

Faculty Profile: Voting Faculty, Full-Time and Visiting Faculty

1. The Faculty (or a candidate for the Faculty) embraces the Mission, Mission Statement and Vision Statement of ARTS:

MISSION STATEMENT

For God's glory Africa Reformation Theological Seminary exists to train pastors and church leaders to impact Uganda and Africa with biblical reformation through Gospel-driven and Christ-centered churches.

VISION STATEMENT

Biblical Reformation for Africa that Impacts the World for the Glory of God

Vision Description and Explanation

Africa Reformation Theological Seminary desires to spread a passion for God's glory by training pastors and leaders who will be used by the Holy Spirit to bring the transforming power of Christ's gospel of grace and the Word of God first to the African church and then to all of African society, to the end that the African church may be used by God for biblical reformation and world-wide gospel missions and impact.

THE ARTS MOTTO

“Training for Biblical Reformation through Gospel-Driven Churches”

THE ARTS MISSION DESCRIBED

ARTS is a Christian educational institution seeking to glorify the triune God through graduate level theological training. Its central task and primary responsibility is to equip and form men for effective, God-dependent, Spirit-enabled and gospel-driven ordained ministries of the Word for the building and extending of Christ's church in various African nations and denominations, especially presbyterian and reformed churches. These ordained ministries include preaching, teaching, pastoral leadership, church planting, evangelism, biblical counselling and cross-cultural missions.

ARTS also provides theological education for men and women who will serve the church, the larger society and missions in important non-ordained leadership roles.

The Seminary offers instruction in biblical, theological, and ministerial disciplines as the heart of a program to equip students to develop intellectually and spiritually as leaders for Christ's church. It submits unreservedly to the authority of the Bible as the Word of God written, and is committed to the theology of the historic Reformed confessions.

Through theological education ARTS seeks to promote biblical reformation, a passion for the gospel of grace, evangelism, kingdom-focused prayer, holiness and godliness of life, a comprehensive biblical worldview, a zeal for building and multiplying healthy, biblical, gospel-driven churches, global missions and various Christ-exalting ministries in Uganda and Africa.

2. The Faculty (or a candidate for the Faculty) embraces the goals of all the ARTS degree programs (MDiv, MABC and MATS):

To train and equip pastors and church leaders who have a passion for building and multiplying God-centered, gospel-driven, grace-saturated, Bible-soaked, evangelism-generating, global-missions mobilizing and culture-changing reformed and covenantal churches in Uganda and all of Africa. The dream and hope of the ARTS discipling process is that God might graciously grant reformation and revival in Africa through this training and that a movement may result that multiplies biblical and healthy reformational and always-reforming churches.

3. The Faculty affirms and endorses the practice of warmly welcoming serious and motivated students from a variety of backgrounds and theological traditions.

The Faculty gladly affirms that ARTS students will not all be convinced and passionate about biblical and reformation theology when they come to study at ARTS. Few will come from churches and denominations that value the full authority of Scripture, reformed theology and presbyterian government. Our vision is to impact many churches and denominations with sound biblical and reformed theology and practice. We see ARTS to be a school that welcomes a variety of students and with patience, love, compassion and an irenic, broad and cordial spirit, teaching these students the treasures of Scripture and the reformed faith. The Faculty welcomes any student who is serious about study of the Bible and theology regardless of denomination or church background and including traditions that have historically opposed Reformed, covenantal and presbyterian distinctives.

4. The Faculty also affirms that ARTS works with many presbyterian students from several African Presbyterian denominations.

The Faculty recognizes that ARTS is not the seminary of a particular reformed and presbyterian denomination. The ARTS faculty represent several reformed and presbyterian churches. The Faculty also acknowledges that our mission (which is to educate present and future pastors, preachers and church planters) carries with it a special calling and responsibility to train and equip pastors, preachers and church planters for several African Presbyterian denominations. In the future, other African reformed denominations may be represented among our students. ARTS regards as a great privilege the call to train the rising generation of pastors and preachers for the churches of Africa, particularly, but not exclusively, these reformed and presbyterian denominations, to the end that the gospel of grace in Jesus Christ may sound out throughout the African continent for the benefit of her peoples and communities.

5. Faculty profile in light of our mission, and commitments:

ARTS Faculty members...

