:

1. The completion of a minimum of 135 credits, extending over at least nine quarters.
2. The completion of 113 credits in required courses and 22 credits in elective courses, no later than the spring quarter of your final year.
3. A cumulative GPA of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale).
4. At least 45 credits of study at the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary.
5. Enrollment at the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary at the time of completion of the course of study.

## Master of Divinity Degree (MDiv) with Biblical Counseling Emphasis

In addition to the traditional MDiv degree, the Seminary offers the same degree with a special emphasis upon biblical counseling. The core requirements for the MDiv program remain the same (as stated above), except that nine of the 22 elective credits are subsumed in required biblical counseling courses. It is advisable for students to declare this concentration in their first quarter at the Seminary, as it leaves room for only a few electives. If desired, students have the opportunity to pursue certification in biblical counseling through the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors (ACBC).

*\* Because of the biblical convictions of the sponsoring denomination of the Seminary regarding the qualifications of those who serve the church as ordained pastors, the Doctor of Ministry (DMin) Strengthening Pastoral Ministry concentration, the Master of Divinity (MDiv), and the Master of Theological Studies Pastoral Ministry concentration degrees are restricted to men.*

## Master of Theological Studies Degree (MTS)

The MTS degree is planned for those men and women who desire personal and/or vocational enrichment and training through theological education leading to a graduate degree. Satisfying the degree requires the successful completion of 90 credits in our quarter system, which has traditionally been accomplished in two years. Many students choose to stretch out their studies over three years or even longer. Ordinarily the MTS degree should be completed within ten years. The following requirements for graduation apply to all MTS degree candidates of the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary:

1. A minimum of 90 credits, extending over at least six quarters, must be completed no later than the spring quarter of your final year.
2. A minimum of 63 credits in required courses and nine credits in elective courses must be completed.
3. At least 18 credits of study in the area of concentration beyond core courses must be completed. (NOTE: Students must declare their intended concentration upon matriculation.)
4. A cumulative GPA of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale)
5. At least 45 credits taken at the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary
6. Enrollment at the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary at the time of completion of the course of study.



## Graduate Theological Studies Diploma

The Graduate Theological Studies Diploma is intended for those who desire graduate-level courses for credit but do not desire a full degree program. These classes may be applied toward one of our master's degrees in the future if you would like to continue your education.

This program is especially designed for part-time students but can be completed in just one year of full-time study. Ordinarily, the GTSD should be completed within six years. It is designed to prepare teachers and further equip ministers for more effective service in their local church. The Seminary offers this diploma to men and women who wish to deepen their understanding of the faith and enhance their usefulness to the church.

The requirements for this 45 quarter hour program focus on Biblical Studies, Systematic Theology, and various aspects of practical theology. If you do not have a college degree but give evidence of an ability to do graduate-level academic work, or if your college degree GPA is under 2.5 you will be admitted into the program.

Upon completion of the GTSD (anyone who starts the GTSD must complete it before transferring) with a GPA better than 2.5, a student is permitted to request a transfer into any degree program for which they qualify.

## STANDARDS OF EVALUATION

A quarter hour is ordinarily based on class work of 50 minutes per week for a total of 10 weeks in the quarter, plus one week for final examinations.

A grade point is the measure of quality assigned to or withheld from the unit of credit. The grading system used at the Seminary is as follows:

Letter Grade	Means	Numeric Grade	Quality Points
A+		99-100	4.0
A	Excellent	93-98	4.0
A -		90-92	3.7
B+		88-89	3.3
B	Good	83-87	3.0
B -		80-82	2.7
C+		78-79	2.3
C	Fair	73-77	2.0
C -		70-72	1.7
D+		68-69	1.3
D	Unsatisfactory	63-67	1.0
D -		60-62	0.7
F	Failing	Below 59	0.0
I	Incomplete	Part of required work for the quarter has not been completed. The grade for a course in which an "I" is given may be reduced up to one grade point. An "I" not removed within three weeks following the quarter will be recorded as "F."	
P or F	Pass/Fail	Given for internships in the Department of Pastoral Theology and for the Doctor of Ministry degree project.	
W	Withdrawal	Given when students withdraw from a course after the add/drop period and have their "F" grade commuted to "W" by Registrar approval. A "W" grade has no impact on a student's GPA.	
P/E	Passed by Exam	Given for "credit by examination" courses.	

## ACADEMIC LOAD

The academic year is divided into three quarters of 11 weeks each. A full-time load is 9 or more credits. Students who desire to complete the MDiv in 3 years or the MTS in 2 years will need to average 15 credits per quarter.

Students may not take more than 17 credits of credit without special permission of the Faculty. Students who find it necessary to earn part or all of their expenses are encouraged to reduce their program of studies accordingly.

## COURSE SCHEDULES

Seminary courses are ordinarily scheduled Tuesday through Friday. Courses are held on one morning or afternoon each week, so that students traveling from a distance may reduce their travel time and expense. It is strongly recommended that full-time students take courses in the normal sequence in order to avoid scheduling conflicts later.

## EVENING COURSES

The Seminary offers some courses in the evening. The evening program consists primarily of a 4-year rotation of required first year classes with one or two evening classes offered each quarter. This allows students living in the greater Pittsburgh area who are in a season of life where taking day time classes is more difficult to complete a large portion of their first year entirely through evening classes.

## SUMMER COURSES

Each summer, the Seminary offers a few one-week intensive courses. Students are also encouraged to pursue internships and independent studies during the summer quarter. All summer coursework is to be completed in the summers prior to commencement. Please contact the Seminary for further information.

# CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENTS

A Senior is a Masters degree student who has **45 or fewer credits remaining toward his or her degree**. A Junior is a Masters degree student who has earned **fewer than 45 credits toward his or her degree**. (A Senior has completed 91 or more credits while a Junior has completed 45 or less credits.) A Middler is an MDiv student whose achievement level falls between the other two classifications.

Non-Masters degree students are classified as Non-Degree Seeking (Auditor), Special (Seeking masters credits but not a degree from RPTS), GTSD, or DMin.

## ACADEMIC PROGRESS POLICY

**A student will be placed on academic probation for any of the following:**

- Cumulative GPA falls below 2.5
- Quarter GPA is below 1.5 for any quarter
- Quarter GPA is below 2.0 for two consecutive quarters

**Students on academic probation face the following restrictions:**

- When first placed on probation, they must complete an "Academic Probation Student Agreement" form that acknowledges the need for improvement and describes what the student intends to do to improve.
- May not take more than 12 credits per quarter.
- Must earn a 2.5 or better GPA each term or face academic suspension.
- Remains on continuing probation until cumulative GPA is 2.5 or better.

**Suspension:**

- A student's first academic suspension will be for one quarter.
- The second suspension will be for two quarters.
- A third occasion that would otherwise qualify a student for suspension will result in dismissal from RPTS and will make the student ineligible for readmission.

**After suspension, a student must take the following actions to be considered for re-enrollment:**

- Appeal to the Registrar to re-enroll.
- Complete an "Appeal for Re-enrollment after Academic Suspension" form that acknowledges the need for improvement and describes what the student intends to do in order to improve.
- Re-enrollment is subject to the approval of the Registrar and Academic Dean. Upon re-enrollment, the student enters on Academic Probation status.

Special Students are not subject to the academic progress program - but their GPA does carry into any diploma or degree program.

# ACADEMIC HONORS

Any current student taking at least six credits in an academic quarter whose grade point average for the quarter is 3.5 or higher will be granted Dean's List honor for that quarter.

## ADDING OR DROPPING COURSES

If you wish to add or drop a course during the add/drop period which ends on the first Friday of each quarter, you may do so through course registration on the student portal. You must also advise the professor of your intent to drop his course. There is no academic penalty for additions or withdrawals during this one-week period, although fees may apply. After this date, no further courses may be added to your schedule.

Withdrawal from a course after the add/drop period will ordinarily result in an "F" for that course. When there are extenuating circumstances (e.g. an incapacitating illness or serious injury, the death of an immediate family member, etc.), students may request to withdraw and receive a "W" instead of an "F." In these cases, students must complete the following steps:

1. Meet with their Faculty Advisor
2. Submit a written request to the registrar via the "Request to Withdraw from Class(es)" form, found on Blackbaud

## INDEPENDENT STUDY

An independent study may be arranged to pursue areas of particular interest under the guidance of the professor in the appropriate academic discipline after students have completed at least 12 credits over at least two quarters of study.

Students who need to take a required course but cannot do so when offered in the regular class schedule can request permission to take the course as an independent study using distance learning materials and resources. In these instances, the requirements will be similar to those used when the course is given as a regular class.

An additional non-refundable charge per credit hour of \$75 is applied for all independent studies because of the extra work placed upon the instructor. Any independent study utilizing distance learning materials and resources is subject to the non-refundable distance learning content delivery fee of \$60 per credit hour and counts toward the 45 credit online course limit for MDiv students. Student financial aid is not available to meet these fees.

Independent study courses must be completed by the deadline for work due in the

given quarter in which it is taken. Internships are not considered to be independent study. Students cannot register for independent study courses online; please use the Independent Study Request form on the student portal.



## INTERNSHIPS

All MDiv students are required to have at least one internship under the supervision of a local pastor or ministry director. These internships are usually done during the summer months, although provisions may be made for an internship during the academic year when considered necessary or desirable. This will include fieldwork under the supervision of a pastor and session and will include at least 10 weeks of training at a minimum of 10 hours per week, emphasizing walking alongside of and serving with the pastor and elders as they minister. This experience will include such ministry opportunities as preaching, teaching, shepherding, assisting in worship services, defending the faith, evangelism, and administrative responsibilities. For internships that span multiple academic quarters, the student will receive credit for his internship in the quarter in which the internship ends. A student will be enrolled and billed for the internship in the quarter that they will be evaluated by the President.

## INCOMPLETE COURSEWORK

A student is expected to complete coursework within each term for all classes taken in that quarter, except internships. In exceptional circumstances, a student may request an extension of time to complete the work for a course by filling out a Request for an Incomplete Grade form. Incompletes are not to be taken in the spring quarter of a student's final year.

This form, which is available on the student portal, must be submitted by the student and approved by the professor before the Friday of finals week in a quarter.

Extensions will only be granted for exceptional circumstances such as:

- an incapacitating illness or serious injury,
- extended hospitalization,
- the death of an immediate family member (parent, sibling, spouse, child),
- unusual circumstances surrounding the birth of a child,
- or a documented crisis situation

which would prevent the student from completing the course by the end of the quarter.

Only students with a completed request form will be granted an "I" for a course. All others will be given an "F", and the course will then need to be retaken and all fees paid again. The student must complete all coursework no later than three weeks after the end of the quarter. Failure to meet the deadline for finishing incomplete coursework will result in a grade based on the work that had been completed by the deadline. The grade for a course in which an "I" is given may be reduced up to one grade point.

# LATE WORK POLICY

Since RPTS is graduate level work, all assignments are expected to be turned in on time. Because of this expectation, each course at the Seminary has a late policy which is determined by the professor. The policy is located on each course syllabus.

# CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM

As an institution dedicated to the preparation of men and women for Christian service, the Seminary expects its students to practice honesty in their academic work. Each faculty member has responsibility for maintaining this standard and will make the initial decision regarding penalties for its violation. If dishonesty is suspected, the student should be dealt with in a pastoral way with the aim of bringing about repentance and correction.

One form of dishonesty is cheating on examinations by unauthorized use of notes, prior access to the exam, or copying the work of others. If an instance of cheating is substantiated, it will ordinarily result in a failing grade both for the exam and for the course.

Another violation of the standard of honesty is plagiarism. Plagiarism is defined as “using the wording, ideas, or outline of another person without acknowledging the source.” Plagiarism is distinguished from excessive dependence. In the latter, the student fails to process information through his or her own critical and constructive thinking and follows too closely the wording, ideas, or outline of another person while giving adequate reference to sources. Excessive dependence reduces the quality of work done but is not ordinarily regarded as dishonest.

Plagiarism is a form of intellectual theft which involves claiming the work of another as one’s own. Many free plagiarism checking websites are available for student use. If an instance of plagiarism is substantiated, it will ordinarily result in a failing grade for the paper and for the course.

If the offense of cheating or plagiarism is repeated, the matter should be reported to the faculty as a whole for a decision about consequences. A student who is clearly shown to have cheated on exams or committed plagiarism more than once will be dismissed from the Seminary.

The use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) is not permitted in the preparation for academic work at RPTS. This includes, but is not limited to, using AI to write, rewrite, summarize, outline, or generate citations or ideas for any assignment, paper, or project.

Generative AI produces content that originates outside the student’s thinking and thus falls under the same ethical concerns as plagiarism or excessive dependence (see RPTS Style Guide 1.8). Submitting work generated in whole or in part by AI misrepresents the student’s academic effort and violates the Seminary’s commitment to intellectual honesty and the development of critical thinking and original thought.

Students are expected to engage in all academic tasks with integrity, only submitting work that reflects their critical thinking, original thought, and academic effort. All work submitted to Moodle is checked for the use of AI by detection software. If deliberate AI use is substantiated, it will result in a failing grade for the paper and for the course. If the offense of using generative AI is repeated, the matter should be reported to the faculty as a whole for a decision about consequences. A student who is clearly shown to have used generative AI for assignments more than once will be dismissed from the Seminary.

For more information, please read the RPTS AI Policy found in the [Student Handbook](#).

# LEAVE OF ABSENCE

In order to continue in active status, students enrolled in masters-level courses must register for at least one course each quarter (except summer) until they graduate. Students enrolled in DMin classes must register for at least one course each summer until they have completed their course requirements.

If students are unable to take courses during a given required session, they must consult with their faculty advisor and petition the Registrar for a leave of absence (LoA). A leave of absence is approved for only one quarter at a time, renewable for up to six consecutive academic quarters (not including summer) for masters-level courses and for one summer quarter for DMin courses.

If a student does not register, does not request a leave of absence, and does not withdraw from the Seminary, he or she will be administratively withdrawn from the Seminary after the add-drop period. Occasionally, a student will be placed on an administrative leave of absence (aLoA) before being withdrawn.

RPTS may, at its discretion, grant LoA status for professional or personal reasons. LoA and aLoA status include a leave of absence fee. A student on a LoA or an aLoA who is ready to return to classes (prior to the renewable period expiry) should notify the Registrar in order to register for classes.

# DISMISSAL AND REINSTATEMENT

Studying at the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary is a privilege. A student may be dismissed from the Seminary for low grades, normally after a period of academic probation, or for disruptive behavior or public sin of a serious nature.

Ordinarily, a student will not be eligible for reinstatement, and the Seminary is not obligated to grant a reinstatement. However, following a dismissal, a student may request reinstatement by written communication to the Registrar. This communication will outline what has changed in the student's circumstances which would give evidence that such a reinstatement should be considered. The Seminary will respond in writing to advise the student if the request for reinstatement will be granted and outlining any specific requirements involved, such as an academic plan, etc.

## WITHDRAWAL FROM RPTS

Students who do not intend to continue their coursework at RPTS should request to be withdrawn. After the renewable period for a LoA or an aLoA expires, if a student has not registered, they will be administratively withdrawn from RPTS.

