



What to Expect from Global Association of Theological Studies

It's our birthday! GATS was launched one year ago at the 2007 School of Missions. Perhaps you've pondered, "What can we expect from the Global Association of Theological Studies?"

Communication: A newsletter, entitled *Global Educator* is issued bi-annually. An extensive website is updated regularly: <http://www.gatsonline.org>. A Spanish replica site is being developed at <http://AGETenlinea.org>. This is a pilot project and other sites in major languages will follow. We will provide annually a GATS training and resource CD/DVD along with a handbook.

We are committed to pursuing ministerial excellence. 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.

Commitment:

Curriculum: GATS provides an academic program structure, potential or recommended textbooks, individual course objectives and other pertinent guidelines at four levels: Certificate, Diploma, Associate degree, and bachelor degree.

GATS will issue certificates, diplomas, and degrees through the Global University of Theological Studies. Membership schools merely send the transcripts. Once we ensure the GATS standard has been met, the appropriate certificate is released.

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

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	Advanced Ministerial Development	1500 Classroom Hours	Total of 3000 Classroom Hours



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Each level has a core curriculum (list of required subjects and classroom hours) 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.

Recommended textbooks for each course, in available languages, are obtainable on the GATS website, and are password protected. Schools can select textbooks they prefer and are not restricted to the listing in our academic database. Our requirement is based on course objectives being followed for a specified number of classroom hours.

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.

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

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 (to twenty-four) lesson basic faculty education course is presently being written. Twelve lessons are presently available in English, Spanish, Portuguese and we are working on French. These can be downloaded from our site. A certificate for this course will be awarded to participants.

Competence:

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.

Counsel:

Through the Global Education Committee we have a Coordinator of GATS, and a GATS regional representative from each of the six



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regions. We are here to serve you in meeting your training objectives. Our representatives can make onsite visits as requested, and as time and finance allow.

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.

Networking allows for great minds to come together. Our combined efforts will be greater than individual achievements. GATS will have a

Collaboration:

Curriculum/Resource 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. Of course, the use of such resources in our membership schools is optional.

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

Continuous Improvement:

to institute the distance education portion of the Global University of Theological Studies. We have already purchased the URL and an e-lesson development program from Australia called "Knowledge Presenter."

An exploding trend in education is distance education. GATS plans

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.

Working together to meet education objectives is what you can expect from GATS. We hope that GATS can expect for you to get on board. Join the team today!

Cooperation: