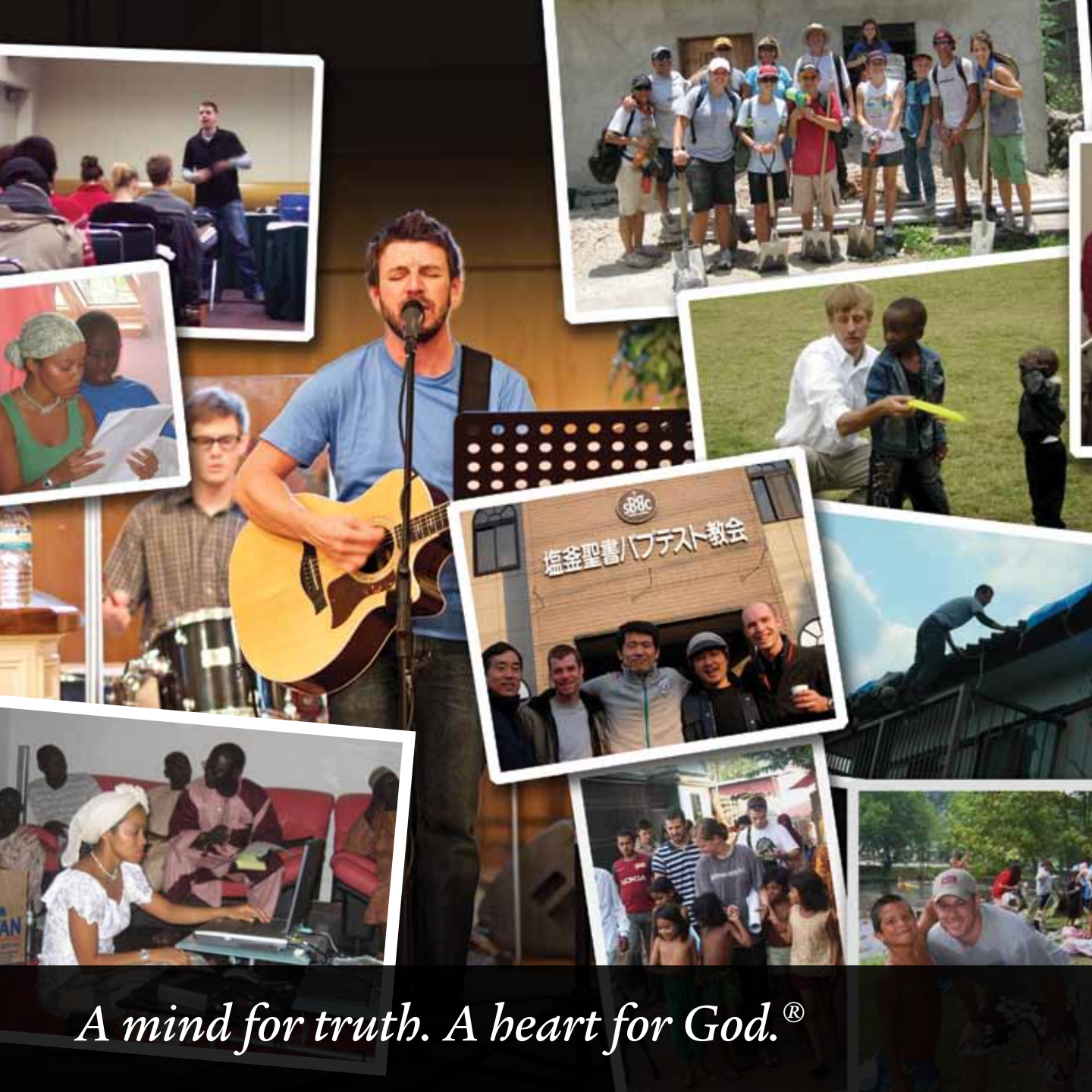


MASTER *of*
DIVINITY
DEGREE PROGRAM
at
RTS ORLANDO





A mind for truth. A heart for God.®

*We are called to make
the invisible kingdom
of God visible*

-John Calvin



A Life for Ministry.

MASTER *of* DIVINITY *at* RTS Orlando

Masters of Divinity Degree at RTS Orlando

Preparation for Christian ministry should call us to the highest standards of training for Christ and his kingdom. Yet too many Christian leaders have expressed regret about short changing themselves in the preparation phase of their lives. This assessment has shaped the RTS Master in Divinity program in Orlando. We offer one of the most rigorous and comprehensive MDiv degrees in the country to both men and women from the states and abroad, in order that they might gain a mind for truth, a heart for God and a life for ministry.

The spiritual formation that takes place here involves a combination of classroom training, labs, field education and rich community life. We aim for both scholarly excellence and practical application as we seek to apply the gospel and God's truth to all areas of life and creation. In our program, **Christ is central. The Bible is foundational. The Gospel is prominent.** The whole program is anchored in the Reformed tradition. We are gladly Reformed, but we also eagerly affirm the community of all believers, listening to the best that other traditions have to offer.

We earnestly desire to build a foundation for your ministry that will have strong theological and historical foundations, yet will enable you to minister in diverse cultural contexts as a global Christian. In short, we want your training to be rooted and relevant as we make Christ's invisible kingdom visible in this generation.



We desire to be a gospel-driven seminary that prepares pastors and leaders for the global church of the twenty-first century.

—Don Sweeting, *President*

OUR APPROACH

A Mind for Truth

- Discover the grand story the Scriptures tell: the narrative of God reclaiming his fallen creation, a love story that spans from Genesis through Revelation.
- See how biblical truth has been summarized by biblical and systematic theologians and applied by the church to the pressing questions of how to know God and live before him.



Students meet weekly for worship in chapel.

- Learn how to handle the biblical texts in English and in the original languages as competently as your own abilities and calling allow.
- Gain a Christian world view that enables you to affirm what is good, yet cut through the deceits of modernity and post modernity.

A Heart for God

- Experience worship as the only posture out of which you can responsibly do theology. We desire RTS Orlando to be a place where it is as natural to pray and sing to God as it is to study about him.
- Assess your own heart, temperament and gifting. John Calvin taught that you cannot know God without knowing yourself. Seminary is a place where reflection takes place, where you have a chance to go deeper in your personal relationship with God and others.
- A spirit of community and group collaboration is built through a dialogical class-room atmosphere and spiritual formation groups. These conversations encourage, sharpen and challenge us to become more formed into the likeness of Christ.



Life of Ministry

- Experience the value of relationships. Students want community. Our president and faculty pursue ministry in churches. They model commitment to their families. They extend hospitality to students, and keep their office doors open. We share weekly community lunches. A lot of the learning on campus takes place peer-to-peer – some of it formally, but a lot of it informally.
- Take hold of “the mission of God” that his will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Our graduates seek to apply God’s truth to all of life, from philosophy to gardening, and from politics to poetry. Many students come with previous missions experience—and leave with hearts aflame to take the good news to the nations.
- Exercise and improve your gifts. Be equipped with a diversified background of firsthand experience in the service to which God has called you through field education. Past field education experiences have included vital church roles such as a summer student assistant to a pastor, a pastoral internship, a missionary internship, a campus ministry internship and jail ministry. Students have also taken advantage of internships and field opportunities through the many missions organizations located in Orlando.

Meet some of our students and faculty at rts.edu/orlando

RTS is not just a school; it is a learning community. We believe that we learn better when we learn in relationships. Our experiences, biographies, perspectives, and backgrounds all play into the way we understand God and his work in the world and so we seek to provide a community in which that learning process can happen.

— Scott Redd, *Dean of Students and Assistant Professor of Old Testament.*

ALUMNI STORIES



“While at RTS I enjoyed being prepared through a rich combination of academic rigor, pastoral wisdom, and powerful friendships. The faculty was outstanding, taking

the time to challenge my thinking and skills but always with warmth and grace. Along with faculty and staff, it was my fellow students who deeply shaped me. RTS was a time to learn in community: we were reading, listening, thinking together, and ultimately it meant that together we would wrestle, pray, hope, struggle, fail, and grow. My wife and I thank God for our time at RTS and how it helped prepare us for serving Christ and the world today.”

Dr. Kelly M. Kapic

*Professor of Theological Studies
Covenant College*

See the variety of ways our graduates are building Christ’s Kingdom at rts.edu/orlando/alumnistories



“I came to RTS with a lot of questions. I had collected these questions about the Christian faith along the way, and- even as I felt called to the

ministry- they gnawed at my mind and weighed upon my heart.

