



Atlanta

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WELCOME

Welcome to Reformed Theological Seminary in Atlanta. RTS is an independent, interdenominational school for graduate theological studies. The Bible is our ultimate authority in all classes and our faculty all adhere to the doctrinal system embodied in the Westminster Standards. Within that framework, students appreciate the emphasis upon responsible academic and spiritual freedom.

At RTS, we strive for excellence and relevance in every course that we teach. By making available to our students some of the most outstanding theological teachers in the country, we are able to offer a multitude of courses in Biblical and Theological Studies, in Church History, in Apologetics, and in Practical Theology. Our classes are offered in a variety of convenient formats — from short-term intensive classes, to nights and weekends, all the way to traditional semester-long courses. While some students take individual classes that may be applied toward a degree program later, others choose to enroll in our accredited Master of Arts in Religion degree program.

If you have a thirst to learn more about the Lord Jesus Christ – and about service in His kingdom – perhaps RTS/Atlanta is the place where you can accomplish your academic and personal theological goals.

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Master of Arts in Religion degree program

The MAR is a sixty-semester hour program that can be completed entirely in Atlanta. Although not intended to serve as preparation for ordained pastoral ministry, this versatile degree program offers approximately two-thirds of the courses typically contained in the three-year Master of Divinity degree. Many students complete MAR courses in anticipation of transferring those credits into an MDiv. program, while others appreciate how the MAR equips men and women for other areas of Christian service.

In addition to the sixty core and elective semester hours (which may be taken in any sequence, according to your convenience), a five hour *Integrative Paper* is required for the MAR degree. This paper allows for thoughtful application of the MAR program to a particular area of interest to the student.

Please read the following pages for the required course descriptions. Also, you will find a helpful chart on the last page of this brochure. For more details we invite you to our website at www.rts.edu. or, please call our admissions office at 404.995.8484.





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MASTER OF ARTS IN RELIGION

RTS ATLANTA COURSE GUIDE

In the Beginning: Genesis to Joshua

4OT508 3 CREDITS

Ever wish that you had a better understanding of the major developments in the history of redemption, including creation, covenant, promise, and fulfillment of God's promises? This expository course covers the portion of the biblical revelation from Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, all the way to Israel's conquest of the Promised Land.

Required for MAR & MDiv degrees

The Prophets: Isaiah to Malachi

4OT516 3 CREDITS

If you want to help others to know how the Old and New Testaments relate to one another, this clear and succinct course will do it! An expository and thematic study of the message and times of the prophets, emphasizing the Day of the Lord; judgment; restoration; promise and fulfillment; Messiah; kingdom; and the new people of God.

Required for MAR & MDiv degrees.

The Gospels: Witnesses of the Lord Jesus Christ

4NT508 3 CREDITS

Emphasizing the Person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ, this course will take you through the Gospel accounts of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Attention is given to each writer's literary art, theological training, pastoral purpose, and message for today's church and world.

Required for MAR & MDiv degrees.

The Spreading Flame: Acts and Pauline Epistles

4NT518 3 HOURS CREDIT

What can be more encouraging than understanding God's power to carry out His purposes and plans for history? Beginning with the first Christians, the great doctrinal and devotional themes of the Acts of the Apostles and of Paul's teachings shape the direction of this vital course.

Required for MAR & MDiv degrees.

The Advancing Kingdom: History of Christianity I

4HT502 3 CREDITS

One reason to study church history is summed up in the quote, "Those who have not learned the lessons of the past are doomed to repeat its failures." This marvelous story of the Church through the medieval period introduces persons, events, and factors that our Lord utilized to sustain the Church and to prepare it for the Reformation. Focusing on the lasting significance of this vital era will help prepare you to follow God's leading in your life and ministry.

Required for MAR & MDiv degrees.

Reformation and Modern Church History: History of Christianity II

4HT504 3 HOURS CREDIT

Surveying the story of the Church during these incredible centuries gives reason to praise God for His faithfulness in preserving His Bride, the Church. This course will help you to understand – and to explain – significant influences that have shaped both the Church and society. A continuation of HT502, this general introduction to the history of the Christian church concentrates on great leaders of the church from John Calvin to the present.

