

# Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

## Overview

### Message from the Associate Dean of AGTS

The Assemblies of God Theological Seminary (AGTS) has had a distinguished history of training missionaries, pastors, church leaders, teachers, chaplains and other ministers. As an embedded seminary at Evangel University, men and women continue to find a learning community in which they can connect and interact while growing together. AGTS is known for quality instruction and practical experiences within a spiritually inviting atmosphere. These elements help boost the students' ministry competency and personal capability and build their attunement to Christ and the ongoing work of the Spirit.

AGTS intentionally gathers teachers with years of practical experience, and with academic acumen from a Pentecostal perspective. This creates an unforgettable classroom experience, and a place for relationship building between faculty and student, and among students/peers that last a lifetime.

At AGTS, we have been praying for you, and are delighted to partner with you and the Lord in pursuing your ministerial and theological training. We will do everything possible to help you succeed, both in your educational goals and as life-long followers of Christ.

Blessings,  
Paul W. Lewis, PhD  
Associate Dean  
AGTS

### Mission Statement

The purpose of the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary (AGTS) is to train men and women to fulfill the mission of the church as taught in Scripture—*Shaping servant leaders with knowledge, skill and passion to revitalize the church and evangelize the world in the power of the Spirit.*

As a graduate-level educational institution within the evangelical and Pentecostal tradition, the Seminary affirms the Bible as God's written Word, the inspired, infallible and authoritative rule for faith and conduct.

To accomplish its purpose, the Seminary, as a center for instruction and spiritual formation, seeks to achieve the following objectives:

1. To lead every student into a growing knowledge of God, based upon the redemptive work of Christ and the baptizing power of the Holy Spirit.
2. To perpetuate the distinctive Pentecostal proclamation of the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit to restore the people of God to the New Testament model of vitality and witness.
3. To create an environment in which men and women, who have been called and gifted for Christian service, may be nurtured as servant-leaders of sterling Christian character.
4. To seek excellence in all of its programs, believing that a rigorous quest for truth, effectiveness and relevance should characterize

- theological reflection and professional training.
5. To provide training in the professional skills necessary for the practice of ministry in a changing world, focusing on the preparation of pastors, missionaries, evangelists, military and institutional chaplains, teachers, and others.
  6. To foster an evangelistic and missionary emphasis with a global and multi-cultural perspective in order to equip men and women to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ at home and abroad.
  7. To encourage constructive engagement with society guided by the prophetic and redemptive words and deeds of Jesus Christ.
  8. To serve as a scholarly resource for the AG, Pentecostal-Charismatic communities worldwide and the larger body of Christ.
  9. To utilize technology and distance-education methodologies in the extension of its educational mission to Christian leaders unable to attend a resident campus.

### **Pentecostal Distinctives**

The Assemblies of God grew out of the global revival at the turn of the twentieth century. Dedicated to the full gospel message, the Assemblies have grown to become the dynamic element of what is called the Third Force of Christianity—the Pentecostals. The commitment to the Pentecostal dimension of Christianity is what distinguishes the Assemblies of God from other groups within Evangelical Christianity. Since AGTS is the denominational seminary for the Assemblies of God, the Pentecostal distinctives are central to each of its degrees and course offerings. This background and heritage enable them to present biblical and

theological truths, educational and missiological strategies and methods and pastoral care and practice within the context of the Pentecostal ministry.

### **Flower Pentecostal Heritage Center**

For the study of the AG and Pentecostalism, AGTS students benefit from the museum and resources housed at the Flower Pentecostal Heritage Center in the National Leadership and Resource Center of the Assemblies of God in Springfield, Missouri. The holdings focus on the history of the AG, but also include related materials on the Pentecostal, Charismatic and Evangelical traditions. The available correspondence, reports, published and unpublished histories, periodicals, news clips, personal papers, diaries, photographs, audiovisual materials, committee notes and minutes, memorabilia and other items make it one of the foremost archives for the study of Pentecostalism in North America.

### **Statement of Educational Effectiveness**

The AGTS accrediting bodies require the publishing of a statement regarding educational effectiveness. For example, The Commission on Accrediting for [\*The Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada\*](#) (ATS) has an Education Standard (ES6) which in part reads, "Assessment of student learning requires schools to be able to demonstrate the extent to which students have achieved the various goals of the degree programs they have completed as well as indicators of program effectiveness, such as the percentage of students who complete the program and the percentage of graduates who find placement appropriate to their vocational intention and theological education."

All degree programs at AGTS have evaluative processes to measure student

learning, which are assessed on an annual basis. Seventy percent of students who enroll in degree programs at AGTS graduate within five years of beginning their studies.

### **Fitness for Ministry**

As a theological seminary whose primary mission is the preparation of men and women for the service of the Church, AGTS is committed to the personal and professional growth of all students and reserves the right to require the following of all students, either as a part of their classroom experience or as a part of their personal and professional development:

1. The completion of one or more personality and assessment inventories which become a part of the student's seminary file. These inventories may be utilized in academic, personal, and professional guidance counseling.
2. Periodic reviews of the student's academic and personal growth may be required to assist in his or her adjustment to seminary life and his or her fitness for ministry as an ordained clergyperson or professional. The student may be required to undergo counseling at his or her own expense or enter into particular growth contracts to address specific fitness for ministry concerns.
3. A final review before graduation may be required to ensure that all contractual expectations regarding fitness for ministry have been met.

The Seminary reserves the right to suspend a student for a stipulated period to address specific emotional and behavioral fitness for ministry issues, or to dismiss the student with no hope of readmission if it is concluded that candidacy for ministry or other helping

professions is not viable at this time.

coverage for themselves and their families. Policy requires international students to carry health insurance while enrolled at the Seminary. Contact the [AGTS Office of Admissions](#) for more information.

**Seminary Student Handbook.** A student handbook is accessible on the AGTS website. The handbook provides detailed policies, privileges and procedures for academic and student life. Updates and revisions to the handbook are made on a regular basis.

**Placement Assistance.** Faculty and administration frequently work directly with church leaders and graduates in securing professional appointments.