I knew that RTS was a community safe enough to ask my questions in and wise enough to begin to answer them. My three years in the Master of Divinity program taught me that God’s Scriptures and reformed theology have the answers we need in order to believe, to live and even to question well.

In my current ministry with Reformed University Fellowship at New Mexico State University I think about and use what I learned in seminary daily. I still e-mail my professors for advice and resources. These godly men taught me by instruction and example how to be a godly man. And for that my family, my flock, and I will be forever grateful! ”

Rev. Sid Druen, *Campus Minister
Reformed University Fellowship
New Mexico State University*

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the value of studying in a residential program? Whether it was the Israelites at Sinai, a student at a wisdom school or someone sitting at Jesus' feet, the bible holds forward an ideal of learning together. RTS creates a community of learning because we value learning together. We believe we learn best when we learn together, encountering God together and being shaped by each others' lives and experiences.

Can I take some courses online? Through our online courses, students have the option to complete a portion of their degree online. Our Virtual Campus offers 27 core MDiv courses that can be taken when it's convenient for your schedule.

Can I get the MDiv degree without moving to Orlando? Those who are unable to leave a particular ministry or job and move to a campus now have more options. RTS has a flexible MDiv schedule to give you several paths to the completion of this degree.

RTS Orlando offers intensive courses in the summers that increase the options that students have for completing the MDiv degree. Students can combine these summer intensives with online courses offered year round to complete the MDiv degree in 6 years while remaining at home or in full time ministry.

Can I take counseling classes or get a counseling degree with my MDiv degree?

Yes. The MDiv/MA Counseling dual degree program enables students to complete both the 3-year MDiv degree and the 2-year MAC degree in only 4 years. This degree combination provides students with full training for both ministerial ordination and professional practice in counseling and may be of particular interest to persons desiring to serve churches as counselors while holding positions of ordained ministry.

What if I don't have a baccalaureate degree? You might qualify for the MDiv Diploma program. Students without a baccalaureate degree may apply for admission to the MDiv Diploma program. These students must possess the knowledge, academic skill and ability generally associated with persons who hold the baccalaureate degree. Admission will be restricted to persons with life experience that has prepared them for theological study at the graduate level. Contact our admissions office for more information on application requirements.

ALUMNI STORIES



“At RTS I embarked on a journey to bring much needed reform to youth ministry. Through His Word, God showed me what needed to change and how to go about making changes. I will always be grateful to RTS for teaching me the sufficiency of the Scriptures for life and ministry.”


Matt Ryman, Associate Pastor
University Presbyterian Church

See the variety of ways our graduates are
building Christ’s Kingdom
at rts.edu/orlando/alumnistories



“The education provided by RTS is the foundation God provided before sending me to Africa. The Rafiki Foundation provides a high quality, Christian education to orphans and vulnerable children as well as train headmasters (principals) and teachers on the fundamentals of teaching from a biblical worldview. We provide curricula for an education that cultivates wisdom and virtue, by the disciplining of the body and the nourishing of the soul with the true, the good, and the beautiful. RTS provided the fundamentals of knowing God and His Truth as revealed in Scripture. RTS gave me a solid, theologically sound and thorough education, emphasizing a mind for truth and a heart for God. The Rafiki Foundation emphasizes God’s Word at work. Ministry with The Rafiki Foundation allows me to live out what RTS put in. An amazing connection!”

Melissa Wiedemann, Education Director
The Rafiki Training Village
Tanzania, Africa

A group of five people, including RTS student Tim Bentson, are standing together in a debris field in Kesenuma, Japan, two weeks after the 2011 earthquake and tsunami. They are wearing winter clothing like jackets and beanies. The background shows a landscape of rubble and distant mountains under a blue sky with clouds.

RTS student Tim Bentson (right) in Kesenuma, Japan, assisting with tsunami relief 2 weeks after the great earthquake and tsunami in 2011.

God takes pleasure in manifesting His presence and pouring out His power on those who will dare to align radically their purposes with His for the nations!