Required for MAR & MDiv degrees

The Church and the World

4HT506 2 HOURS CREDIT

The message never changes, but to be effective in communicating the Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ, our methodologies constantly must be reviewed. Surveying the history of the church with an eye toward application, this course examines the relationship of Christ and culture, and the impact of beliefs and trends. To develop an appropriate apologetical approach, students learn to interpret and respond to contemporary culture from a biblical perspective.

Required for MAR & MDiv degrees.

God and Scripture

4ST510 3 HOURS CREDIT

Students in this foundational systematic theology course consider the nature of the Bible and what that amazing book tells us about God. In the Bible, God has given us his own words. He identifies Himself in that book, telling us who he is, what he does, how he exists as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and how his sovereignty relates to our freedom and to evil. Supremely, he tells us about his dear son, Jesus, who died so that our sins can be forgiven. These complex theological truths are essential, and shape our understanding of eternity, the world, and how we live our lives.

Christology and Anthropology

4ST514 2 HOURS CREDIT

While becoming a treasured occasion for you to comprehend the wonder and the tragedy of humanity, this course will enable you to grow in worship and awe of humanity's only Hope – the Lord Jesus Christ.

Required for MAR & MDiv degrees

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Soteriology and Eschatology

4ST520 3 HOURS CREDIT

God's incredible plan of salvation is demonstrated in the power and wisdom of his sovereign administration of human history and of eternity. His covenantal, redemptive purposes find their highest expression in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Required for MAR & MDiv degrees

Ecclesiology and Sacraments

4ST524 2 HOURS CREDIT

Calling the church His bride, the Lord Jesus Christ gave His life for her. That reality provides the starting point for this delightful study of God's Word. In this course, you will find answers to many of your most complex questions.

Required for MAR & MDiv degrees

History of Philosophy and Christian Thought

4ST504 3 HOURS CREDIT

If you want to be effective in understanding the times and the culture, take this course. Following a brief introduction to philosophical thinking, the course concentrates on major philosophical movements that have influenced history, along with principal developments in Christian doctrine and thought. Gain tools for evaluating culture from a biblical perspective, in order to formulate an effective worldview.

Required for MAR & MDiv degrees

Ethics: Knowing, Doing, and Being

4ST528 3 HOURS CREDIT

Today's ethical issues are not all found in a concordance, yet God's Word provides instruction that touches the most complex matters – moral responsibility, bioethics, conscience, environment, war, the state, worship and more. This is your opportunity to explore the complexities of life's perplexing questions in a classroom environment that is relevant and Scripturally-grounded.

Required for MAR & MDiv degrees.

Apologetics: Honest Answers to Honest Questions

4ST530 2 HOURS CREDIT

God's existence, Scripture, evil, the currents of modern and postmodern thought – are you prepared to respond to issues with which Christians and non-Christians interact? While learning how to do apologetics, course participants examine a variety of apologetic methodologies, and consider what Scripture teaches about knowledge and the process by which a non-Christian comes to know Christ.

Required for MAR & MDiv degrees.

Introduction to Pastoral & Theological Studies

4ST502 3 HOURS CREDIT

The title does not do justice to this interesting and content-laden course. This course provides a unique opportunity for students to explore the vital role of Biblical spirituality in the integration of theology and in the practice of ministry. This excellent course helps class participants to understand the challenges and the blessings of applying God's truth – "in the messy, indeterminate swamp of human activity."

Required for MAR & MDiv degrees

The Christian Life: Grace in the Church

4PT513 2 HOURS CREDIT

This Christ-centered course – our "grace course" – focuses on helping Believers who want to cultivate a deeper, freer relationship with God, while making a lasting impact on the world with the good news of grace, freedom, and faithfulness. Enjoy solid Biblical teaching on the wonderful subject of GRACE!

Required for MAR & MDiv degrees

Integrative Paper

4ST777 5 HOURS CREDIT

Near the culmination of your biblical and theological study in the MAR program, you will have the opportunity to integrate your theological training with your vocational field, ministry, or other avenue of inquiry and reflection. This integration will be expressed in the form of a major summative paper or project submitted during your final phase.

Required for MAR degree

Free Electives

12 HOURS CREDIT

Customize your graduate theological education by choosing from *any* RTS course! Feel free to tailor your program to your interests by selecting from a wide array of subjects offered, including biblical languages, practical ministry, counseling, or biblical and theological studies. The entire purpose is to help you to grow in your walk with our Lord and Savior!

Required for MAR degree

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A mind for truth. A heart for God.

RTS Atlanta

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