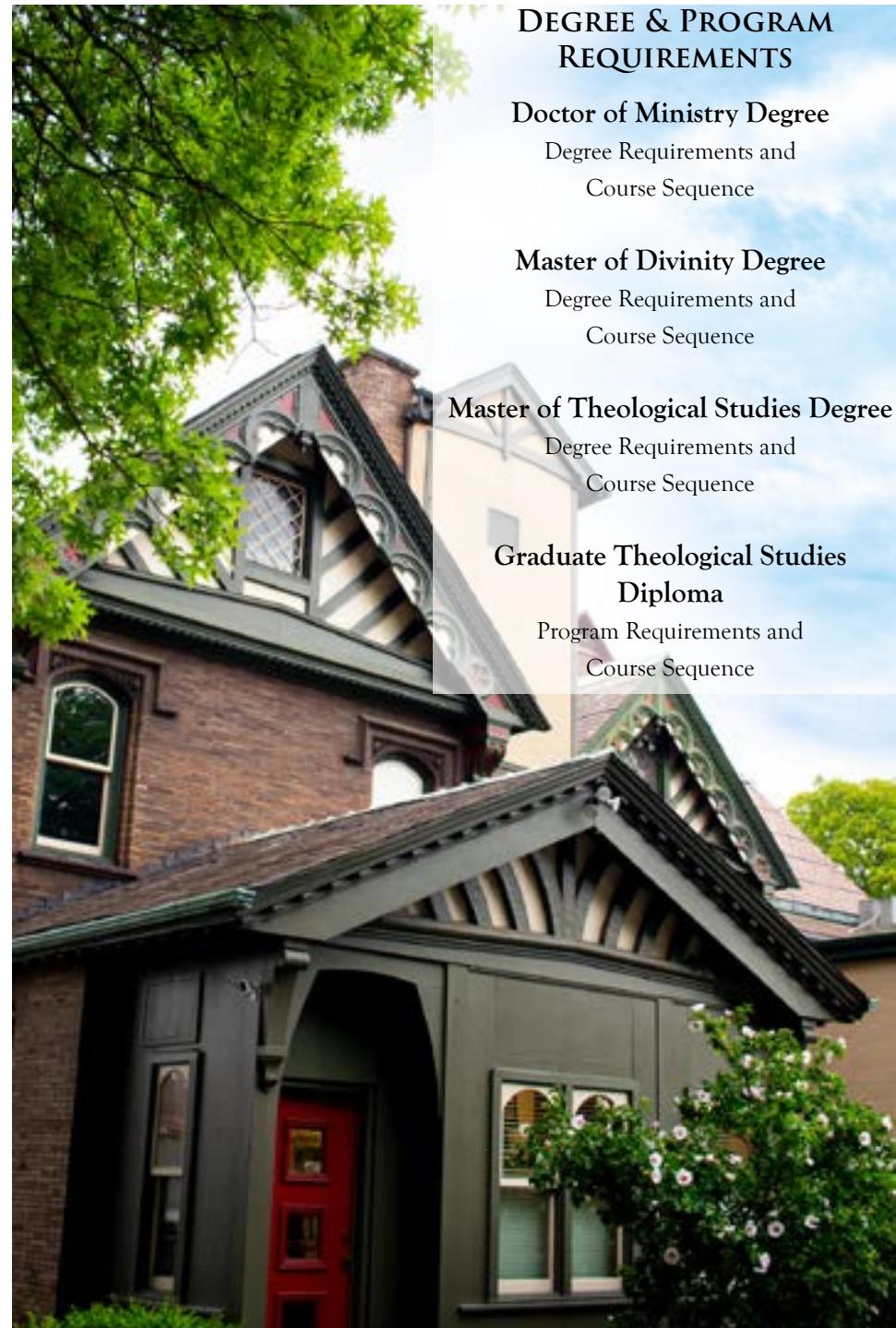
Audit students are not required to request a leave of absence if they are not taking courses each quarter. However, audit students who have not taken classes for five years will be administratively withdrawn and must reapply to once again audit classes.

A student who has been withdrawn for not more than five years and desires to return to their course of study may petition the Registrar to request reinstatement. Upon approval by the Registrar and payment of the re-enrollment fee, the student may register for classes. If a student has been withdrawn for more than five years and desires to return to their course of study, they are required to complete a new application.

When a student is withdrawn from RPTS, all student privileges and access (library privileges, rpts.edu email, student portal, and LMS) will end. Any fees due will still remain the responsibility of the student.

## RECORDS

Permanent records of achievement in coursework are maintained and a grade report is made available to each student at the end of each quarter on the student portal. Such records are also available to a sponsoring presbytery or a corresponding church official. These records are considered confidential.



## DEGREE & PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

### Doctor of Ministry Degree

Degree Requirements and  
Course Sequence

### Master of Divinity Degree

Degree Requirements and  
Course Sequence

### Master of Theological Studies Degree

Degree Requirements and  
Course Sequence

### Graduate Theological Studies Diploma

Program Requirements and  
Course Sequence

# DMIN REQUIREMENTS & COURSE SEQUENCE

The Doctor of Ministry program includes the completion of eight required courses and the submission and approval of a doctoral project combining academic study with practical application to ministry. Both concentrations share four required courses in common. These courses cover the range of theological study. The Strengthening Pastoral Ministry concentration has four additional courses oriented toward the pastoral work of preaching and leading the worship of the people of God. The Strengthening Counseling Ministry concentration has four additional courses focused on counseling ministry in the church.

The Doctor of Ministry program is designed for pastors and other church workers who are engaged in full-time ministry. It is, by its design, a part-time program to be completed while engaged in the ministry, with all coursework and the submission of the project designed to be completed within six years beginning with the first on-campus course taken. The eight DMin classes are each four days. Two classes are offered each August and require the student to be in residence for those two weeks. The classes are offered in a fixed rotation, so once students begin the program, they are expected to complete the eight classes over the next four Augusts. Because each class is offered only once every four years, students are encouraged not to miss a course, and they must register for at least one course each summer until they have completed their course requirements.

	February 15	August (first two full weeks of the month)	February 15 (following year)
Year 1	Pre-course work begins	Attend two (2) classes	Assignments due
Year 2	Pre-course work begins	Attend two (2) classes	Assignments due
Year 3	Pre-course work begins	Attend two (2) classes	Assignments due
Year 4	Pre-course work begins	Attend two (2) classes	Assignments due
Year 5	Work on Project		
Year 6	Work on Project – August 1 is the final date to submit project (Graduation is the following May)		

*\* Because of the biblical convictions of the sponsoring denomination of the Seminary regarding the qualifications of those who serve the church as ordained pastors, the Doctor of Ministry (DMIN) Strengthening Pastoral Ministry concentration and the Master of Divinity (MDiv) degrees are restricted to men.*

Please see the DMin Program Handbook ([s.rpts.edu/dminhandbook](http://s.rpts.edu/dminhandbook)) for complete program information.

# MDIV REQUIREMENTS & COURSE SEQUENCE

A candidate for the Master of Divinity (MDiv) degree is required to successfully complete 135 credits: 113 in required courses and 22 in elective courses. Students without a strong Reformed background are also required to take ST501 Introduction to Reformed Theology in their first year as one of their elective courses.

*\* Because of the biblical convictions of the sponsoring denomination regarding the qualifications of those who serve the church as ordained pastors, the Master of Divinity (MDiv) degree is restricted to men.*

New Testament (24 Credits)		
NT501	Elementary Greek I	3 credits
NT502	Elementary Greek II	3 credits
NT503	Elementary Greek III	3 credits
NT510	Gospels	3 credits
NT520	Interpretation of the Bible	3 credits
NT610	New Testament Exegesis I	3 credits
NT620	New Testament Exegesis II	3 credits
NT630	Acts and Pauline Epistles	3 credits
Pastoral Studies (32 Credits)		
PT510	Spiritual Development	3 credits
PT520	Ministry of Worship	3 credits
PT531-2	Internship	3 credits
PT710	Care and Admin. of the Local Church	3 credits
PT720	Readiness for Pastoral Ministry	3 credits
MS610	Evangelism	3 credits
BC510	Introduction to Biblical Counseling	3 credits
BC520	Marriage and Family Counseling	3 credits
SH510	Introduction to Preaching	3 credits
SH610-730	Preaching Practicums (any 3)	6 credits

Please refer to the student portal for complete course schedules for the year.

# MDIV SEQUENCE OF REQUIRED COURSES

Systematic Theology (21 Credits)		
ST510	Doctrine of Revelation	3 credits
ST520	Apologetics	3 credits
ST610	Doctrine of God	3 credits
ST620	Doctrine of Salvation	3 credits
ST710	Doctrine of Human Nature	3 credits
ST720	Doctrine of Civil Government	3 credits
ST730	Doctrine of the Church	3 credits
Old Testament (21 Credits)		
OT601	Elementary Hebrew I	3 credits
OT602	Elementary Hebrew II	3 credits
OT603	Elementary Hebrew III	3 credits
OT510	Pentateuch	3 credits
OT520	Historical Writings	3 credits
OT720	Introduction to Old Testament Exegesis	3 credits
OT730	Old Testament Exegesis	3 credits
Church History (15 Credits)		
CH510	Theological Research and Writing	3 credits
CH610	Patristic and Medieval Church History	3 credits
CH620	History of the Reformation	3 credits
CH630	Modern Church History	3 credits
CH710	Reformed Presbyterian History; or	3 credits
CH712	The Black Church: History and Polity; or	3 credits
CH711	Denominational Research Paper	3 credits
Electives (22 Credits)		

In addition to required courses, each student must complete 22 credits of coursework from any of the areas of study offered at the Seminary. Those who elect to take the Biblical Counseling Concentration will need to take nine credits of counseling as part of their electives. These nine credits are comprised of:

BC610 Counseling Observation    BC530 Advanced Biblical Counseling

BC620 Counseling Role Play    BC630 Supervised Counseling

First Year / Juniors	Fall Quarter		Winter Quarter		Spring Quarter	
	NT501	Elementary Greek I	NT502	Elementary Greek II	NT503	Elementary Greek III
	OT510	Pentateuch	OT520	Historical Writings	NT510	Gospels
	CH510	Theo. Research & Writing	PT510	Spiritual Development	SH510	Introduction to Preaching
	BC510	Intro. to Biblical Counseling*	PT520	Ministry of Worship	ST520	Apologetics
	ST510	Doctrine of Revelation	NT520	Interpretation of the Bible		
	15 credits		15 credits		12 credits	
Second Year / Middlers	Fall Quarter		Winter Quarter		Spring Quarter	
	CH610	Patristic & Medieval History	CH620	History of the Reformation	CH630	Modern Church History
	OT601	Elementary Hebrew I	OT602	Elementary Hebrew II	OT603	Elementary Hebrew III
	NT610	New Testament Exegesis I	NT620	New Testament Exegesis II	MS610	Evangelism
	ST610	Doctrine of God	ST620	Doctrine of Salvation		
			BC520	Marriage & Family Counseling		
	12 credits		15 credits		9 credits	
Third Year / Seniors	Fall Quarter		Winter Quarter		Spring Quarter	
	ST710	Doctrine of Human Nature	ST720	Doctrine of Civil Government	ST730	Doctrine of the Church
	OT720	Old Testament Exegesis I	OT730	Old Testament Exegesis II	CH710	RP Church History
	PT710	Care & Administration of the Local Church	PT720	Readiness for Pastoral Ministry		
	NT730	Acts and Pauline Epistles				
	12 credits		9 credits		6 credits	

In addition:

- Three preaching practicum must be taken, normally in the last two years (6 credits).
- One internship must be completed (2 credits).
- Twenty-two (22) credits of electives are required.

\* Students not from a Reformed background should take Introduction to Reformed Theology (ST501) instead of Introduction to Biblical Counseling (BC510) in their first year and should take Introduction to Biblical Counseling in their Middler year.

## MDIV BIBLICAL COUNSELING CONCENTRATION

MDiv students who elect to take the Biblical Counseling Concentration must take the 9 credits shown below. A student must inform the registrar of his intention to pursue this concentration in order to ensure a proper degree audit. BC610, BC620, and BC630 are not available as distance classes; students need to be physically present for these courses.

Second Year / Middlers	Fall Quarter	Winter Quarter	Spring Quarter
		BC610 Counseling Observation (2 credits)	BC620 Counseling Role Play (2 credits)
			BC530 Advanced Biblical Counseling
2 credits		5 credits	

Third Year / Seniors	Fall Quarter	Winter Quarter	Spring Quarter
	BC630 Supervised Counseling+ (2 credits)		
	2 credits		

In addition:

- Thirteen (13) credits of electives are required.

+ Supervised Counseling (BC630) is ordinarily a fall quarter course, however it may be taken by special arrangement in all quarters.

## MDIV CHAPLAINCY CONCENTRATION

MDiv students who elect to take the Chaplaincy Concentration will take the above courses in the Biblical Counseling Concentration plus have the addition of 12 credits as follows. The student must inform the registrar of his intention to pursue this concentration in order to ensure a proper degree audit.

Summer Quarter	As Scheduled		
PT630 Introduction to Chaplaincy	BC760 Advanced Chaplaincy Training		
3 credits	9 credits		

In addition:

- One (1) credit of electives is required.

## MTS REQUIREMENTS & COURSE SCHEDULE

A candidate for the Master of Theological Studies (MTS) degree is required to take 90 credits. Each student will take a sequence of core courses from each of the four departments of the Seminary and prepare an Integrative Research Project near the end of the MTS. Additionally, each student in this degree program must choose between Biblical Studies, Doctrinal and Historical Studies, or Biblical Counseling as an area of concentration and take the prescribed number of credits in that chosen area. Elective courses of special interest to the individual student will be taken to complete the 90 credits required for graduation.

1. MTS Core Courses (63 Credits)		
Biblical Studies (15 Credits)		
OT510	Pentateuch	3 credits
OT610/ 620	Major Prophets (OT610) or Minor Prophets (OT620)	3 credits
NT510	Gospels	3 credits
NT520	Interpretation of the Bible	3 credits
NT630	Acts and Pauline Epistles	3 credits
Doctrinal Studies (15 Credits)		
ST501	Introduction to Reformed Theology	3 credits
ST510	Doctrine of Revelation	3 credits
ST520	Apologetics	3 credits
ST620	Doctrine of Salvation	3 credits
ST730	Doctrine of the Church	3 credits
Church History (12 Credits)		
CH510	Theological Research and Writing	3 credits
CH610	Patristic and Medieval Church History	3 credits
CH620	History of the Reformation	3 credits
CH630	Modern Church History	3 credits
Pastoral Studies (18 Credits)		
PT510	Spiritual Development	3 credits
PT520	Ministry of Worship	3 credits
BC510	Introduction to Biblical Counseling	3 credits
MS510	Theology and Methods of Missions	3 credits
SH640	Dynamics of Teaching (see pastoral ministry conc.)	3 credits
SH520	Dynamics of Public Speaking (see pastoral ministry conc.)	3 credits
MTS Summary Course (3 Credits)		
PT730	Integrative Seminar (MTS)	3 credits

II. Concentration (18 Credits)	
Students are to choose one of the following areas of concentration and complete at least 18 credits of coursework in that area. Classes that are part of the MTS Core Courses listed on the previous page do not fulfill these requirements.	
<b>Concentration A—Doctrinal and Historical Studies:</b> Beyond those classes taken as required core courses, students must take at least a combined total of 18 credits in Systematic Theology and Church History. Any combination of classes in these two disciplines will meet this concentration requirement; however, a balance between the two is recommended.	
<b>Concentration B—Biblical Studies:</b> Beyond those classes taken as required core courses, students must take at least a combined total of 18 credits in New Testament or Old Testament studies. Any combination of classes in these two areas will meet this concentration requirement. Language courses may count toward credit in Biblical Studies, but they are not required.	
<b>Concentration C—Biblical Counseling:</b> Beyond those classes taken as required core courses, students are required to take all of the following courses.	
BC610	Counseling Observation 2 credits
BC620	Counseling Role Play 2 credits
BC520	Marriage & Family Counseling 3 credits
BC530	Advanced Biblical Counseling 3 credits
BC630	Supervised Counseling 2 credits
ST710	Doctrine of Human Nature 3 credits
MS610	Evangelism 3 credits
BC610, BC620, and BC630 are NOT available as distance classes. Students need to be physically present for these courses.	
<b>Concentration D—Biblical Counseling and Chaplaincy:</b> Students can add the Introduction to Chaplaincy and Advanced Chaplaincy courses to the Biblical Counseling classes listed above for this concentration.	
<b>Concentration E—Pastoral Ministry*:</b> This concentration is intended for those students whose denominational setting does not require the Master of Divinity Degree. Beyond those classes taken as required core courses, students are required to take the following courses.	
BC520	Marriage & Family Counseling 3 credits
PT710	Care & Administration of the Local Church 3 credits
SH510	Introduction to Preaching 3 credits (Replaces Dynamics of Public Speaking)
MS610	Evangelism 3 credits
PT720	Readiness for Pastoral Ministry 3 credits
SH610-730	Preaching Practicums (any 2) 4 credits (Replaces Dynamics of Teaching)
A minimum of 9 credits in Biblical Languages 9 credits	
III. Electives (9 Credits)	
Those enrolled in the MTS degree program will need to complete nine (9) credits of electives from any area of study.	
<i>Pastoral Ministry concentration requires five (5) credits of electives</i> <i>Biblical Counseling and Chaplaincy concentration requires no credits of electives.</i>	

\*Because of the biblical convictions of the sponsoring denomination of the Seminary regarding the qualifications of those who serve the church as ordained pastors, the Pastoral Ministry concentration is restricted to men.