— Steve Childers,
Associate Professor of Practical Theology

Church Planting is part of the DNA of the Orlando campus. We have a long history of alumni who have planted churches across Florida, other states and throughout the world through organizations such as the PCA, EPC, OPC, ARP, RCA, SBC, AMiA, Converge, Acts 29 and Redeemer City to City. Professor Steve Childers as president of the Global Church Advancement organization and other faculty members have been and are currently involved in church planting projects and so are well-equipped to introduce students to best practices.

PROGRAM FACULTY

Resident Faculty



Dr. Mark D. Futato

Robert L. Maclellan Professor of Old Testament, Academic Dean

- Pastored for five years before becoming a seminary professor
- Contributed notes on *Jonah in The ESV Study Bible*
- Recently authored *Interpreting the Psalms: An Exegetical Handbook*



Mr. Scott Redd

Assistant Professor of Old Testament, Dean of Students

- Currently completing a doctoral dissertation entitled *Constituent Postponement in Biblical Hebrew Verse*.
- Board member and Teacher for the International Training Institute, which provides vocational training for church leaders in North Africa and the Middle East.
- Served in a variety of education- and-community related leadership positions in local churches (both EPC and PCA)



Dr. Reggie M. Kidd

Professor of New Testament

- Ordained minister in the PCA
- Recently authored *With One Voice: Discovering Christ's Song in Our Worship*
- Teaches adult classes and contributes to

the worship life of the Cathedral of St. Luke, Orlando (Episcopal).

- Provides doctoral level instruction on classical liturgy and “sacred actions” for contemporary worship leaders at the Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies.



Dr. Charles E. Hill

Professor of New Testament

- Recently authored *Who Chose the Gospels?: Probing the Great Gospel Conspiracy*
- Contributed notes on 1 and 2 Thessalonians to *The Reformation Study Bible*
- Member of *Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas*



Dr. Scott R. Swain

Associate Professor of Systematic Theology

- Ordained minister in the PCA
- Recently authored *Trinity, Revelation, and Reading: A Theological Introduction to the Bible and its Interpretation*



Rev. Michael J. Glodo

Associate Professor of Biblical Studies

- Ordained minister in the EPC, served as the denomination’s stated clerk from 2001-2007
- Served several churches in the St. Louis area before joining the faculty of RTS Orlando
- Over 13 years experience teaching Old Testament, New Testament, and Practical Theology courses

View interviews with our faculty at rts.edu/orlando/faculty

Our faculty includes church practitioners and seasoned scholars with a variety of research interests, ministry backgrounds and perspectives, all united by their commitment to Jesus Christ and the Scriptures as expressed in the Westminster Standards.



Dr. John M. Frame

J.D. Trimble Chair of Systematic Theology and Philosophy

- Ordained minister in the PCA
- Over 40 years training pastors as a seminary professor
- Prolific author whose works include *Salvation Belongs to the Lord, Apologetics to the Glory of God, No Other God: A Response to Open Theism, and Worship in Spirit and Truth*
- Recently completed his Theology of Lordship series with *The Doctrine of the Word of God*



Dr. Steven L. Childers

Associate Professor of Practical Theology, Director of the Doctor of Ministry Program

- Ordained minister in the PCA, having served two churches (urban and suburban) as church planter and senior pastor for 15 years
- President of Global Church Advancement, a ministry that provides training for pastors and church planters throughout the world
- Areas of passion and focus at RTS include missions, church planting, evangelism and spiritual formation



Mr. John R. Muether

Professor of Church History, Library Director

- Serves as ruling elder at Reformation OPC and as denominational historian of the OPC
- Recently authored *Cornelius Van Til: Reformed Apologist and Churchman*



Dr. Don Sweeting

President, James Woodrow Hassell Professor of Church History

- Served as an independent church planter in Illinois for 10 years
- Pastored 1200 member EPC church in Denver for 12 years
- Recently contributed to *Dictionary of Everyday Theology and Culture*
- Maintains his blog, www.thechiefendofman.com



Dr. Steve Brown

Professor of Practical Theology Emeritus

- Over 25 years of pastoral experience
- Founder of Key Life Radio and Host of “Steve Brown, Etc.”
- Author of more than a dozen books including *A Scandalous Freedom: The Radical Nature of the Gospel*

Guest and adjunct faculty include:

- Don Carson
- Keith Johnson
- Larry Kirk
- Orlando Rivera
- and others.