1. Should be men who meet the moral and spiritual maturity qualifications of I Timothy 3 and Titus 1 and can be examples to students of the character required to be elders in Christ's church;

2. Should have pastoral experience that will enable the equipping of pastors and church leaders through ARTS training;
3. Should have a contagious love for Christ, and a growing relationship with Him expressed in a strong personal and private prayer and devotional life;
4. Should have a sincere and contagious love for people;
5. Should have pastoral gifts and skills to encourage, shepherd, build up, help, strengthen, comfort, sympathize with, listen to, counsel, warn, instruct, reprove and correct with patience and gentleness both students and peers;
6. Should have a genuine love for the Bible and commitment to the full authority, sufficiency and inerrancy of the Scripture;
7. Should be models of holiness, humility and repentance;
8. Should have exemplary marriages and family life (if married) and be able to model healthy, Christ-centered marriages and partnership in ministry;
9. Should have a love for the church and be exemplary churchmen with visible commitment to the local church, presbyteries and the General Assembly of their Presbyterian or reformed church (or home church if missionaries) and be patterns for students of love for Christ's Bride;
10. Should have a love for the gospel of grace and be models of a passion for evangelism, global missions, reaching the lost, church vitality and church planting and multiplication;
11. Should have obvious gifts to teach theology and the Word of God and to present and impart information with clarity, enthusiasm, patience and humility so as to help students to understand and to want to become life-long learners. Should have knowledge of the topics being taught and genuine personal experience where applicable;
12. Should be men who exhibit submission to their brethren among the Faculty and the larger African church, including various reformed and presbyterian churches, and should be zealous to promote the unity, harmony, purity and peace among the Faculty and among the larger church;
13. Should be theologically sound and faithful to the Westminster Standards and to the

Three Forms of Unity (the ARTS confessional standards) and are ordained or able-to-be ordained as teaching (or ruling elders) by the presbyteries (or sessions) of any sound, faithful reformed and Presbyterian denomination-world-wide and should be a man who, with enthusiasm, and without reservations concerning his doctrinal integrity and orthodoxy, could be called to pastor a congregation in such a denomination.

14. Should model a commitment to complementarian principles in the home and church, i.e. that men and women are equal as created image-bearers, equal in grace and salvation in Christ, equal as recipients of the Holy Spirit and His spiritual gifts, and created to have complementary, not competitive, God-designed distinctive roles that produce the beauty of gender interdependence and at the same time, reserves headship in the home for men and reserves the offices of teaching elder, ruling elder and deacon as well as the official roles of preaching and governing in the church for scripturally qualified men;
15. Should endorse ARTS's commitment to training pastors and men and women for biblical counseling. This endorsement embraces the sufficiency of Scripture for solving non-physical, personal and inter-personal problems and that Scripture alone has authority to instruct on how to love God and neighbor and to become a mature disciple of Christ. This endorsement also commends the goals of biblical counseling, that of seeking to bring change that glorifies God, in the power of the Holy Spirit, that accords with His Word, and that restores people to love, obedience, perseverance, Christ-likeness and usefulness in serving Christ, His church and His mission in His world. The Seminary offers two masters degrees in biblical counseling: the Master of Arts in Biblical Counseling (MABC; 84 credits) and the Master of Arts in Theological Studies, Biblical Counseling Emphasis (MATS BC; 82 credits and 90 credits with Greek).
16. Should be men able to train students to pass licensure and ordination examinations in African presbyteries as well as the presbyteries of any sound, faithful reformed and presbyterian denomination world-wide;
17. Should be men who can without reservation and with enthusiasm commend to students the Westminster Standards and the Three Forms of Unity and reformed, covenantal and Presbyterian distinctives and government in a patient, humble, winsome and irenic manner while not being harsh, quarrelsome, overbearing, arrogant or discourteous and thus be examples of teaching with graciousness, great patience and correcting opposing viewpoints with gentleness (see I Tim 4:2; 2: 24-25).

6. While no candidate or Faculty member perfectly exhibits the traits of this profile, and while exceptions in some areas may be made due to special circumstances, yet substantial health and holiness in these traits is the goal and norm.

7. The above faculty profile can also be applied to non-voting full-time Faculty, Visiting Faculty, teaching assistants, and intern lecturers. In these cases application of the profile may not be as thorough or exact and certain exceptions may be made depending on the individual and the circumstances. **Theological subscription exceptions** to the WCF and Catechisms and the Three Forms of Unity are permissible for Voting Faculty and Visiting Faculty that do not contradict or harm the vitals of the reformed system of doctrine taught in these Confessions. However, the principles articulated in the Faculty profile should move the

Voting Faculty to recommend Faculty candidates (voting and otherwise), who substantially meet these qualifications, to the Governing Council's Theological Affairs Committee. It is the duty of the Theological Affairs Committee and the ARTS Governing Council to appoint godly teachers who are faithful to Scripture, sound in reformed doctrine and who will be able to teach and disciple the next generation in the biblical and reformed faith and in biblical and presbyterian practices, with the goal of effecting biblical reformation in Africa and around the world.

8. Academic qualifications for ARTS lecturers: The minimum credential for an ARTS lecturer is the Master of Theology (ThM), i.e. one degree above the teaching level of the ARTS professional master's degree programs. This minimum is also met with the PhD, ThD or Doctor of Ministry. It is ordinarily preferred that lecturers who teach academic theology courses have obtained a PhD or ThD. Those teaching practical theology and Biblical counseling may have a Doctor of Ministry degree or other doctoral degree in place of the ThM.