



Global Association of Theological Studies

#1

Got a Question?

Is there any possibility of a forum or network to improve Bible schools globally?

The Global Education Committee is designed to improve and pursue ministerial excellence globally.

This committee is made up of the Director of Education/AIM as the Chairman; the Coordinator of GATS as the Vice-Chairman; one GATS regional representative from each of the six regions; Regional Directors; and two consultants from the Global Training Institute (GTI). Of course our visionary General Director is an ex-officio member of the GEC.

The Global Association of Theological Studies (GATS) and its membership schools develop and equip men and women to reach their maximum potential in apostolic ministry.

GATS presently seeks no accreditation from any outside agency. We endeavor to ensure quality of our training programs through our association (GATS) and the Global Education Committee.

Various regions also maintain an administrative setup conducive to their specific needs.

How can the gap be bridged between the wide range of training programs, lengths of programs, and local needs?

#2

Got a Question?

We GATS the answer!



GATS curriculum is based upon classroom hours rather than credit hours. This allows for all schools to be involved. Complete the required classroom hours can be done at anytime—night, day, weekends, once a month, fulltime, part-time—whatever fits the local needs.





A Dozen Questions about Bible Schools

#3

Got a Question?

What can be done to provide a measure of uniformity with curriculum offered around the world?

GATS offers four levels and allow you to select the program that best suits your needs and logistics.

We GATS the answer!



Certificate	Basic Bible Knowledge	150 Classroom Hours	Total of 150 Classroom Hours
Diploma	Ministerial Development 1	600 Classroom Hours	Total of 750 Classroom Hours
Associate Degree	Ministerial Development 2	750 Classroom Hours	Total of 1500 Classroom Hours
Bachelor Degree	Future Educators/Leaders	1500 Classroom Hours	To Be Announced

Each level has a core curriculum required by all schools. This is the minimum standard. Above and beyond the core, each school can add extra classroom hours as needed to core curriculum courses, and/or elective courses that meet local needs not covered by the core curriculum.

What efforts are being made in making textbooks and instructional resources readily accessible?

#4

Got a Question?

We GATS the answer!



Recommended textbooks for each course, in available languages, will be obtainable on the GATS website, and will be password protected.

A GATS Training and Resource CD will be distributed to our missionaries and Bible school administrators annually.





A Dozen Questions about Bible Schools

As new resources become available, GATS will post these to the web, and send an e-mail with hyperlinks to our missionaries and school administrators. Press the blue line and presto—the new resource will quickly download in either Microsoft Word or Adobe Portable Document Files.

GATS will also serve as a resource center. E-mail us with questions about needed course materials and we will quickly send our recommendations.

These resources will be specifically for GATS membership schools but also available to those operating schools that may not be part of GATS.

Got a Question? **#5** What is proposed for courses where no adequate textbook is available?

A list of courses requiring textbooks is being compiled.

GATS will have a Curriculum Development Committee combining educational minds with cross-cultural experience in the UPCI. Whenever we need a textbook designed a committee will meet made up of subject matter experts, media specialists, writers, and instructional designers.

Once the course is written and edited, we will then embark on translations in major languages.

We will work together to accomplish the task of creating applicable, cross-cultural instructional materials.

**We
GATS
the
answer!**


Who issues the certificates, diplomas, and degrees? **#6** Got a Question?

**We GATS
the answer!**


GATS will be issue certificates, diplomas, and degrees through the Coordinator of GATS.

Membership schools merely send the transcripts. Once we ensure the GATS standard has been met, the appropriate certificate is released.





A Dozen Questions about Bible Schools

We are planning that transcripts can be sent online through our GATS website.

Although certificates are released from our office this does not prevent the membership school from issuing certificates if they choose to do so.

Got a Question?

#7

When can we expect to see a major revision in our global training program?

GATS is being launched at School of Missions 2007.

GATS regional representatives are sensitizing regional leaders concerning the program now.

GATS information is being released to missionaries to acquaint them with what will be taking place.

Request the curriculum structure and start working toward changes even now. Get ahead!

A packet of materials will be released to all missionaries immediately following School of Missions. A webinar and/or video will be prepared of the GATS presentation to be made at this SOM.

We
GATS
the
answer!



An exploding trend in education is distance learning. Are there any plans for an online distance education program?

#8

Got a Question?

We GATS
the
answer!



GATS plans to institute the Global College of Ministry. We have already purchased the URL and an e-lesson development program from Australia called "Knowledge Presenter."

This program allows for online studies, a learner management system, and exports to Power Point, or can be placed on an Autorun DVD or CD. We will also have printed components.





A Dozen Questions about Bible Schools

We intend developing all our courses, at all levels, for distance education. This is futuristic. Initially, minimal material will be available on our distance education site.

Got a Question? **#9** What can be done to better equip our Bible school instructors?


A Bible school will only be as strong as its faculty. GATS is committed to assisting our schools equip, mentor, and develop their staff.

An eighteen lesson basic faculty education course is presently being written. Six lessons will be released in August 2007. A certificate for this course will be awarded to participants.

Other courses in Bible school administration, Curriculum Development and Instructional Design, Educational Psychology, Christian Education for the Adult Learner, Educational Measurement and Evaluation, and Teaching Strategies for Adult Education will be offered in the future. Some form of advanced certificate will be given.

GATS will call upon the Global Training Institute (GTI) to also assist in faculty development.

The GATS Bachelor Degree Program will specifically target Bible school instructors and future national leaders.

**We
GATS
the
answer!**


How do we join GATS? **#10** Got a Question?

**We
GATS
the
answer!**


Send a letter of intent to your GATS regional representative or the Coordinator of GATS globally.

Simple application forms available from gats@upci.org will need to be filled out.

An agreement is made that the candidate school follows the required GATS core curriculum, required classroom hours, and fulfill all course objectives.

A curriculum structure, policies, and faculty listing is provided and sent along with the completed application.





A Dozen Questions about Bible Schools

Each school maintains its name, administrative design and policies. GATS is concerned about the curriculum structure and faculty education.

Got a Question?

#11

Who can I contact to find out more about this association?

Contact your regional GATS representative. He is standing by to help and is acutely aware of your needs regionally.

Contact the Coordinator of GATS by writing GATS@upci.org or Jimpoitras@aol.com.

The Director of Education/AIM is also willing to help: lshirley@upci.org.

Our blog is located at <http://gatsupci.blogspot.com/>.

Our website under construction is <http://gatsonline.org/>.

We
GATS
the
answer!



Who will be involved with the Global Association of Theological Studies?

#12

Finally, we GATS a question.