View interviews with our faculty at rts.edu/orlando/faculty

MASTER OF DIVINITY CORE CURRICULUM

FALL SEMESTER			WINTER SEMESTER			SPRING SEMESTER		
No.	Courses	Sem. Hrs.	No.	Courses	Sem. Hrs.	No.	Courses	Sem. Hrs.
JUNIOR YEAR								
PT528	Theology of Ministry I	2	OT502	Hebrew I	2	NT506	Greek Exegesis	2
MS508	Evangelism	2			2	NT508	Gospels	4
NT504	Greek II*	3				OT504	Hebrew II	2
ON702	Hermeneutics	3				OT508	Genesis – Joshua	3
ST502	Introduction to Pastoral and Theological Studies	3				PT508	Communication I	2
	Elective	2				ST504	History of Philosophy and Christian Thought	3
		15						16
MIDDLER YEAR								
HT502	History of Christianity I	3	CE514	Educational Ministry of the Church	2	HT504	History of Christianity II	3
MS518	Missions	3		Elective	2	NT518	Acts & Pauline Epistles	4
OT506	Hebrew Exegesis	2			4	ON504	Adv Biblical Exegesis	2
PT510	Preaching Lab I	1				OT510	Judges – Esther	2
ST508	ST I: Scrip/Theo	3				OT512	Poets	2
ST530	Apologetics	2				PT524	Preaching Lab II	1
	Elective	2				ST514	Systematic Theology II	3
		16						17
SENIOR YEAR								
NT522	Hebrews - Revelation	3	PT520	Church Polity	1	HT506	The Church & the World	3
PT516	Pastoral Counseling	3		Elective	2	OT516	Isaiah – Malachi	3
PT522	Communication II	2			3	PT530	Theology of Ministry II	2
PT526	Worship	3				PT532	Preaching Lab III	1
HT508	Classics of Personal Dev.	1				PT535	Senior Seminar	2
ST520	Systematic Theology III	2				ST528	Pastoral & Social Ethics	3
PT534	Field Education Seminar**					PT534	Field Ed Seminar**	
	Elective	2						14
		16						

* Pre-requisite to Greek II is the successful completion of 2NT502Greek I (3 hours), which is taught at the end of the summer session each year.

** Field Education Seminar (2PT534) is scheduled every Fall and Spring semester. Students only need to complete one.

The Nicole Institute for Baptist Studies Founded in 2011, the institute honors Dr. Roger Nicole, a renowned reformed Baptist theologian who taught at RTS Orlando for more than 15 years, by providing unique preparation for Baptist and independent students who desire an MDiv degree program with an emphasis in Baptist history, polity and ecclesiology.

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

APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Applicants to the Master of Divinity program are evaluated on the basis of academic preparation and potential for ministry. Application for admission should be made at least three months prior to the date of expected enrollment. New students may enroll in the fall, winter, spring, or summer terms. The application includes the following materials, and can be completed online.

- **A completed application form**
- **Three references: a general reference form, an academic reference form, and a pastoral reference form.**
- **Application fee**
- **A statement of Christian faith**
- **A statement of reasons for wishing to pursue a Master of Divinity degree**
- **Official transcripts from all previous academic work (a baccalaureate degree or its foreign equivalent with a 2.6 GPA is ordinarily required)**
- **A recent photograph**

We welcome international students to come to our campus. International students should contact admissions.orlando@rts.edu for additional application requirements.

Interested in applying to RTS Orlando? You can begin your application at www.rts.edu/onlineapplication. Our admissions staff will gladly work with you to complete your application, apply for financial aid, and make a smooth transition into seminary.

MASTER *of* DIVINITY DEGREE PROGRAM *at* RTS ORLANDO

Contact the Admissions Office for more information:

1231 Reformation Dr., Oviedo FL 32765
800.752.4382 · admissions.orlando@rts.edu

Please visit rts.edu/orlando/mdiv

REFORMED
THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY



ATLANTA

CHARLOTTE

HOUSTON

JACKSON

MEMPHIS

ORLANDO

WASHINGTON

VIRTUAL

A mind for truth. A heart for God.