## MTS SEQUENCE OF REQUIRED COURSES

Doctrinal and Historical Studies Concentration					
First Year	Fall Quarter		Winter Quarter		Spring Quarter
	ST501	Intro. to Reformed Theology*	PT520	Ministry of Worship	OT610
	ST510	Doctrine of Revelation	PT510	Spiritual Development	OT620
	OT510	Pentateuch	NT520	Interpretation of the Bible	NT510
	CH510	Theo. Research & Writing	---	Course in Theology/History	ST520
	BC510	Intro. to Biblical Counseling			Apologetics
Second Year	Summer Quarter		SH520	Dynamics of Public Speaking	
			MS510	Theology & Methods of Missions	
				Course in Theology/History	
Biblical Studies Concentration					
First Year	Fall Quarter		Winter Quarter		Spring Quarter
	CH610	Patristic & Medieval History	CH620	History of the Reformation	CH630
	NT630	Acts and Pauline Epistles	ST620	Doctrine of Salvation	ST730
	---	Course in Theology/History	---	Course in Theology/History	PT730
			---	Course in Theology/History	SH640
				Dynamics of Teaching**	
In addition, 9 credits of electives are required.					
Second Year	Summer Quarter		SH520	Dynamics of Public Speaking	
			MS510	Theology & Methods of Missions	
				Course in Theology/History	
Biblical Studies Concentration					
First Year	Fall Quarter		Winter Quarter		Spring Quarter
	ST501	Intro. to Reformed Theology*	PT520	Ministry of Worship	OT610
	ST510	Doctrine of Revelation	OT520	Historical Writings*	OT620
	OT510	Pentateuch	PT510	Spiritual Development	NT510
	CH510	Theo. Research & Writing	NT520	Interpretation of the Bible	ST520
	BC510	Intro. to Biblical Counseling	---	Biblical Studies course	---
Second Year	Summer Quarter		SH520	Dynamics of Public Speaking	
			MS510	Theology & Methods of Missions	
				Course in Theology/History	
In addition, 9 credits of electives are required.					

\* Students with a strong Reformed background are encouraged to take another theology course instead of Introduction to Reformed Theology.

\*\* Dynamics of Teaching is only offered every other Spring Quarter; MTS students planning to complete the degree in 2 years should be aware of this.

With the exception of one one-week intensive course, the MTS degree (Biblical Studies and Doctrinal and Historical Studies concentrations only) may be fully earned through distance learning courses. Beyond the one required intensive, students who desire to complete these concentrations through distance learning should work with their advisor on substitute courses for any other classes not available online.

Biblical Counseling Concentration					
Fall Quarter		Winter Quarter		Spring Quarter	
ST501	Intro. to Reformed Theology*	PT520	Ministry of Worship	OT610	Major Prophets; or
ST510	Doctrine of Revelation	PT510	Spiritual Development	OT620	Minor Prophets
OT510	Pentateuch	NT520	Interpretation of the Bible	NT510	Gospels
CH510	Theo. Research & Writing	BC610	Counseling Observation (2 credits)	ST520	Apologetics
BC510	Intro. to Biblical Counseling	BC520	Marriage & Family Counseling	BC620	Counseling Role Play (2 credits)
				BC530	Advanced Biblical Counseling
* Students with a strong Reformed background are encouraged to take another theology course instead of Introduction to Reformed Theology.					
Summer Quarter		SH520	Dynamics of Public Speaking	PT630	Introduction to Chaplaincy
		MS510	Theology & Methods of Missions		

Fall Quarter		Winter Quarter		Spring Quarter	
CH610	Patristic & Medieval History	CH620	History of the Reformation	CH630	Modern Church History
ST710	Doctrine of Human Nature	ST620	Doctrine of Salvation	ST730	Doctrine of the Church
BC630	Supervised Counseling (2 credits)*			MS610	Evangelism
NT630	Acts and Pauline Epistles			PT730	Integrative Seminar (MTS)
				SH640	Dynamics of Teaching
* Supervised Counseling (BC630) is ordinarily a fall quarter course. However, it may be taken by special arrangement in all quarters.					

Because the Biblical Counseling Practicums are quite challenging, not every student successfully completes the full sequence. Such a scenario could leave students needing to extend the length of their studies to complete a different concentration. For that reason, we recommend students seeking an MTS degree with the Biblical Counseling concentration proceed toward taking all electives in either Doctrinal and History courses or in Biblical Studies courses. Your faculty advisor can assist you in this matter.

Additionally, MTS students not yet fluent in conversational English desiring to take the Biblical Counseling concentration will begin in one of the other concentrations and be allowed to migrate over to the counseling concentration once sufficient proficiency in oral English skills is demonstrated.

Biblical Counseling and Chaplaincy Concentration					
Fall Quarter		Winter Quarter		Spring Quarter	
ST501	Intro. to Reformed Theology*	PT520	Ministry of Worship	OT610	Major Prophets; or
ST510	Doctrine of Revelation	PT510	Spiritual Development	OT620	Minor Prophets
OT510	Pentateuch	NT520	Interpretation of the Bible	NT510	Gospels
CH510	Theo. Research & Writing	BC610	Counseling Observation (2 credits)	ST520	Apologetics
BC510	Intro. to Biblical Counseling	BC520	Marriage & Family Counseling	BC620	Counseling Role Play (2 credits)
				BC530	Advanced Biblical Counseling
* Students with a strong Reformed background are encouraged to take another theology course instead of Introduction to Reformed Theology.					
Summer Quarter		SH520	Dynamics of Public Speaking	PT630	Introduction to Chaplaincy
		MS510	Theology & Methods of Missions		

Second Year					
Fall Quarter		Winter Quarter		Spring Quarter	
CH610	Patristic & Medieval History	CH620	History of the Reformation	CH630	Modern Church History
ST710	Doctrine of Human Nature	ST620	Doctrine of Salvation	ST730	Doctrine of the Church
BC630	Supervised Counseling (2 credits)*			MS610	Evangelism
NT630	Acts and Pauline Epistles			PT730	Integrative Seminar (MTS)
BC510	Advanced Chaplaincy Training			SH640	Dynamics of Teaching
* Supervised Counseling (BC630) is ordinarily a fall quarter course. However, it may be taken by special arrangement in all quarters.					

Pastoral Ministry Concentration					
Fall Quarter		Winter Quarter		Spring Quarter	
ST501	Intro. to Reformed Theology*	PT520	Ministry of Worship	OT610	Major Prophets; or
ST510	Doctrine of Revelation	PT510	Spiritual Development	OT620	Minor Prophets
OT510	Pentateuch	NT520	Interpretation of the Bible	NT510	Gospels
CH510	Theo. Research & Writing	BC610	Counseling Observation (2 credits)	ST520	Apologetics
BC510	Intro. to Biblical Counseling	BC520	Marriage & Family Counseling	SH510	Introduction to Preaching
* Students with a strong Reformed background are encouraged to take another theology course instead of Introduction to Reformed Theology.					
Summer Quarter		MS510	Theology & Methods of Missions		

Second Year					
Fall Quarter		Winter Quarter		Spring Quarter	
CH610	Patristic & Medieval History	CH620	History of the Reformation	CH630	Modern Church History
NT630	Acts and Pauline Epistles	ST620	Doctrine of Salvation	ST730	Doctrine of the Church
PT710	Care and Administration of the Local Church	PT720	Readiness for Pastoral Ministry	MS610	Evangelism
				PT730	Integrative Seminar (MTS)
Two preaching practicums must be taken (4 credits). A pastoral internship (2 credits) is optional and may be counted towards a student's electives.					

# GRADUATE THEOLOGICAL STUDIES DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

The Graduate Theological Studies Diploma (GTSD) requires completion of 15 courses for credit. The core requirements include 9 of the following 12 courses (see recommended sequence).

Pastoral Ministry (4 courses)		Biblical Studies (4 courses)	
PT510	Spiritual Development	OT510	Pentateuch
PT520	Ministry of Worship	OT610 OT620	Major Prophets; or Minor Prophets
BC510	Introduction to Biblical Counseling	NT510	Gospels
MS610	Evangelism	NT520	Interpretation of the Bible
Systematic Theology (2 courses)		Church History (1 course)	
ST501	Introduction to Reformed Theology*	CH620	History of the Reformation
ST150	Doctrine of Revelation		
ST520	Apologetics		
18 credits of electives are also required.			
Students with a strong Reformed background are encouraged to take another systematic theology course instead of Introduction to Reformed Theology (ST501).			



# GRADUATE THEOLOGICAL STUDIES DIPLOMA SEQUENCE OF COURSES

The following is a suggested sequence for students who desire to complete the GTSD in one year.

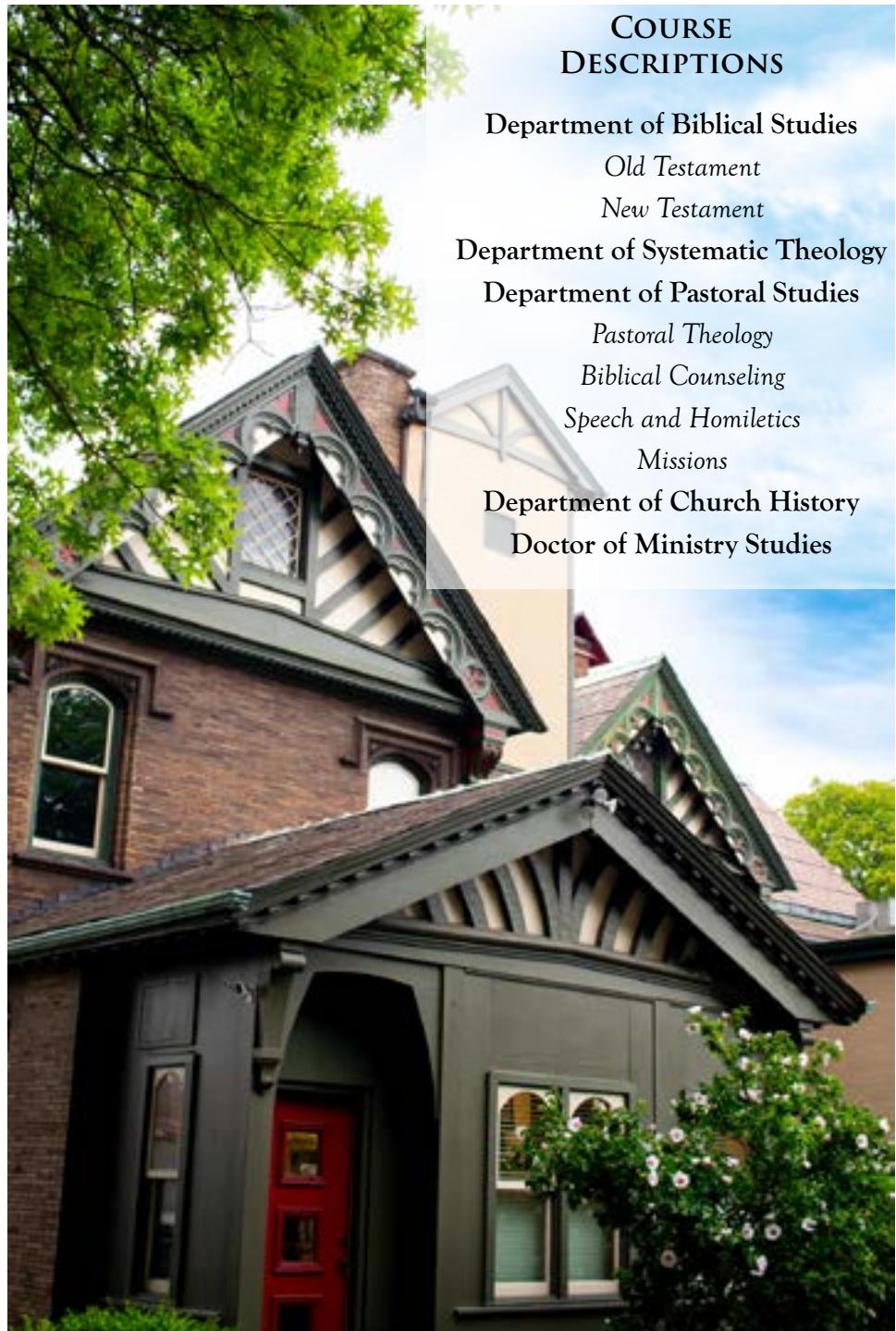
GTSD Diploma Course Sequence					
Core Requirements	Fall Quarter		Winter Quarter		Spring Quarter
	ST501	Intro. to Reformed Theology*	PT520	Ministry of Worship	OT610 OT620 Major Prophets; or Minor Prophets
	ST510	Doctrine of Revelation	PT510	Spiritual Development	NT510 Gospels
	OT510	Pentateuch	NT520	Interpretation of the Bible	ST520 Apologetics
	BC510	Intro. to Biblical Counseling	CH620	History of the Reformation	MS610 Evangelism
	Students are required to take any 3 of the 4 courses listed above in each quarter, in addition to 18 hours of electives (the 4th class in each of the above quarters is highly recommended for an elective).				
	* Students with a strong Reformed background are encouraged to take another theology course instead of Introduction to Reformed Theology.				

GTSD students may take one of the following concentrations by taking these required electives in addition to the above core requirements.

GTSD Concentration Elective Requirements					
Missions Concentration	Fall Quarter		Winter Quarter		Spring Quarter
	MS69 1-3	Missionary Cross Training*	MS69 4-6	Missionary Cross Training	MS69 7-9 Missionary Cross Training
	MS620	History of Missions			
	*Missionary Cross Training may be taken over 3 or 9 quarters				
Summer Quarter	MS510		Theology & Methods of Missions	MS630 Church Planting; or SH520	Dynamics of Public Speaking

Biblical Counseling Concentration	Fall Quarter		Winter Quarter		Spring Quarter
	BC510	Introduction to Counseling	BC520	Marriage & Family Counseling	BC530 Advanced Biblical Counseling
	ST710	Doctrine of Human Nature	ST620	Doctrine of Salvation	ST730 Doctrine of the Church
	GTSD students are not permitted to take counseling practicum courses.				
Summer Quarter	MS510		Theology & Methods of Missions		

Chaplaincy Concentration	Fall Quarter		Winter Quarter		Spring Quarter
	BC510	Introduction to Counseling	BC520	Marriage & Family Counseling	BC530 Advanced Biblical Counseling
	ST710	Doctrine of Human Nature	ST620	Doctrine of Salvation	ST730 Doctrine of the Church
	GTSD students are not permitted to take counseling practicum courses.				
Summer Quarter	PT630		Introduction to Chaplaincy		



## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### Department of Biblical Studies

*Old Testament*

*New Testament*

### Department of Systematic Theology

### Department of Pastoral Studies

*Pastoral Theology*

*Biblical Counseling*

*Speech and Homiletics*

*Missions*

### Department of Church History

### Doctor of Ministry Studies

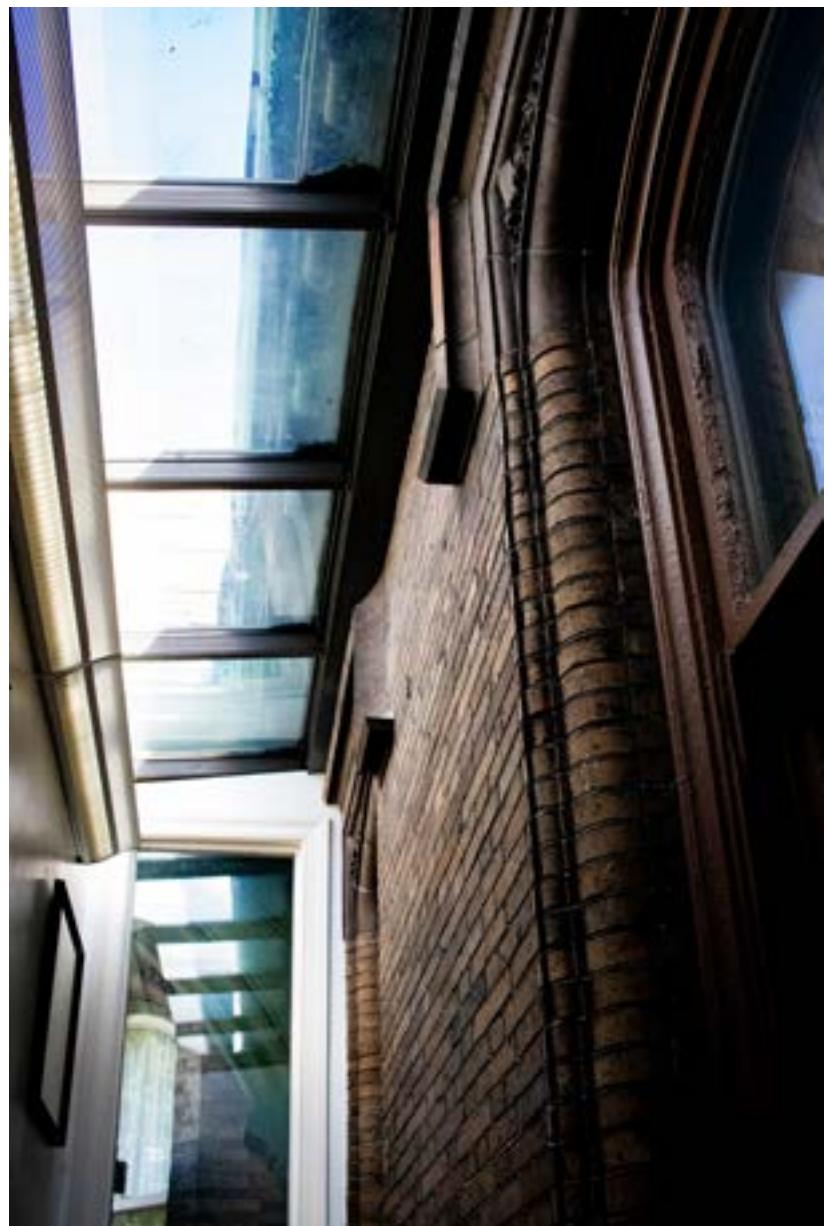
## DEPARTMENT OF BIBLICAL STUDIES

### Old Testament

Clayton J. (C.J.) Williams, PhD, Professor of Old Testament Studies  
Andrew Kerr, M.D., MTh, Visiting Lecturer of Old Testament Studies

