



2017-18 **Catalog**

Volume XXXVIII, Number 1



ASSEMBLIES *of* GOD

THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY
Evangel University

**Assemblies of God Theological Seminary
Evangel University**

Master of Arts in Theological Studies

The Master of Arts in Theological Studies (MATS) program is designed to serve as an intermediate degree for further graduate programs in biblical and theological studies. It is also designed to provide advanced biblical and theological training for ministers who want to enhance their ministry in specialized areas such as teaching and church related writing.

Degree Components and Requirements

The MATS is a two-year program of study requiring 48 credits. However, applicants with a strong undergraduate program in religion may petition for Advanced Standing in the program, which could allow them to complete the program with 39 credits or approximately three semesters of study. *See MATS Advanced Standing.*

For courses successfully completed as an undergraduate, a student may substitute an advanced course. *See the Master of Divinity (MDiv) degree for examples.*

Students in this program are not required to choose a concentration, except the one designated “Biblical and Theological Studies” which gives the widest range of course options (BAR, BGR, BHE, BIB, BNT, BOT, BTH, HIS, THE or MHT). Should a student wish, they may focus more narrowly by taking 15 hours in NT Studies, OT Studies, Biblical Languages, Pentecostal and Charismatic Studies, or Intercultural Theology.

In addition to the general requirements for graduation, graduation requirements for the MATS program also include a supervised seminar-quality research paper (in BNT/BOT/MHT/PCS 646) and the submission of a portfolio containing copies of the student’s work demonstrating attainment of the learning outcomes in the program. (*See the MATS Program Manual available from the Faculty Administrative Assistant.*) A limited number of courses may be taken through directed research or distance learning.

MISSION OF GOD AND WORLD CHRISTIANITY (9 CREDITS)¹

BTH/MHT 501	Mission of God in Biblical & Contemporary Contexts	3
HIS/MHT 556	World Christianity I	3
HIS/MHT 557	World Christianity II	3

BIBLE AND THEOLOGY (15 CREDITS)¹

BIB 532	Hermeneutics	3
BNT 530	New Testament Introduction	3
BOT 530	Old Testament Introduction	3
THE 531	Systematic Theology I	3
THE 532	Systematic Theology II	3

THEOLOGICAL RESEARCH (6 CREDITS)

RES 531	Theological Research & Writing	3
BNT/BOT/ MHT/PCS 646	Theological Studies Seminar	3

OPTIONAL CONCENTRATION OR AREA OF FOCUS (15 CREDITS)

Student’s choice of electives in BAR, BGR, BHE, BIB, BNT, BTH, HIS, THE, or MHT	15
---	----

GENERAL ELECTIVE (3 CREDITS)

Elective	3
----------	---

* Specific courses in this category must be approved by the student’s faculty adviser.
1 See MATS Advanced Standing guidelines.

MATS Advanced Standing

Students who have earned a significant number of credits in religious studies from approved colleges and universities may request exemption from certain required courses in the MATS degree program, thus granting them Advanced Standing. Life experience does not qualify for Advanced Standing. (*See the Coordinator of Seminary Registration and Degree Audit for further details.*)

The following rules apply to MATS Advanced Standing:

1. Advanced Standing cannot exceed nine credits.
2. Advanced Standing is considered for undergraduate courses with satisfactory parallel content, provided the equivalent collegiate courses are double the credit value of the Seminary's courses. A minimum grade of B is required and the student must be able to demonstrate competency in subject matter by presentation of an Advanced Standing Portfolio for each course for which Advanced Standing is desired. A fee of \$50 per course will be charged for each portfolio that is evaluated, regardless of whether or not the Advanced Standing is granted.
3. Advanced Standing must be requested prior to enrollment but no later than the end of the student's first semester of study at AGTS. Requests should be submitted to the Office of Seminary Registration and Degree Audit.
4. Partial course Advanced Standing will not be granted.
5. If the student later takes a course where Advanced Standing has been granted, the Advanced Standing would be nullified.
6. Advanced Standing may be granted for courses listed in the categories "Mission of God and World Christianity" and "Bible and Theology."
7. In an area where a student demonstrates competency but the criteria preclude Advanced Standing, a substitute course may be allowed if approved by the faculty adviser and the Dean.
8. All AGTS master programs must be completed within a 10-year time limit, which includes any undergraduate courses used for Advanced Standing and any graduate courses transferred in from other schools. See the AGTS Office of Seminary Registration and Degree Audit for more information.

Online MATS Program

The MATS is also offered as an online program. The online MATS is a 48-credit program, allowing for students with a strong undergraduate program in religion to petition for Advanced Standing, which would reduce the program to 39 credits (*See MATS Advanced Standing above.*) The admission, contours and graduation expectations of the online MATS program are the same as that of the resident program—9 credits, Mission of God and World Christianity; 15 credits, Bible and Theology; 6 credits, Theological Research and Writing; 15 credits of courses with BAR, BGR, BHE, BIB, BNT, BOT, BTH, HIS, PCS, and THE prefixes; and 3 credits of General Electives.

Projected Course Schedule

Year 1	Fall	RES 531	Theological Research & Writing	3
		HIS 528	Pentecostal & Charismatic Movements	3
	Spring	BIB 532	Hermeneutics	3
		HIS 556	World Christianity I	3
	Summer	THE 531	Systematic Theology I	3
		HIS 557	World Christianity II	3
Year 2	Fall	BNT 530	New Testament Introduction	3
		BTH 532	New Testament Theology	3
	Spring	BOT 530	Old Testament Introduction	3
		BTH 530	Old Testament Theology	3
	Summer	THE 532	Systematic Theology II	3
		BTH 501	Mission of God in Biblical & Contemporary Contexts	3
Year 3	Fall	BTH 533	Holy Spirit in the New Testament	3
		HIS 532	History & Polity of the Assemblies of God	3
	Spring	BTH 538	Holy Spirit in the Old Testament	3
		BNT/BOT/MHT/ PCS 646	Theological Studies Seminar	3

The student should consult the Course Schedule each term to learn what is offered in the program (http://www.agts.edu/class_schedules/index.html).

The syllabi for each online course, available during the registration periods, will specify the technical and other requirements for the course. Sustaining two courses each term—fall, spring, and summer—will allow the student to complete the MATS program in approximately 3 years.