	<p>All classes are 3 credits unless noted otherwise.</p>
OT510	<p><b>Pentateuch</b> A study of the first five books of the Old Testament, including the composition and content of the individual books and their interrelationships; the formation of the Old Testament canon; the Old Testament in English; and selected bibliographical readings.</p>
OT520	<p><b>Historical Writings</b> A detailed study in the historical writings of the Old Testament, from Joshua to Esther and introduce some of the most important themes and theological concepts of these books.</p>
OT530	<p><b>Biblical Geography and Archaeology</b> The history, methods, contributions, and limitations of archaeological discovery as applied to the lands and peoples of the Bible. (1 credit)</p>
OT601	<p><b>Elementary Hebrew I</b> A detailed study of basic vocabulary, grammar, and syntax; exercises in reading and writing Hebrew; based upon selected portions of the Hebrew Bible.</p>
OT602	<p><b>Elementary Hebrew II</b> The conclusion of the study of Hebrew grammar, with special emphasis upon various verb forms and their meanings. Prerequisite: OT601.</p>
OT603	<p><b>Elementary Hebrew III</b> Reading of selected narrative passages of the Old Testament, with attention given to the development of exegetical and translatable skills. Prerequisites: OT601, OT602.</p>

OT610	<b>Major Prophets</b> The objective of this course is to survey the Major Prophets of the Hebrew Bible (Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel) and introduce some of the most important theological concepts and controversies related to these books.
OT620	<b>Minor Prophets</b> An overview of the 12 Minor Prophets, with particular attention given to historical background and theological content.
OT630	<b>Wisdom Literature</b> This course will begin by examining the form and function of Wisdom Literature in the Bible, the devices of Hebrew poetry, and the historical background of the Wisdom books. Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Job, and the Song of Solomon will be studied in detail. The common themes of Wisdom Literature will be examined, as well as the unique themes of each book, along with the interconnections between the Wisdom books and the rest of the canon. Emphasis will be placed on preaching and teaching from the Wisdom books in the context of the local church.
OT640	<b>Covenant Theology</b> An investigation of the Scriptures from the perspective of Covenant Theology: a study of the Covenant of Works, the Covenant of Grace in its two administrations, and the Mediator of the Covenant of Grace.
OT650	<b>Psalms</b> This course will provide an orientation to the formation, structure, literary forms, content, theology, Christology, and current scholarly issues regarding the Book of Psalms. (1 credit)
OT720	<b>Introduction to Old Testament Exegesis</b> Introduction to the basic principles of exegesis, working in the Hebrew texts, with special emphasis on the Psalms and Wisdom Literature. Prerequisites: OT601, OT602, OT603.
OT730	<b>Old Testament Exegesis</b> Study of the Psalter as Christian praise; exegesis of selected Psalms from the Hebrew text; the Psalm Meditation in worship. Prerequisites: OT601, OT602, OT603, OT720.
OT590 OT690 OT790	<b>Independent Study in the Old Testament</b> Study under direction of a professor. Papers and reports. - Special Arrangements (1-3 credits)



## New Testament

Jeffrey A. Stivason, PhD, Professor of New Testament Studies

	All classes are 3 credits unless noted otherwise.
NT501	<b>Elementary Greek I</b> An introduction to ancient Greek, its alphabet, morphology, vocabulary, and grammar. For students with little or no prior knowledge of Greek.
NT502	<b>Elementary Greek II</b> Continued studies of ancient Greek, its morphology, vocabulary, and grammar, with a focus on the mastery of the noun and verb systems. Prerequisite: NT501.
NT503	<b>Elementary Greek III</b> Concluding studies of ancient Greek, its morphology, vocabulary, and grammar, with a focus on the reading of portions of the Greek New Testament. Prerequisites: NT501, NT502.
NT510	<b>Gospels</b> A survey of the background, theology, and content of the four Gospels, including the historical background, an introduction to each book, a survey of the life of Christ, and a survey of current trends in the study of the Gospels.

NT520	<b>Interpretation of the Bible</b> The theory and practice of the interpretation of the Scriptures for personal edification and equipping for ministry.
NT610	<b>New Testament Exegesis I</b> An exploration of the grammar and lexicography of the New Testament, using computer research tools, grammars, and word usage studies. The class will focus on the interpretation of Matthew's Gospel. First of two quarters. Prerequisites: NT501, NT502, NT503.
NT620	<b>New Testament Exegesis II</b> A continuation of NT610, with a focus on exegetical studies in the book of Romans and the use of the Septuagint in New Testament studies. May be taken before NT610, if necessary. Prerequisites: NT501, NT502, NT503, NT610.
NT630	<b>Acts and Pauline Epistles</b> A thematic survey of the Acts of the Apostles and the Pauline Epistles, focusing specifically on the redemptive-historical significance of various events in the books. Particular attention will be paid to the Old Testament roots of the theology of Acts. The course includes references to Greek, but students without training in New Testament Greek may enroll for full credit.
NT710	<b>General Epistles</b> This survey course provides an introduction to the structure and content of the non-Pauline epistles with a concentration on controversial passages in the various books. The course includes references to Greek, but students without training in New Testament Greek may enroll for full credit.
NT720	<b>Revelation</b> This course is an intensive study of the literary structure of the Book of Revelation, the sources of its themes and language in the Prophets and the Gospels, and its connection to the events that occurred the middle of the first century AD. The course includes references to Greek, but students without training in New Testament Greek may enroll for full credit.
NT730	<b>Epistle to the Hebrews</b> This course examines the contents, theological themes, structure and historical context of the New Testament Epistle to the Hebrews. The epistle's central organizing theme of the superiority of Jesus Christ, and the relationship between the Old and New Covenants, take a central place in the course.

NT740	<b>Romans and Its Interpreters</b> The book of Romans has been foundational to the Church. William Perkins once spoke of the Bible as having access points. In other words, there are books that open up the whole of the Bible's message to the reader. For him, Romans was one of those architectonic access points. Not surprisingly then, Romans provides an exploration of themes that are foundational to the Christian faith, which is why the book has been mistreated as often as it has been praised. This course will not simply explore the message of the book of Romans but it will also investigate how others have interpreted it throughout the history of the church. This investigation will by necessity be selective. However, special attention will be given to the New Perspective on Paul over against the old perspective.
NT590 NT690 NT790	<b>Independent Study in the New Testament</b> Study under direction of a professor. Papers and reports. - Special Arrangements (1-3 credits)



## DEPARTMENT OF SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

Richard C. Gamble, PhD, Professor of Systematic Theology  
 Jeffrey A. Stivason, PhD, Professor of New Testament Studies  
 David G. Whitla, PhD, Professor of Church History  
 Mark Robinson, MDiv, Adjunct Professor of Systematic Theology

	All classes are 3 credits unless noted otherwise.
ST501	<b>Introduction to Reformed Theology</b> The nature, types, and methods of systematic theology; an overview of the main doctrines of the Reformed Faith. A requirement for MDiv students who do not have a strong Reformed background.
ST510	<b>Doctrine of Revelation</b> The doctrine of revelation, the history and forms of revelation, and the inspiration and trustworthiness of the Bible.
ST520	<b>Apologetics</b> A study of the way in which Christians give reasons for their faith; a comparison of natural theology and presuppositional apologetics. Biblical exegesis is used to set forth a method of apologetics which adequately challenges unbelief.
ST610	<b>Doctrine of God</b> The nature and the attributes of God; the doctrine of the Trinity; the eternal plan of God; and the works of creation and providence.
ST620	<b>Doctrine of Salvation</b> The person and work of Christ: His deity and humanity; His humiliation and exaltation; His prophetic, priestly, and kingly work; the person and work of the Holy Spirit; and the order of salvation.
ST630	<b>The Westminster Confession</b> An intensive study of the Westminster Confession of Faith; emphasis will be placed on understanding the Confession in relation to its historical context as well as its contemporary relevance.
ST650	<b>Reformed Presbyterian Testimony and Polity</b> A course on the distinctive principles of the Testimony of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America. Designed for those who are preparing for ordination in the RPCNA but open to any interested student.

ST660	<b>Doctrine of Last Things</b> Christian hope for the believer and the world; biblical perspectives on the future, death, the intermediate state, the resurrection, Christ's return, the judgment, and the eternal state; interpretation of prophecy; and views of the millennium. (2 credits).
ST670	<b>Contemporary German Theology</b> Since the nineteenth century, German theologians have set the course for American main line theology. This course will investigate prominent late twentieth century German theologians Jürgen Moltmann (1926-2024), Wolfhart Pannenberg (1928-2014), Eberhard Jüngel (1934-2021), and more contemporary theologians Michael Welker (1947-) and Jörg Frey (1962-). Students will read primary texts in English. (2 credits).
ST710	<b>Doctrine of Human Nature</b> The origin and nature of the human race; the image of God in man; the covenant of works; and the beginning, nature, and consequence of sin.
ST720	<b>Doctrine of Civil Government</b> A survey of the relations between church and state from biblical times to the present day. Particular attention will be paid to literature from the Second Reformation and how the doctrine of civil government developed during those years might impact the Christian and the Church's involvement in civil government today.
ST730	<b>Doctrine of the Church</b> The nature and mission of the Church; the means of grace: the Word, sacraments, and discipline; and church officers and the structure of church government.
ST740	<b>Union with Christ</b> This elective course will be a deeply exegetical as well as historical analysis of the important soteriological teaching of union with Christ. We will examine the beauty of the Scripture's presentation, study how the church has understood it in the past, and then use that information to formulate a mature Christian view of life on this earth.
ST750	<b>Calvin's Commentaries</b> This course will explore how Calvin exegeted the scriptures. All readings will be from Calvin's commentaries. The goal is to help students to understand Calvin's theological context and, based on that reflection, to refine their own exegetical methods. Each student will focus on their chosen section of scripture and report their findings to the other students. This course should be particularly helpful for sermon preparation. (2 credits)

ST760	<b>Calvin's Institutes</b> This course will involve extensive reading and discussion of the 1559 edition of the Institutes. In addition to class discussion, students will write a research paper on some aspect of Calvin's theology. (2 credits)
ST590 ST690 ST790	<b>Independent Study in Theology</b> Study under direction of a professor. Papers and reports. - Special Arrangements (1-3 credits)



# DEPARTMENT OF PASTORAL STUDIES

## Pastoral Theology

Barry J. York, DMin, President of the Seminary, Professor of Pastoral Theology and Homiletics  
 David G. Whitla, PhD, Professor of Church History  
 Aaron J. Sams, MA, Visiting Lecturer of Pastoral Theology  
 Michael R. Stewart, DMin, Visiting Lecturer of Pastoral Theology  
 Matthew V. Everhard, DMin, Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology

All classes are 3 credits unless noted otherwise.	
PT510	<b>Spiritual Development</b> Pastoral ministry is a spiritual office, serving the body of Christ in many ways – administering the Word and sacraments, leading and laboring in prayer, shepherding and church administration. But before you do ministry, you must be concerned with who you are as a child of God. This course provides an introduction to the field of pastoral theology by exploring aspects of personal discipleship from a Reformed perspective for those who are called to positions of leadership within the Church of Christ.
PT520	<b>Ministry of Worship</b> Study of the biblical principles and practices of worship; consideration of public worship services, including the administration of the sacraments and weddings and funerals.
PT531 PT532	<b>Internship</b> All MDiv students are required to have at least one internship under the supervision of a local pastor or ministry director. These internships are usually done during the summer months, although provisions may be made for an internship during the academic year when considered necessary or desirable. This will include fieldwork under the supervision of a pastor and session and will include at least 10 weeks of training at a minimum of 10 hours per week, emphasizing walking alongside of and serving with the pastor and elders as they minister. This experience will include such ministry opportunities as preaching, teaching, shepherding, assisting in worship services, defending the faith, evangelism, and administrative responsibilities. (2 credits)
PT610	<b>Technology and the Local Church</b> A practical and theoretical course on the appropriate use of technology to help a church establish a digital footprint and better communicate in an interconnected world. To be able to complete all requirements, students are required to have a laptop, tablet, or smart phone. (1 credit)

PT620	<b>Vital Churches</b> Whether a congregation is going through a season of struggle or strength, every church leader needs to be knowledgeable of principles of church vitality and infuse them into the congregations they serve. This course will encourage students in a workshop format to grow in and apply such principles as unconditional dependence upon the Holy Spirit through practicing prayer, clarifying the understanding of the role of ordained leadership, putting into clear focus the church's mission, and defining carefully the plan to seek to fulfill the mission.
PT630	<b>Introduction to Chaplaincy</b> This course is an introduction to the biblical-theological foundations of chaplain ministry and its history, key concepts, and unique place as a means of service through the local church. Students analyze the unique contexts and callings of eight different chaplaincy sectors including corporate, military, health care, public safety, institutional, sports, educational, and crisis/disaster relief.
PT710	<b>Care and Administration of the Local Church</b> Oversight and ministry to families of the church in helping each person to maturity; responsibilities of administration; stewardship education; planning a year's program; strategy of long-range planning; Presbyterian church polity; and the church office.
PT720	<b>Readiness for Pastoral Ministry</b> Issues and concerns for the pastor as he begins his ministry in the church; awareness of and preparation to meet potential pitfalls in the ministry; self-assessment and evaluation of gifts; and vision and philosophy of ministry. Prerequisite: acceptance into the MDiv program. This course is ordinarily taken in the student's final year of study.
PT730	<b>Integrative Seminar (MTS)</b> This course is to be taken near the conclusion of one's MTS degree program, ordinarily in the final spring quarter. It is designed to help students assess their progress in the program and to correlate their studies from various departments of the Seminary curriculum so as to produce a holistic understanding and application of theological education to life and work, particularly within the area of the student's concentration.

PT740	<p><b>Spiritual Devotion of Jonathan Edwards</b>          Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758) was a leading colonial preacher and theologian during the time of the First Great Awakening. In this course, we will consider Edwards's personal piety, especially as it regards his private means of study and devotion. We will consider his "Resolutions", diary, <i>Blank Bible</i>, <i>Miscellanies</i>, and other personal letters and notebooks. Students will learn an appreciation for early colonial forms of piety and personal devotion with numerous applications to the life of the minister. (1 credit)</p>
PT760	<p><b>Advanced Chaplaincy Training</b>  <i>Proposed course plan, although this course is still in development.</i>          This course will be offered in Partnership with an Approved Clinical Pastoral Education Provider (Institute for Clinical Pastoral Education)          The course will include:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Twelve-week course with an approved CPE provider and supervisor</li> <li>• Additional regular supervision of student by Dr. Michael Stewart</li> <li>• Clinical ministry experience at an approved site</li> <li>• 300 hours of supervised clinical experience</li> </ul>         The course emphasizes the Biblical and clinical foundations of pastoral care and counseling and provides an in-depth examination of clinical material in a field education setting. A final grade will be granted by Professor Dr. Michael Stewart based upon the final assessment of the CPE supervisor and a final oral examination with Dr. Stewart.            RPTS awards up to 9 academic credits towards one unit of CPE with prior approval of Professor Michael Stewart and the student's Academic Advisor. After this course, students may continue to do CPE without academic credit. Prerequisite: PT630       </p>
PT590 PT690 PT790	<p><b>Practicums and Independent Studies in Pastoral Ministry</b>          Course offered within the context of a congregation's ministry, with both the content and experiences proposed by the supervising pastor and approved by a professor; evaluation of the student on the basis of knowledge, participation, and skill. (1-3 credits)</p>

## Biblical Counseling

Martin Blocki, MDiv, Senior Adjunct Professor of Biblical Counseling  
 Barry J. York, DMin, BCI Director

	All classes are 3 credits unless noted otherwise.
BC510	<p><b>Introduction to Biblical Counseling</b>          This course will introduce the student to biblical counseling. It will lay the theological foundations inherent to a reformed understanding of counseling, contrast other approaches, and focus on the key elements of how to do biblical counseling. Thus this class will communicate a reformed theology and methodology of counseling.</p>
BC520	<p><b>Marriage and Family Counseling</b>          Marriage and Family builds upon BC510 as a more focused consideration of the nature of marriage, gender roles, sexuality, children, and parenting. Additionally, biblical counseling's methodology is applied to conflict resolution, communication, adultery, divorce/remarriage, abuse, blended families, premarital counseling, etc. The application of a reformed theology/methodology of counseling is therefore applied to the family in this course. Prerequisite: BC510.</p>
BC530	<p><b>Advanced Biblical Counseling</b>          This course builds upon BC510 and BC520 and seeks to help the counselor develop greater adeptness of counseling, increase in insight and creativity, and grow in understanding the differences between biblical counseling and other systems. The counselor will be given a theological and methodological framework for dealing with all counseling issues in the context of pastoral ministry. Prerequisites: BC510, BC520.</p>
BC610	<p><b>Counseling Observation</b>          This course consists of weekly observation of live counseling sessions, discussion of these cases in a weekly two-hour seminar, and an analysis of principles learned as a result. Prerequisite: BC510. (2 credits)</p>
BC620	<p><b>Counseling Role Play</b>          This course consists of weekly role-played counseling sessions. Students will counsel a staff member role-playing a real case study, view videos of their sessions, and read written evaluations submitted by fellow class participants prior to the next class session. Students will report their self-analysis at the next class session. Ordinarily, the same case study will be followed through to its completion on successive weeks. Prerequisites: BC510, BC610, BC520. (2 credits)</p>

BC630	<p><b>Supervised Counseling</b>            The student will counsel live cases, as available, through the Biblical Counseling Institute of RPTS. The student will aim to complete 10 hours of counseling/discipleship under the observation and oversight of the professor. In addition to live counseling, the student will have regular individual mentoring sessions with the professor. Direct supervision will seek to involve one complete case in length. In the circumstance where a case extends beyond the quarter, students may be encouraged to continue counseling if they are interested and available. Students desiring more than 10 hours and a single case may request up to 2 cases. Students interested in gaining more counseling experience may request an independent study with the professor in a subsequent quarter. Prerequisites: BC510, BC520, BC530, BC610, a grade of "B" or better in BC620. (2 credits)</p>
BC730	<p><b>Supervised Counseling for ACBC Certification</b>            This course is supervised counseling for those pursuing ACBC certification. It is substantively the same as BC630 (see description above) but with the requirement to complete an additional 40 hours of counseling required to be ACBC certified (resulting in a total of 50 hours of supervised counseling). Prerequisites: BC510, BC520, BC530, BC610, a grade of "B" or better in BC620. A course fee will be assessed due to the ACBC requirements for supervision. Please contact the BCI for more information on registering for this course. (2 credits)</p>
BC590 BC690 BC790	<p><b>Independent Study in Biblical Counseling</b>            Study under direction of a professor. Counseling supervision (if BC630 has already been completed), study, and/or research. Special Arrangements (1-3 credits)</p>
<p>Because the Biblical Counseling Practicums require a multi-faceted level of language ability (oral, aural, and written), students with English as a second language may have difficulty with the following courses: BC610 (Counseling Observation), BC620 (Counseling Role Play), and BC630 (Supervised Counseling). Upon assessing students' conversational English and comprehension in each of these practicums, the professor may allow enrollment in subsequent practicums only after sufficient proficiency in English skills is demonstrated.</p>	



## Speech and Homiletics

Barry J. York, DMin, President of the Seminary, Professor of Pastoral Theology and Homiletics  
 David G. Whitley, PhD, Professor of Church History  
 Calvin L. Troup, PhD, Visiting Lecturer of Speech

	All classes are 3 credits unless noted otherwise.
SH510	<p><b>Introduction to Preaching</b>          The biblical concept of preaching; the varieties of Scriptural proclamation; methods for the preparation and delivery of sermons; the principles and techniques of effective, public speaking. Students will prepare and preach a sermon in chapel from the book of 1 John. This course is available online, but its collegial, workshop format is best suited for on-campus participation. Prerequisites: acceptance into the MDiv program and the successful completion of both NT520 and ST510.</p>
	<p><b>Preaching Practicums</b>          Following SH510 Introduction to Preaching, each MDiv candidate must take three of the following six Preaching Practicums which review and build upon the principles of sermon preparation taught in SH510. They also apply these principles to the Scripture genre or sermon type the practicum emphasizes. Each student prepares and preaches two sermons in chapel during each practicum. Prerequisite: SH510</p>
SH610	<p><b>Preaching from New Testament Narrative Passages</b>          (2 credits)</p>
SH620	<p><b>Preaching from the Psalms (including the imprecatory Psalms)</b>          (2 credits)</p>
SH630	<p><b>Doctrinal Preaching</b>          (2 credits)</p>
SH710	<p><b>Preaching from Old Testament Narrative Passages</b>          (2 credits)</p>
SH720	<p><b>Preaching from New Testament Texts Quoting the Old Testament</b>          (2 credits)</p>
SH730	<p><b>Preaching from Prophetic and Apocalyptic Literature</b>          (2 credits)</p>

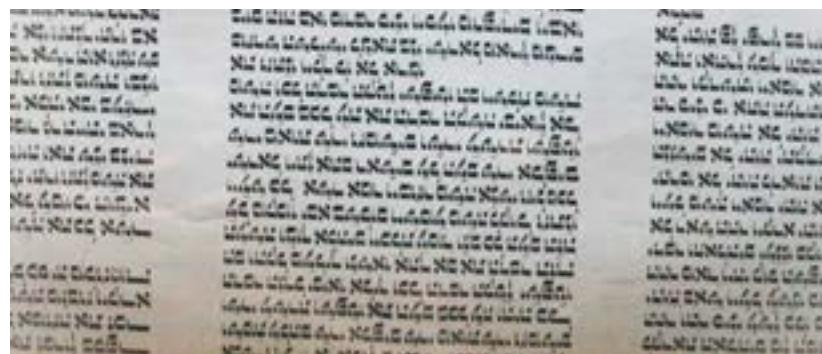
SH520	<p><b>Dynamics of Public Speaking</b>          An examination of various principles and techniques for effective oral presentations; designed to allow students to develop the ability to plan, write, fine-tune, and deliver proficient communication when teaching, reporting, or speaking in public forums.</p>
SH640	<p><b>Dynamics of Teaching</b>          Students in both the MTS and MDiv programs will find innumerable opportunities to teach in classroom settings, church school settings, Bible studies, and a myriad of other opportunities. This class is designed to give hands-on help in Christian education, developing lesson plans with PowerPoints, organizing presentations, and other small group dynamics as well.</p>
SH590 SH690 SH790	<p><b>Homiletics Practicums</b>          Students prepare and deliver sermons under the direction of a professor within the context of a congregation's ministry by a supervising pastor.          Student will be evaluated on the basis of preparation and delivery.          - Special Arrangements (1-3 credits)</p>



## Missions

Barry J. York, DMin, President of the Seminary, Professor of Pastoral Theology and Homiletics  
 David G. Whita, PhD, Professor of Church History  
 Matthew Everhard, DMin, Adjunct Professor of Missions  
 Vince W. Ward, MDiv, Adjunct Professor of Missions

	All classes are 3 credits unless noted otherwise.
MS510	<p><b>Theology and Methods of Missions</b>          An examination of the biblical foundations for missions, especially including the consideration of the historic Reformed doctrines that yield, when applied as a system, an integrated theology and methods of missions.</p>
MS581 MS582 MS583	<p><b>Visitation Practicum</b>          This independent practicum trains and provides for students to do 10 hours of visitation in a quarter at the Reformed Presbyterian Home located on Pittsburgh's Northside. Bill Weir, retired CFO of the home and local RP elder, coaches students on how to visit with the elderly and then pairs them up with residents to visit. Students may do up to three credits for this practicum and should see the Professor of Pastoral Theology to register as space is limited. The independent study fee for this practicum is waived to encourage mercy.          (1-3 credits)</p>
MS610	<p><b>Evangelism</b>          The theology of evangelism, with emphasis on the distinctives of the Reformed faith; a study of biblical principles and examples. Significant time is given to practical experience in evangelistic outreach.</p>



MS620	<p><b>History of Missions</b>          An introductory study of the history of missions that includes a brief survey of missions from apostolic to modern times, particular concentration on the developments leading to and from the Reformation, with the events, persons, and principles which gave rise to the modern missionary movement and the "great century of missions."</p>
MS630	<p><b>Church Planting</b>          In cooperation with Global Church Advancement, this class is designed to lay the crucial foundations necessary to plant a church. It is designed for those preparing to do so, those already involved in a new work, or those wanting to support such work. Set up as in-class training sessions, an in-depth Church Planting Plan will be developed through this course.</p>
MS640	<p><b>Theology of Culture: Home and Abroad</b>          This course introduces biblical materials relevant to a consideration of how Christians should evaluate their own culture or someone else's. It will help students 'exegete' the behavioral patterns and worldview standards of a society with application being directed toward the positive and negative ways of handling multiculturalism and the inevitable diversities present in different societies, the prevalent Post-Modernism (including relativism) of Western cultures, dynamics of tribalism in its traditional and also its newer forms, along with the promises and risks inherent in social-science criticism. The course aims to assist North American believers engage their own diversifying and globalizing surroundings and to help students develop a wholistic missions-mindedness applied to any and all parts of the globe today. (1 credit)</p>
MS650	<p><b>Mercy Ministry</b>          Every time God's people assemble for worship, He is examining them with respect to their care for the needy. This course will heighten awareness of how vital mercy and diaconal work is to the life of a local congregation. It will then guide the students toward developing wise and practical means of addressing the needs of their community through the local church.</p>
MS691- MS699	<p><b>Missionary Cross Training</b>          This Missions Directed Study is an independent study with Professor and former Missionary Vince Ward. The course is designed to form godly character (Life in Christ Module) and renew the mind in the study of ministry dynamics in missions (Theological, Team, Missional, Cultural Dynamics Modules). For those sensing a call to cross-cultural missions or international students, this independent study will serve you well. The full course will extend over 9 quarters, but each quarter is a stand-alone portion of the whole. (1 credit each)</p>
MS590 MS690 MS790	<p><b>Independent Study in Missions</b>          Directed research and writing in the history of missionary theory and practice.  <i>Special Arrangements (1-3 credits)</i></p>

## Department of Church History

David G. Whitla, PhD, Professor of Church History  
 John R. Bower, MD, ThM, Visiting Lecturer of Church History  
 Hao Lu, MDiv, Visiting Lecturer of Church History

	All classes are 3 credits unless noted otherwise.
CH500	<p><b>Theological English</b>                  To help international students whose native language is not English to better profit from their studies at the Seminary, a thorough guide to theological studies in the English language is offered consisting of readings, study questions, quizzes, and short writing projects. Distance Learning only.</p>
CH510	<p><b>Theological Research and Writing</b>                  This course prepares students to research and write papers for Seminary courses and to engage in effective study and writing in later ministry. Students will learn basic research skills using library resources, online research tools and archive repositories, as well as note-making and reference management software, and will practice writing skills including selection of a subject, development of a thesis, writing style and form, and appropriate use of English punctuation and grammar.</p>
CH610	<p><b>Patristic and Medieval Church History</b>                  This is a survey course of the Christian Church from the apostolic age to the dawn of the Reformation. It examines the early church fathers and the ecumenical councils; the growth of the papacy, missionary expansion, and the impact of Islam; monasticism, mysticism, scholasticism, and the cultural changes of the High Middle Ages; the Eastern churches; and early reform movements.</p>
CH620	<p><b>History of the Reformation</b>                  This course explores the origins, development and establishment of the Protestant Reformation, c.1517-1618. It surveys the main events, leaders, and theological contributions of the Lutheran Reformation of Germany, Anglican Reformation of England, Calvinist Reformation of Switzerland and its spread and influence in Scotland, France, the Netherlands, the Palatinate and Eastern Europe. It also explores the challenges posed by the Roman Catholic Counter-Reformation and Anabaptist Radical Reformation and the ongoing importance of the holding fast to the Reformation's attainments today.</p>

CH630	<p><b>Modern Church History</b>                  This course will cover major developments in the Church since 1618; focusing on church organization and growth through the revivals and revolutions of the modern era, as well as the external and internal pressures on the Church from political absolutism, philosophical and theological innovations.</p>
CH640	<p><b>Introduction to Early Modern Paleography</b>                  This practicum offers an introduction to the conventions of early modern English paleography and practical exercises in transcribing handwritten Puritan and Covenanter sermons, common place books, letters, and diaries from a variety of British and American libraries and archives. (1 credit)</p>
CH650	<p><b>Intermediate Early Modern Paleography</b>                  This practicum offers a refresher course for students who have already completed CH640 Introduction to Early Modern Paleography, or can demonstrate an adequate prior working knowledge of the conventions of early modern (1500-1700) English paleography. Students will increase proficiency in deciphering and transcribing early modern English secretary hand, by participating in a 10-week collaborative transcription project of a substantial original (and as yet un-transcribed) 17th century manuscript from the Scottish archives. (1 credit)</p>
CH710	<p><b>Reformed Presbyterian History</b>                  A survey of the historical development of the Reformed Presbyterian Churches in Scotland, Ireland, North America and elsewhere; denominational history will be considered in relation to other churches, particularly those in the Presbyterian family.</p>
CH711	<p><b>Denominational Research Paper</b>                  A denominational research paper is required for all MDiv students not taking CH710 or CH712. Speak to your advisor for more details.</p>
CH712	<p><b>The Black Church: History and Polity</b>                  Historic development and philosophic perspective of the Black Church. While taught within the context of the Black Baptist Church, the course will cover outstanding persons, events, and institutions in the life of the African-American Church in general.</p>

CH740	<b>Westminster Assembly: Principal Documents</b> The Westminster Assembly created six principal documents to guide and support the work of covenanted uniformity of religion. This course will explore the history of the making of these documents by considering their intended purpose, identifying key textual and societal influences surrounding their development, exploring the assembly's drafting and deliberative processes and following how these documents entered into the social medium of the day – print.
CH590 CH690 CH790	<b>Independent Study in Church History</b> Under the direction of a professor. Papers and reports. - Special Arrangements (1-3 credits)



## DOCTOR OF MINISTRY STUDIES

Clayton J. (C. J.) Williams, PhD, Director of the Doctor of Ministry Program

There are four required courses common to both the *Strengthening Pastoral Ministry* and *Strengthening Counseling Ministry* concentrations:

DM101	<b>Revitalization of Ministry</b> Whether a congregation is going through a season of struggle or strength, every church leader needs to be knowledgeable of, and infusing into the congregations they serve, principles of church vitality. This course will encourage students in a workshop format to grow in and apply such principles as unconditional dependence upon the Holy Spirit through practicing prayer, clarifying the understanding of the role of ordained leadership, putting into clear focus the church's mission, and defining carefully the plan to seek to fulfill the mission. A special emphasis is given on renewal in pastoral leadership. - Dr. Barry J. York (4 day intensive class, 3 credits)
DM102	<b>Reformed Distinctives in Ministry</b> In our culture, there is no end to new and innovative ministry models. What is more, pragmatism seems to be the only way in which many want to evaluate existing models. This course will explore what it means to establish a Reformed approach to ministry that uses the Bible rather than pragmatics as a compass. This course will also seek to instill habits of thinking and doing that will naturally cultivate a distinctively Reformed ministry. This course will also evaluate theological, historical, and pragmatic trends that encroach upon and distract from a Reformed approach to ministry. - Dr. Jeffrey A. Stivason (4 day intensive class, 3 credits)
DM103	<b>Leadership Communication</b> This course seeks to answer this question, "What guides and informs communicative practices within the pastoral roles of service and leadership?" The faithful conduct of pastoral ministry depends on sound communication principles and practices. Twenty-first century pastors work within a world saturated with electronic technology, yet lacking in communication knowledge and skill. Nevertheless, church members expect pastoral leadership and care, anticipating that a pastor should be omni-competent in every form of communicative practice. This course explores principles that inform basic communicative practices across the spectrum of pastoral ministry – from within the pastor's own marriage and household; to the conduct of various kinds of church meetings; to teaching and preaching; to engaging electronic communication in personal and mass media forms. - Dr. Joel S. Ward (4 day intensive class, 3 credits)

DM104	<p><b>Counseling the Flock</b></p> <p>In this course, students will sharpen their skills of listening, analyzing, and guiding members through the variety of problems commonly encountered by pastors seeking to counsel, advise, and aid the members of the church to live their faith with integrity and consistency.</p> <p>(4 day intensive class, 3 credits)</p>	<p>Four additional courses are required for the <i>Strengthening Pastoral Ministry</i> concentration:</p>
DM201	<p><b>The Renewal of Preaching</b></p> <p>In this course, students have the opportunity to review and evaluate the quality, competency, and effectiveness of their pulpit oratory, learn advanced techniques for rhetorical construction, and study effective methods of sermon construction.</p> <p>- Dr. Barry J. York (4 day intensive class, 3 credits)</p>	<p>Four additional courses are required for the <i>Strengthening Counseling Ministry</i> concentration:</p> <p>DM301 <b>What is Man?</b></p> <p>In this course, students will examine the exegetical data related to man, his problems, and how the counseling/discipleship process addresses these issues. A systematic theology of discipleship will be developed as the framework from which a robust discipleship ministry can and must develop.</p> <p>- Dr. Lane Tipton (4 day intensive course, 3 credits)</p>
DM202	<p><b>Issues in Theology</b></p> <p>In this course, students will survey and analyze current trends and directions in theological studies and their impact on Reformed confessional integrity, on the beliefs and practices of the members of the Church, and on the future directions of theological development.</p> <p>- Dr. Richard C. Gamble (4 day intensive class, 3 credits)</p>	<p>DM302 <b>Medical and Legal Issues in Biblical Counseling</b></p> <p>In this course, the student will be exposed to the many physiological issues that can impact the counseling/discipleship process. Direction for dealing with these issues within a pastoral context will be mapped out. Also, the same will be done for the legal issues that face the pastor/counselor. Special attention will be given to proper protection from and preparation for possible prosecution in the court systems, both criminal and civil.</p> <p>Special emphasis will be given to principles of peacemaking in a litigious society.</p> <p>- Dr. Andrew Kerr and Dr. Jonathan Parnell (4 day intensive class, 3 credits)</p>
DM203	<p><b>Pastoral Theology in the Reformed Tradition</b></p> <p>The practice of pastoral theology in the Presbyterian tradition has its roots in Reformation and post-Reformation Scotland, as the shepherds of Christ's flock endeavored to return to a biblically faithful administration of the Word, sacraments and discipline. In an age that cries out for fresh reformation in the churches, this course invites students to an encounter with the pioneers of the Scottish Presbyterian tradition to examine the practice and reception of pastoral care from the past in order to draw practical lessons for contemporary ministry contexts.</p> <p>- Dr. David G. Whitla (4 day intensive class, 3 credits)</p>	<p>DM303 <b>Contemporary Issues in Counseling</b></p> <p>This course seeks to survey and analyze current trends in the Biblical Counseling Movement as well as directions in the landscape of modern culture. As such, a biblical analysis/perspective will be offered, practical implications considered, and the significance to the church and church-based counseling will be proposed. Students will further grasp how the timeless truths of Scripture sufficiently interface with modern trajectories and developments.</p> <p>(4 day intensive class, 3 credits)</p>
DM204	<p><b>Advancing in Biblical Exegesis</b></p> <p>Ministry of the Word begins with sound exegesis. The purpose of this course is to refresh and sharpen the exegetical skills that bring vitality to the preaching and teaching of the Scriptures. Basic principles will be revisited, and more advanced techniques will be introduced, all with the goal of bringing forth sound exposition and application. This course will also examine and apply the tools that are currently available to help students grow in the proficient handling of the original biblical languages.</p> <p>- Dr. C. J. Williams (4 day intensive class, 3 credits)</p>	<p>DM304 <b>Counseling Practicum</b></p> <p>In this non-resident course, students will be mentored in the counseling/training process. Regardless of the student's past experience in counseling, this course will involve both a significant practical component (50 hours of counseling or its equivalency) supervised by the professor and a significant writing component tailored to the student's circumstances. Students entering into the program previously certified through a national certifying body will be prepared to pursue the next highest level of certification (such as a supervising fellow or as a publisher/trainer in the field of Biblical Counseling). If the student has not been certified through such an organization, students will be prepared to achieve such a status through this course.</p> <p>- Dr. Pete Stazen (non-resident course, 3 credits)</p>

DM495

#### Doctor of Ministry Project

Candidates for the Doctor of Ministry degree will complete a major project approved by the Director of the Doctor of Ministry Program and another member of the Faculty. The project will consist of academic research in a specific area of study covered by the coursework. The project should be an integration of academic theological research and current ministry with plans to implement your research in the practice of ministry. The academic research and writing required for the degree shall be at the doctoral level, demonstrating original research in a biblical and theological field of studies, competency in relevant secondary-source academic literature, and practical application to the task of ministry in the Kingdom of God. Work on the project may begin after completion of the fifth course. See the *DMin Program Handbook* for further information. (6 credits)



The impact my professors have had on me cannot be overstated. Their clear instruction, wise counsel, and genuine care is contagious. My prayer and expectation is that the mark they have left on my life will be seen in every aspect of my ministry.

Ray Antonio Carroscia, '24





## FACULTY

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### BARRY J. YORK

President of the Seminary  
Professor of Pastoral Theology and Homiletics, 2013-



After redeeming him from his sin as a college student the Lord blessed Barry by putting excellent mentors in his life who built into his heart through God's Word a love for the Church, disciple making, and spiritual multiplication. He was sent as a church planter to Kokomo, Indiana, in 1991. The Sycamore Reformed Presbyterian Church was organized in 1994, where Barry served as pastor until he came to RPTS in 2013. In 2021, he served as the church planting pastor for River Valley Reformed Church and became a pastor of the congregation upon its organization in 2024.

Other experiences that the Lord has given Barry to prepare him for his teaching in pastoral theology and leadership of RPTS include the following: administrator and teacher for Sycamore Covenant Academy for 11 years; member of the RPTS Board for nine years; consultant for several church plants; and speaker at numerous youth and family church conferences. He writes regularly for the blog *Gentle Reformation*, is the General Editor of the *Reformed Presbyterian Theological Journal*, and podcasts regularly on *3GT (Three Guys Theologizing)*, and is a contributor to *Tabletalk* magazine. He is author of *Hitting the Marks: Restoring the Essential Identity of the Church* and the upcoming book, *Loving the Trinity: Responding to God's Love in Salvation as the Church*.

Barry and his wife, Miriam, were married in 1985. They have six children and nine grandchildren, with two more grandkids on the way.

#### PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

Reformed Presbyterian Church, West Lafayette, IN - Associate Pastor, 1991 - 1992  
Sycamore Reformed Presbyterian Fellowship, Kokomo, IN - Church Planter, 1991 - 1994

Sycamore Reformed Presbyterian Church, Kokomo, IN - Pastor, 1994 - 2013  
River Valley Fellowship, Beaver, PA - Church Planter, 2021 - 2024.  
River Valley Reformed Church, Monaca, PA - Pastor, 2024 - present.

#### ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Purdue University  
University of Pittsburgh  
Indiana University - Kokomo  
Great Lakes/Gulf Presbytery (Seminary Education Classes)  
Sycamore Covenant Academy

#### EDUCATION

BS (Mathematics), University of Michigan  
MAT (Mathematics), Purdue University  
MDiv, Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary  
DMIN, Reformed Theological Seminary



## RICHARD C. GAMBLE

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Professor of Systematic Theology, 2005-

Dr. Gamble is in his 45th year of seminary teaching and has taught at RPTS since 2005. He explains his teaching philosophy: "When a student comes into a systematic theology class, he comes into holy ground. As Moses took off his sandals, so should we. Theology is heavy and weighty, yet sweet and the stuff of life. While I do not give a sermon for lectures, my hope is that the lectures will 'preach.'" He has been a minister in the Orthodox Presbyterian and Christian Reformed churches and is presently a minister in the RPCNA. He has served congregations in Switzerland, Michigan, Florida, and Pennsylvania.

Past president of the Calvin Studies Society, Dr. Gamble is the author of *The Whole Counsel of God, Vol. I: God's Mighty Acts in the Old Testament*, *The Whole Counsel of God, Vol. II: The Full Revelation of God*, and *Augustinus Contra Maximinum: An Analysis of Augustine's Anti-Arian Writings*. He is currently working on *The Whole Counsel of God, Vol. III: God's People in God's World*. He is the editor of the 14 volume *ENCYCLOPEDIA: Articles on Calvin and Calvinism*, co-editor and contributor to *Pressing Toward the Mark: Essays Commemorating 50 years of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church* and contributing editor for Eerdmans' *Calvin's Old Testament Commentaries*. He has contributed over 20 chapters to books and festschriften, including "Calvin Bibliography" in *Tributes to John Calvin: A Celebration*, "From the Early Church through Constantine" in *Revolutions in World View*, "The Doctrine of the Atonement from the Westminster Assembly to the 20th Century" in *The Faith Once Delivered: Essays in Honor of Wayne Spear*, "The Relationship between Biblical Theology and Systematic Theology" in *Always Reforming: Explorations in Systematic Theology*, "Calvin and Vermigli: A Study in the Foundations of Reformed Eucharistic Theology" in *Peter Martyr Vermigli and the European Reformations: Semper Reformanda (Studies in the History of Christian Traditions)*, and "Calvin's Controversies" in *The Cambridge Companion to John Calvin*.

A prolific writer, Dr. Gamble has written over 75 articles and book reviews that have appeared in scholarly journals including *16th Century Journal*, *Westminster Theological Journal*, *Calvin Theological Journal*, *Archive für Reformationsgeschichte*, *Reformed Theological Journal*, *Theologische Zeitschrift*, *Renaissance Quarterly*, and *Themelios* as well as publications for a general audience such as *The Christian Statesman*, *Presbyterian Journal*, *The Banner*, *Reformed Quarterly*, *The Reformed Presbyterian Witness*, *Urban Mission*, *Presbyterian Layman*, *Eternity*, and *Tabletalk*.

Commitment to missions, both home and foreign, has long been a hallmark of Dr. Gamble's ministry, and he has taught widely in the Christian community over four continents. He has lectured at Kobe Theological Hall; Tokyo Theological Institute; Hap Dong Theological Seminary; Chongshin Seminary; Cheon An University; Soongsil University; the Presbyterian Bible College, Taipei; the Evangelical Theological Seminary, Prague; The Free University, Amsterdam; Rutherford House,

Edinburgh; The Reformed Theological College, Ireland; die Freie Evangelisch-Theologische Akademie, Basel, Switzerland; the Calvin 500 Conference in Geneva, Switzerland; Ottawa Theological Hall, Canada; and Minsk, Belarus; as well as at many universities, seminaries, and learned societies in the United States. He has also spoken at numerous family Bible camps, church conferences, and seminars from the beaches of California to the mountains of New York.

Rick and his wife, Janice, have five daughters and five grandchildren.

### PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

Basel Christian Fellowship, Basel, Switzerland – Stated Supply, 1978 - 1980  
Blue Bell Orthodox Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, PA – Stated Supply, 1983 - 1984  
Burton Heights Christian Reformed Church, Grand Rapids, MI – Associate Pastor, 1987 - 1992  
Lake Odessa Christian Reformed Church, Lake Odessa, MI – Associate Pastor, 1992 - 1997  
Cornerstone Reformed Presbyterian Mission Church, Chuluota, FL – Church Planter, 1998 - 2000  
College Hill Reformed Presbyterian Church, Beaver Falls, PA – Senior Pastor, 2008 - 2010

### ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Freie Evangelisch-Theologische Akademie, Basel, Switzerland – Instructor of Church History, 1979 - 1981  
Westminster Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, PA – Associate Professor of Church History, 1981 - 1987  
Center for Urban Theological Studies, Philadelphia, PA, 1981 - 1983  
Calvin Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids, MI – Professor of Historical Theology, 1987 - 1997  
Director, H. Henry Meeter Center for Calvin Studies, Calvin College and Seminary, Grand Rapids, MI, 1987 - 1997  
Reformed Theological Seminary, Orlando, FL – Professor of Systematic Theology and Department Chair, 1997 - 2005  
Akademie fuer Reformatorische Theologie, Marburg, Germany – Adjunct Professor of New Testament, 1998 - 2002  
Scholar-in-Residence, Great Lakes/Gulf Presbytery, RPCNA, 2002 - 2005  
Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids, MI – Adjunct Professor of Historical Theology, 2017 -  
Westminster Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, PA – Adjunct Professor of Systematic and Historical Theology, 2017 -

### EDUCATION

BA, Westminster College  
MA, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary  
PhD (Theology), Universität Basel, Switzerland



## JEFFREY A. STIVASON

Professor of New Testament Studies, 2020-

Dr. Stivason is an experienced pastor and church planter who loves the study of theology and its applications for ministry. He has reviews, essays, and articles in several different journals, including the *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society*, *Westminster Theological Journal*, *Presbyterian*, *The Gospel Coalition*, and *The Confessional Presbyterian*. He has contributed articles to *The Jonathan Edwards Encyclopedia* being published by Eerdmans. In addition, he is also the Executive Editor of Place for

Truth, a website of the Alliance of Confessing Evangelicals. He has also written *From Inscrutability to Concursus: Benjamin B. Warfield's Theological Construction of Revelation's Mode from 1880-1915* published by P&R Publishing.

Jeff and Tabatha were married in 1991 and have two children. Tab went to be with the Lord. In August of 2025, Jeff married Emily (Sturm).

### PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

Park Congregational Church, Meadville, PA - Interim Pastor, 1994-1995-1997

New Lebanon Community Church, New Lebanon, PA - Pastor, 1995 - 1998

Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church, Meadville, PA - Church Planter and Pastor, 1998 - 2007

Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church, Gibsonia, PA - Church Planter and Pastor, 2007 -

### ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Professor, Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary, 2007 - 2020

Geneva College

Westminster Theological Seminary (online faculty)

The Academy

The Gibsonia Study Center

### EDUCATION

BA, Grove City College

MDiv, Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary

STM, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

PhD, Westminster Theological Seminary



## DAVID G. WHITLA

Professor of Church History, 2019-

Born in Scotland and raised in Northern Ireland, Dr. Whitla immigrated to the United States in 2000 and has been an avid student of history since childhood. He presents Church History as a pastoral discipline, equipping pastors to situate themselves and their flocks in the unfolding narrative directed by the sovereign hand of the Lord of History, Jesus Christ. But since it is also an academic discipline, he teaches future pastors not only to recount the story of Christ building His church, but to perform the task of historians

themselves – engaging confidently with original sources and interpreting and applying them appropriately.

Dr. Whitla is co-author of *Portraits of Christ* (Crown and Covenant, 2020), contributor of a chapter on Scottish homiletics to *The Brill Companion to the Reformation in Scotland, c.1525-1638* (Leiden: Brill, 2021), editor of *The Sum of Saving Knowledge* (Crown and Covenant 2022), editor of John Owen's *Rules for Walking in Fellowship* (Grand Rapids: Reformation Heritage Books, 2014), and his articles and reviews have appeared in the *Journal of British Studies*, *Journal of the Northern Renaissance*, *Studies in Puritanism and Piety Journal*, *Reformed Theological Journal*, and *Puritan Reformed Journal*. He has delivered conference papers at Queens University Belfast, the University of St Andrews, Scotland, the Scottish Reformation Society, the Oklahoma Conference on Reformed Theology, the Banner of Truth Ministers Conference, and the Evangelical Theological Society (ETS). He is a visiting lecturer at the Reformed Theological College (Belfast), China Reformed Theological Seminary (Taipei), and a regular consultant for the Lilly Youth Theology Network (LYTN). He also serves on the Board of Trustees for the Banner of Truth Trust and the steering committee for the Puritan Theology in Post-Reformation Context program unit of the ETS.

David and his wife, June, were married in 2002 and have five children.

### PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

Reformed Presbyterian Church of Southside Indianapolis, IN - Associate Pastor, 2008-2014; Senior Pastor, 2014-2016

### ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Trinity Reformed Presbyterian Church, Newtownabbey, Northern Ireland - Resident Lecturer, 2016 - 2019

Reformed Theological College, Belfast - Visiting Professor of Church History, 2018 Theological Foundations for Youth, Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary - Director and Lecturer, 2001 - present

Theological Foundations Weekends, Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery - Director and Lecturer, 2009 - 2016

China Reformed Theological Seminary, Taiwan: Visiting Lecturer, 2022, 2026  
Kobe Theological Hall, Japan: Visiting Lecturer, 2025, 2026

### EDUCATION

BA (Hons) Modern History and French, Queens University Belfast

PGCE (Postgrad. Cert. Education), University of Ulster, Coleraine

MDiv, Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary

PhD, Queens University Belfast

## CLAYTON J. "CJ" WILLIAMS

Director of the DMin Program  
Professor of Old Testament Studies, 2005-

Dr. Williams has a passion to help fill the great need in the Church for interpreting and applying the Old Testament to the New Testament. "The Old Testament itself constitutes over three-quarters of the Bible, making it an essential part of the faith and life of believers. In 2 Timothy 3:16, Paul writes that all Scripture is useful for equipping the man of God. What Paul had immediately

in mind was what we call the Old Testament, so it is a central part of preparing men for ministry."

Having first served in the pastorate, Dr. Williams designs his courses with ministry in mind: "I teach with an eye toward preparing men to preach and teach in a local church on a weekly basis."

In the fall of 2005, he became the youngest full-time faculty in RPTS history at age 33 when he assumed the role of Professor of Old Testament Studies. His representative articles include the following: "Redeeming the Time" in *Covenanter Witness* and "Thanksgiving and Covenanting" in *Semper Reformanda*. He is also the author of *The Shadow of Christ in the Book of Job* and *The Shadow of Christ in the Book of Lamentations*.

C. J. and his wife, Sherri, were married in 1995. They have five children and two grandsons.

### PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

Providence Reformed Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, PA - Organizing Pastor,  
1998 - 2005

Providence Reformed Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, PA - Assistant Pastor,  
2014 - 2021

### ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Professor, Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary, 2001 - 2005

### EDUCATION

BA, Covenant College

MDiv, Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary

MA, Siegal College of Jewish Studies

PhD, Baltimore Hebrew Institute of Towson University

ADJUNCT  
FACULTY



Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary



## MARTIN B. BLOCKI

Senior Adjunct Professor of Biblical Counseling, 2023-

Martin B. Blocki is the Associate Pastor of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North Hills in Pittsburgh, PA (ordained and installed in June 2003). As a member of the Presbytery of the Alleghenies, he has served in numerous capacities, including twelve years on the Candidates Committee. Since 2017, he has supported the work of the Presbytery of the Alleghenies in the role of Clerk. He is a certified ACBC Biblical Counselor and has contributed numerous articles to *Place for Truth*. For many years he volunteered his time, working with Dr. George Scipione at the Biblical Counseling Institute both as a counselor, and as part of the Counseling Observation and Role Play practicums. During Dr. Scipione's tenure, Blocki lectured in the Marriage and Family class and presented several workshops at the annual BCI conferences. He lectures yearly on the topic "Ministry to the Marginalized" for the Theological Foundations for Youth program and for both the Readiness for Pastoral Ministry and Deacons Ministry classes at RPTS. When his sons were still in high school and for several years after, he taught Apologetics and Theology for the Blackburn Study Center. Prior to moving to Pittsburgh in 1999 to attend the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Martin was employed by Goshen College (Associate Professor of Music Education 1992-1998), the South Adams County Schools (Band Director and Music Department Chairman 1986-1992) and Huntington North High School (Assistant Band Director 1983-1985). Rev. Blocki graduated from the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary (MDiv 2002), Arizona State University (MM 1987), and Indiana University, Bloomington (BME 1983).

Martin and his wife, Kathy, have two sons (Jeremiah, who married Heather Pinkerton, and Matthew) and two daughters (Mirriam Hope and Mary Joy, who are both now in the presence of Christ), and five grandchildren.

### PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

Reformed Presbyterian Church of North Hills – Associate Pastor, 2003 -

### ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Blackburn Study Center (Apologetics and Theology)

Goshen College (Associate Professor of Music Education)

### EDUCATION

BME, Indiana University, Bloomington

MM, Arizona State University

MDiv, Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary



## MATTHEW EVERHARD

Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology & Missions, 2023-

Matthew Everhard is an Adjunct Professor at RPTS, contributing to classes on Evangelism, Spiritual Development, and Church History. He is a graduate of Malone University (BA, Bible), Ashland Theological Seminary (MA Practical Theology), and RTS Orlando (DMin). He is an ordained minister in the PCA, and serves as the pastor of Gospel Fellowship PCA in Valencia, PA.

Matthew has served in the local church as a pastor now for over twenty years, serving in congregations in the PCA and the EPC. He has served as a short-term missionary to Africa, El Salvador, Ukraine, Peru and several other nations preaching and teaching the Bible. Matthew hosts a YouTube podcast with over fifty thousand subscribers where he discusses theology, church history, and practical theology.

His concentration of interest is primarily in the field of Jonathan Edwards studies, having published a number of works on Edwards including his dissertation entitled, "A Theology of Joy: Jonathan Edwards and Eternal Happiness in the Holy Trinity," (Independent Reformed Media). He also wrote "Holy Living: Jonathan Edwards's Seventy Resolutions for Living the Christian Life," (Hendrickson). He is a contributor to the *Jonathan Edwards Encyclopedia* (Eerdmans) and several other collaborative publications. His forthcoming work, *The Jonathan Edwards Study Bible* (Thomas Nelson) will be the first study Bible of its kind, modeled entirely upon the exegetical and theological writings of Edwards.

Matthew has been married to Kelly for 24 years, and together they have four children, Soriah, Elijah, Elise, and Simone.

### PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

Gospel Fellowship (PCA). Valencia, PA. 2019 -

Faith Evangelical Presbyterian Church (PCA). Brooksville, FL. 2008 - 2019

Hudson Presbyterian Church (EPC). Hudson, OH. 2002 - 2008

### EDUCATION

BA (Bible and Theology), Malone University

MA (Practical Theology), Ashland Theological Seminary

DMin, Reformed Theological Seminary (Orlando)



## MARK ROBINSON

Adjunct Professor of Systematic Theology, 2015-

Mark is an experienced pastor and lecturer who has a passion for working at the intersection of theology, piety, and culture in the urban setting, as well as studying the historical and present impact of Reformed Theology in the African-American context. He has written book reviews for *Modern Reformation* magazine and *The Gospel Coalition*, as well as other online websites. As a consultant, he has worked in community development aimed at the least, the last, and the lost. In 2015-2017, he worked on a national grant project which sought to understand and assist mainstream Christians in integrating their faith and work lives in an economically sound way.

### PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

Redeemer Presbyterian Church, Teaneck, NJ – Pastoral Assistant, 2000-2002

Cornerstone Presbyterian Church, Coopersburg, PA – Worship Director, 2002-2006

Redeemer Presbyterian Church of NY – Assistant Pastor and Director of Fellowship Groups, 2006-2009

Preaching and Pulpit Supply in New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, 2009-2011

Community Bible Church, Inwood, NY – Pulpit Supply and Interim Sr. Pastor, 2011-2013

Covenant Community Presbyterian Church, Wexford, PA – Pastoral Consultant and Pulpit Supply, 2013-2017

### ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

PA Adult & Teen Challenge – Pastoral Mentor, 2018-2020

The Bible College of East Africa – Summer Lecturer in Music Theory

Geneva College – Adjunct Instructor, 2014 to present

Westminster Theological Seminary – Guest Lecturer in Urban Missions

Covenant Theological Seminary – Guest Lecturer for Francis Schaeffer Institute Series

Numerous churches and PCA-sponsored events and conferences – seminars on race and Reformed theology

### EDUCATION

BA, Bob Jones University

Further undergraduate work at Columbia University and Montclair State University

MA, Bob Jones University

MDiv, Westminster Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, PA



## VINCE W. WARD

Adjunct Professor of Missions, 2019-

Rev. Vince Ward was born in Quebec City, Quebec, and grew up in Ottawa, Ontario. He attended the University of Ottawa, graduating with a degree in physiotherapy, and went on to obtain his MDiv\* from Ottawa Theological Hall. He served as a Reformed Presbyterian missionary in South Sudan for 10 years.

Following his ministry in South Sudan, Vince and his son Samuel wrote a book, *Pursuit of Glory* (vinceward.org), as a testimony of God's grace and glory. Vince's passion is to invest in the next generation of cross-cultural workers as they advance in their pursuit of God's glory among the nations. He currently serves as a Mission Consultant with RP Global Missions (2018 to present).

Vince and his wife, Julie, were married in 2002 and have three children.

### PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

South Sudan – Missionary Pastor, 2006 - 2015

Hudson/St. Lazare Reformed Presbyterian Church – Interim Moderator, 2016 - 2019

### EDUCATION

BS, University Of Ottawa

MDiv\*, Ottawa Theological Hall

(\*Equivalent)



## VISITING LECTURERS



### JOHN R. BOWER

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Visiting Lecturer of Church History, 2008-

Dr. Bower believes a rediscovery of the faith of our fathers is key to the vitality of the Church today. "As the Great Revival of the Reformation is examined, our understanding of the Scriptures is deepened from its treasures of truth. Our faith is strengthened as it is seen that Reformed doctrine did not originate 500 years ago, but that it is the faith once-delivered to the saints and preserved through the centuries to our day." In keeping with this high regard for the relevance of Reformation history, he is involved with the Westminster Assembly Project, which is seeking to recover and make available in full the doctrinal legacy of this historic convocation (1643-1652). Further information about this research may be found at [www.westminsterassembly.org](http://www.westminsterassembly.org).

John is a Research Fellow of the Craig Center for the Study of the Westminster Standards, editor of *The Larger Catechism: A Critical Text and Introduction* (2010), and author of the forthcoming *The Westminster Confession of Faith: A Historical Introduction and Critical Text*. He is also co-editor of a series of Westminster Assembly-related monographs and a series of principal documents of the Westminster Assembly.

John serves as Attending Physician, Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases, at Children's Hospital in Akron, Ohio.

John and his wife, Dorothy, were married in 1978. They have five children and nine grandchildren.

#### PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

Dr. Bower has served as a ruling elder for nearly a quarter of a century at Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church in Aurora, Ohio.

#### ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Associate Professor of Pediatrics & Microbiology/Immunology, Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine, Rootstown, Ohio.

#### EDUCATION

MS, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS  
MD, University of Mississippi, Jackson, MS  
MTS, Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary  
ThM, Westminster Theological Seminary, London



## ANDREW KERR

Visiting Lecturer of Old Testament and Ethics 2021-

Born, educated and trained in Northern Ireland, formerly as a surgeon, and latterly as a pastor of congregations in the Presbyterian and Reformed Presbyterian denominations, Dr. Kerr has a passion for preaching, teaching and applying the Old Testament. With a particularly keen interest in Biblical Languages, the Psalter, Biblical Hermeneutics, and the Use of the Old Testament in the New Testament, he has a deep desire to spread the knowledge of Christ in all the Scriptures among sinners, saints, and students. Having been involved in mission at home and abroad for over a decade, he recently accepted a call as pastor of Ridgefield Park RPC to oversee church revitalization and planting in the NYC Metropolitan Area. Andrew is a regular contributor to denominational journals and magazines. He is also a regular blogger on *Gentle Reformation*. Having lectured in Hebrew in the Reformed Theological College in Belfast, Northern Ireland, from 2008, he was appointed Professor of Old Testament in 2017.

He has been married to Hazel, a family doctor, for 28 years; they have three children: Rebekah, Paul and Andrew.

#### PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

Coagh, Ballygoney and Saltersland Presbyterian Churches (Ireland) - Pastor, 2002 - 2006

Knockbracken Reformed Presbyterian Church (Ireland) - Pastor, 2007 - 2020

Ridgefield Park Reformed Presbyterian Church (NYC-New Jersey) - Pastor, 2020 -

#### ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Reformed Theological College RPCI - Lecturer in Hebrew, 2008 - 2017

Pastors' Seminary - Visiting Lecturer, 2016

Reformed Theological College RPCI - Professor of Old Testament Languages and Literature, 2017 -

Ethiopian Baptist School of Theology (Addis Ababa) - Adjunct Professor, 2017 - London Seminary - Visiting Lecturer, 2017

Westminster Presbyterian Theological Seminary (England) - Visiting Lecturer, 2021

Reformed Presbyterian Seminary of Canada - Lecturer in the Hebrew Language, 2025 -

#### EDUCATION

MB BCh BAO - Queen's University Belfast (QUB)

FRCSI - Royal College of Surgeons Dublin

BD - Union Theological College (QUB)

MTh - Union Theological College (QUB)



## HAO LU

Visiting Lecturer of Church History 2021-

Coming from China, converted in Pittsburgh, Reverend Hao Lu received his theological training at RPTS when he was still a new believer. He is not a doctor and prefers not to be called a professor. As the only faculty member at this seminary whose native language is not English, Mr. Lu understands both the struggles and the benefits of learning theology in a second language. For this reason, he teaches

Theological English, hoping to use his personal experience to help international students thrive at RPTS.

Hao and his wife, Amy, were married in 2015. They have three boys and one daughter, all of whose Chinese is as poor as Hao's English.

#### PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

College Hill Reformed Church, Beaver Falls, PA - Pastoral Assistant, 2018 -

#### ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Geneva College - Assistant for Global Students, 2018 -

#### EDUCATION

BS, Nanjing University, China

MDiv, Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary



## AARON J. SAMS

Visiting Lecturer of Pastoral Theology, 2014-

Dr. Sams has been an educator since 2000 and is also currently the Distance Learning Consultant at RPTS and Assistant Professor of Education at Saint Vincent College in Latrobe, Pennsylvania.

He is co-author of the books *Flip Your Classroom: Reach Every Student in Every Class Every Day* and *Flipped Learning: Gateway to Student Engagement*. Aaron also has published many articles in various educational and technological journals. He was awarded the 2009 Presidential Award for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching. He frequently speaks and conducts workshops on educational uses of screencasts and The Flipped Classroom concept.

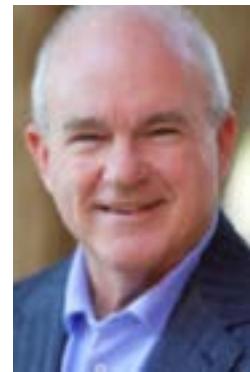
Aaron and his wife, Kelsey, were married in 2001. They have three children.

### ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

St. Vincent College, Latrobe, Pennsylvania  
Biola University, La Mirada, California

### EDUCATION

BS, Biola University  
MA (Education), Biola University  
PhD, Texas Tech University



## MICHAEL R. STEWART

Visiting Lecturer of Pastoral Theology, 2021-

Dr. Stewart is the Associate Endorser for Civilian Chaplains for the PRCC (Presbyterian and Reformed Commission on Chaplains) and Research Professor for Chaplain Ministries-Erskine Theological Seminary.

He was the longest serving Chaplain of Piedmont Columbus Regional Health since its founding in 1836. He served as a Commissioner for the PRCC for five years and has been endorsed by the PRCC since 2001. He has been an ordained Teaching Elder in the Presbyterian Church of America since 2001. He played four years of Varsity tennis at The Citadel and was ranked number four in the United States in tennis in 2009 by USTA husband-wife mixed doubles age 50 and over.

Michael and his wife, Jeri, were married in 1982. They have two children and one grandchild.

### PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

Reed Memorial Baptist Church – Senior Minister, 1990-1992

### CHAPLAINCY EXPERIENCE

Director of Pastoral Care, Piedmont Columbus Regional Health, Columbus, GA – 2000-2019  
Associate Endorser for Civilian Chaplains for the PRCC (Presbyterian And Reformed Commission on Chaplains) 2019-present

### ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Erskine Theological Seminary, Research Professor for Chaplain Ministries  
Columbus State University, Lecturer on Death and Dying

### EDUCATION

BBA, The Citadel  
Certificate in Archeology, Geography and History of the Bible, Jerusalem University College  
MTh, Dallas Theological Seminary  
MSc in Counseling, Columbus State University  
Board Certified Chaplain, Association of Professional Chaplains  
DMin, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary  
Certificate in Teaching in Higher Education, Harvard University



## LANE TIPTON

Visiting Lecturer of Systematic Theology, 2025-

Rev. Dr. Lane G. Tipton holds the Charles Krahe Chair of Systematic Theology and is a Fellow of Biblical and Systematic Theology at Reformed Forum.

Dr. Tipton's academic interests are many, including hermeneutics, soteriology, Christology, covenant theology, Trinitarian theology, modern theology, and the integration of biblical and systematic theology. His articles on the doctrine of Scripture include "The Witness of Scripture to

Itself," "How to Build a Doctrine of Scripture," and "Incarnation, Inspiration and Pneumatology: A Reformed Incarnational Analogy." On apologetics, he's written "Resurrection, Proof and Presuppositionalism: Acts 17:30-31" or "Paul's Christological Interpretation of Creation and Presuppositional Apologetics," in *Revelation and Reason*.

On biblical theology, consider watching "Biblical Theology and the Westminster Standards Revisited," which is Dr. Tipton's inaugural address as the Charles Krahe chair of Systematic Theology. Also consider "The Gospel and Redemptive-Historical Hermeneutics" in *Confident of Better Things*, "Christology in Colossians 1:15-20 and Hebrews 1:1-4: An Exercise in Biblico-Systematic Theology" in *Resurrection and Eschatology*, or listening to Vos Group, a monthly discussion on Geerhardus Vos' Biblical Theology on Reformed Forum.

He is also the author of "The Eschatology of Hebrews 2:1-4: A Critical Appraisal of the Theonomic Thesis," "The Function of Perichoresis and the Divine Incomprehensibility," "Union with Christ and Justification" in *Justified in Christ*, and his discussion with Michael Horton on Reformed Forum about "Justification and Union with Christ."

Lane and his wife, Charlene, have four children.

### PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

Dr. Tipton is an ordained minister in the Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC).

### ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Professor, Westminster Theological Seminary, 2003-2019

### EDUCATION

BA, Southwestern Oklahoma State University, 1992

MDiv, Westminster Seminary California, 1998

PhD, Westminster Theological Seminary, 2004



## CALVIN L. TROUP

Visiting Lecturer of Speech, 1999-

Dr. Troup brings a unique opportunity for RPTS students to learn about effective public communication. He has taught "Dynamics of Public Speaking" for the MTS and MDiv programs and "Leadership Communication" in the DMin curriculum. A ruling elder in the Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church in Gibsonia, Dr. Troup has marketplace experience as a communication professional, in addition to extensive service as a university professor. A former Associate Professor and Director of the

Rhetoric PhD Program in the Department of Communication & Rhetorical Studies at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Dr. Troup currently serves as President at Geneva College.

Calvin and his wife, Amy, have four daughters, four sons-in-law, and eight grandchildren.

Dr. Troup's scholarly interests in rhetorical theory and philosophy of communication focus on the work of Saint Augustine, and the Rhetoric of Technology from media ecology perspectives informed by the work of Jacques Ellul and Walter J. Ong. His published work includes *Augustine for the Philosophers: The Rhetor of Hippo, the Confessions, and the Continentals*, and *Temporality, Eternity, and Wisdom: The Rhetoric of Augustine's Confessions*, as well as recent publications such as "Augustine of Hippo: Bishop of Intellectuals," in *Listening: Journal of Communication Ethics, Religion, and Culture*; and "C. S. Lewis: Popular Culture, Propaganda, and The Screwtape Letters," in *Evangelicals and Popular Culture: Pop Goes the Gospel*. Dr. Troup has written other book chapters and articles in journals such as *Communication Quarterly*, *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*, *The Journal of Communication and Religion*, and *The Journal of Business Ethics*.

### PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

Dr. Troup serves as a ruling elder at the Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church in Gibsonia, Pennsylvania.

### ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Duquesne University, PhD Program Director and Associate Professor

### EDUCATION

BA, Geneva College

MA, Pennsylvania State University

PhD, Pennsylvania State University



## JOEL S. WARD

Visiting Lecturer of Speech, 2019.

At RPTS, Dr. Joel Ward teaches DM103 Leadership Communication, which is part of the DMin program.

Dr. Ward is an associate professor in the Communication Department of Geneva College. His research and teaching are directed at problems of communication ethics as they apply to the use of new technologies within interpersonal relationships and organizations. He is a ruling elder at Hope Community Reformed Presbyterian Church and a resident of Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania.

His research interests include mediated communication, persuasion, and personality development. His current projects include: "Artificially Intelligent: The Introduction of Speech Controlled Software into Domestic Conversation."

Joel and his wife, Tabi, were married in 2006. They have five children.

### PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

Dr. Ward served as a ruling elder at the College Hill Reformed Presbyterian Church in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania. He is currently a ruling elder at Hope Community Reformed Presbyterian Church in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania.

### ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Geneva College, Assistant Professor, Communication

### EDUCATION

BA, Huntington University  
MA, Duquesne University  
PhD, Duquesne University

## DISTANCE LEARNING INSTRUCTORS



Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary



## JACK GAMBLE-SMITH

### Distance Learning Instructor

Jack grew up in northern California. During his time in college, Jack began to sense the Lord's calling upon his life for ministry, so he went to seminary after graduating from college with a degree in English. After seminary, Jack moved to Scotland to pursue a PhD in Systematic Theology. During this time, he also preached throughout Scotland in various empty pulpits. Following his time in Scotland, Jack moved to Houston, TX, to assist with a church revitalization, and then recently moved to Beaver Falls, PA, to begin work at Hope Community Reformed Presbyterian Church. Jack is married to his lovely wife, Whitney, and they have two daughters.



## STEPHEN MULDER

### Distance Learning Instructor

Stephen Mulder has a BA in History from The King's University (2017) and an MDiv with a Biblical counseling concentration from RPTS (2020). He has been certified as an ACBC counselor since 2020 and is currently pursuing a DMin degree in Biblical counseling from RPTS. He plans to complete this degree in 2027. Stephen has been serving as a pastor in the RPCNA since September 2021. He is currently working on planting an RPCNA church in Oklahoma City. He is married to Grace and they have

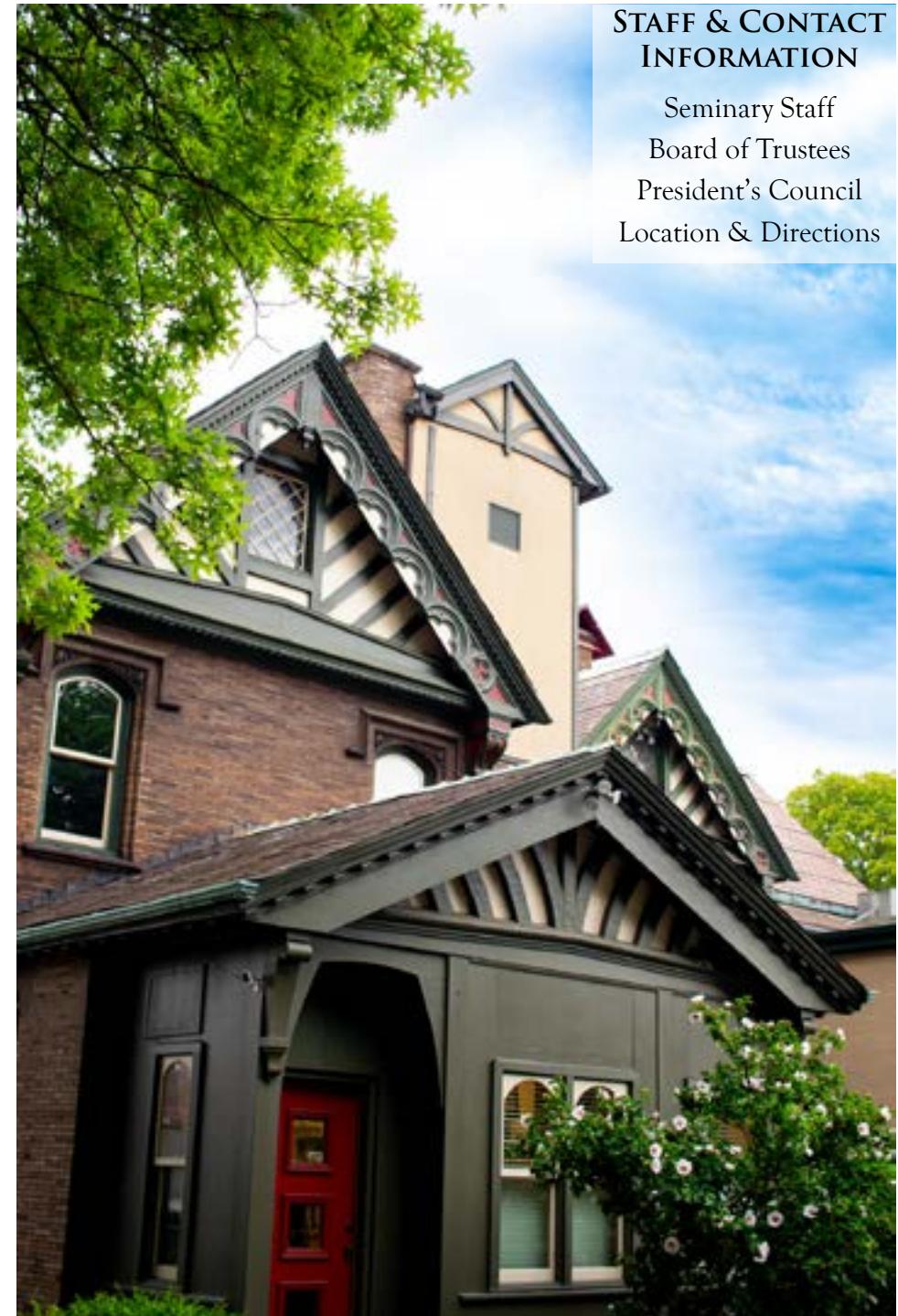
two boys (Micah and Asa).



## JONATHAN STURM

### Distance Learning Instructor

Jonathan was born and raised in a Christian home Indianapolis. During his college years, he began sensing a call to pastoral ministry, eventually coming to study at RPTS from 2020-2023. Since the summer of 2023, Jonathan has served as the Associate Pastor of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Lafayette (Lafayette, IN). Jonathan holds a B.A. in History from Purdue University (West Lafayette, IN) and an M.Div from RPTS (Pittsburgh, PA). Jonathan is married to Elsa (née Spear) of Pittsburgh, and they have two daughters: Jane and Mary.



## STAFF & CONTACT INFORMATION

Seminary Staff

Board of Trustees

President's Council

Location & Directions

## SEMINARY STAFF

Each staff person may be reached through the Seminary's general phone number, 412-731-6000. Most can also be reached by email and have a personal extension for after-hours messages.

**Mrs. Kim Backensto**  
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Center Associate  
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**Mrs. June Whitla**  
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Development & Events  
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Ext. 302

**Mrs. Sherri Williams**  
Receptionist  
swilliams@rpts.edu

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary is under the direct control of the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America and, by constitutional requirement, is governed through a Board of Trustees elected by that body which consists of ministers and elders of the denomination.

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## LOCATION



RPTS is located near lovely downtown Pittsburgh, honored as one of the most livable cities in America. Contact our Admissions Office at 412-731-6000 or [apply@rpts.edu](mailto:apply@rpts.edu) to plan a personal visit.

## ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL AID

Institutional Scholarships



Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary

# LIST OF SCHOLARSHIPS

## **The C. N. and Ruth Hayes Scholarship**

The income from a fund established by the Hayes Foundation in honor of C. N. and Ruth Hayes provides financial assistance to worthy seminarians, regardless of their denominational affiliation to be used for tuition while attending the Seminary.

## **The Ross and Lola Keys Scholarship**

This award is offered to one student each year who demonstrates strong gifts and passion for ministry.

## **The Dennis J. Prutow Scholarship**

The Sterling Reformed Presbyterian Church of Sterling, Kansas, has planted seed money to establish the Dennis J. Prutow Scholarship. The funds from this scholarship will be used toward tuition for RPTS students.

## **Bryan J. Weaver Scholarship**

This scholarship named after Captain Bryan J. Weaver (RPTS 1983), was established by his friends in honor of his faithfulness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ for students in various programs of study.

## **The Reverend Bassam Madany Scholarship**

The family of Bassam Madany (RPTS 1953) established this scholarship, for students from students other than Canada or the U.S., to honor a man with a passion for ministry in Islamic nations. He established a decades-long Gospel radio ministry and has built a huge library of internet-based evangelistic tools.

Rev. Madany fondly recalls the love and support he received as a student.

## **The John and Rose O'Neill Scholarship**

This award is offered to a student who demonstrates gifts and passion for ministry and the advancement of the Kingdom of God. This scholarship is awarded to one student per year.

## **The Edward A. Robson Scholarship**

The Edward A. Robson Scholarship, established in honor of the Emeritus Professor of New Testament Studies, provides academic scholarships for students in various programs.

## **The Wayne R. Spear Scholarship**

Established in honor of Wayne R. Spear, Emeritus Professor of Systematic Theology, this award provides academic scholarships for students in various programs.

## **Thomas and Margaret Willson Scholarship**

Thomas and Margaret Willson (born 1794), descendants of Scottish Covenanters, were natives of Western Pennsylvania. The scholarship established in their honor provides tuition assistance for students from China who intend to return to China for ministry. It also maybe used by any student from an RPCNA foreign mission field seeking to return to serve in that same country or by a US-based student seeking to serve in an RPCNA foreign mission field.

## **The Bruce C. Stewart Scholarship for Outstanding Middler**

Established in the name of former Seminary President Bruce C. Stewart, this scholarship is given to a Middler student who has completed at least 85 but not more than 110 credits by the end of the spring quarter. The scholarship recognizes academic excellence as shown by the cumulative GPA. In case of a tie or a near tie in GPA, the scholarship also takes into consideration the student's pastoral gifts as shown in service and relationships within and outside the Seminary community. The scholarship is announced at the Seminary graduation ceremony.

## **The Raymond P. Joseph Award and Scholarship**

Established in memory of Raymond P. Joseph (RPTS 1956), this award and scholarship are given to a graduating Senior and a returning Middler, respectively, who demonstrate an understanding and practical application of the Mediatorial Kingship of Christ. Both \$500 recipients are announced at the Seminary graduation ceremony.

## **The Frank and Olive Walker Scholarship**

This award is for full-time Reformed Presbyterian students preparing for ministry or missionary work.

## **The Kortyna Book Scholarship**

This family-sponsored scholarship is meant to assist students with the purchase of seminary-related books. The RPTS Administration oversees the awarding of this scholarship.

## **The Milne-McQuiston Scholarship**

The income from an endowment fund given by Mrs. Helen Milne Wilmouth provides a scholarship for graduate study in a foreign theological institution, preferably in Scotland. This scholarship is awarded periodically, "to the student maintaining the highest average in excellence in scholarship and general qualifications for the ministry of the Reformed Presbyterian Church."

## **The Jerry F. O'Neill President's Scholarship**

This full-tuition scholarship is annually awarded to up to two recipients who are full-time, on-campus seniors, in their final year of studies, seeking ordination in the pastoral ministry. Qualified applicants should love preaching, evangelism, discipleship, and possess a servant's heart. Requirements include academic ability, a written essay, and input from the faculty, along with a reference and a completed financial aid application.

## **Reformed Presbyterian Student Under Care of Presbytery Scholarship**

All Reformed Presbyterian Students under the care of a presbytery with the goal of serving as a teaching elder in the RPCNA are eligible. Reformed Presbyterian applicants who are under the care of their presbytery should contact the Financial Aid Office to explore the available options.

## **The James T. Mitchell Scholarship**

Established by his grandchildren in honor of James T. Mitchell (RPTS 1900), to support students in various programs.

## **The Minority and Urban Student (MUS) Scholarship**

Endowed MUS scholarship funds assist students with tuition and book expenses while studying at RPTS. The scholarships are intended especially for minority and urban students.

## **The Reverend Jerome Stevenson Scholarship**

This scholarship, established in honor of Rev. Jerome Stevenson (RPTS 2005), is designed to assist students with tuition and book expenses while studying at RPTS and is intended especially for minority and urban students.

## **Church Match Scholarship**

The Seminary will match church contributions made for a student's tuition up to one-third of the tuition cost per quarter. The church would supply payment of one-third of the tuition cost, leaving the student to pay the remaining one-third. Prospective students must supply the Seminary with a formal application signed by the sponsoring church.

## **David and Janet Barker Preaching and Teaching Scholarship**

This scholarship was instituted by New Covenant PCA Church in honor of their beloved pastor. The scholarship is awarded annually to a student who demonstrates growth in the areas of teaching and preaching.

## **Sidoney Chin Scholarship**

Established by the family and friends of Sidoney Chin in honor of her life and love of her Lord, Jesus Christ. Funds provide tuition assistance to students desiring to proclaim the Gospel to the unsaved.

## **RPTS Graduate Spouse Tuition Scholarship**

Spouses of graduates from RPTS degree programs may take master's courses for credit at half of the tuition cost.

## **Seminary Work Study Scholarship**

Work study scholarship recipients serve at the Seminary throughout the academic year in areas such as building maintenance, library work, teaching assistants, or to meet other needs. Students living in the dorms are expected to participate in the work study program. In addition, for those living near the Seminary, work study is offered to RP students under the care of a presbytery as part of their RP scholarship package. All other students are encouraged to indicate their interest in work study scholarships on the regular Financial Aid Application, as the Seminary reviews its needs on a quarterly basis and adds students to the program until all work study needs are met.

## **Spouse Tuition Scholarship**

Spouses of full-time students may take courses for credit at half of the tuition cost, or they may audit courses free of charge. Spouses of part-time students may audit courses free of charge. Please see the Auditor section of this Catalog for information regarding online courses for spouses.

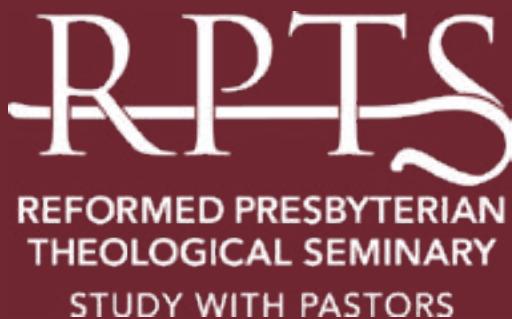
*The Seminary maintains a policy of keeping the expense of theological education to a minimum.*



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The professors have, through their warm, conservative Bible teaching, been equipping me for a lifelong ministry... I highly recommend RPTS as a place to make an eternal investment to impact the Church and the world for the Glory of Jesus Christ."

Sam Smith, '26



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