



IRTC

INTERNATIONAL REFORMED THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Education for Worship

*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom,
and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.
– Proverbs 9:10 ESV*

At the heart of our mission is the belief that education should improve our ability to fulfill our divine purpose: to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever. This foundational principle, drawn from the Westminster Shorter Catechism, illuminates our commitment to integrating faith and learning in every aspect of our academic pursuits. By fostering an environment where knowledge leads to worship, we guide our students to fulfill their chief end as outlined by the Catechism.

With this end in mind, our curriculum instructs students in a wide array of disciplines, each exploring and celebrating aspects of God's infinite wisdom and creativity. As students engage with the material, they are encouraged to see each lesson as an opportunity to deepen their understanding of and relationship with Him. Our faculty are not only scholars but also faithful practitioners of the Word, encouraging their students to see, in their studies, the opportunity to glorify God through the pursuit of truth and excellence.

The communal aspect of our learning echoes the biblical call to fellowship. Insofar as we come together in the pursuit of the knowledge of God, we must also necessarily come together in worship. This shared journey not only sharpens minds but also kindles hearts, fulfilling the Bible's vision of iron sharpening iron (Proverbs 27:17). Our global online community allows for an enriching exchange across cultures and nations, uniting students of diverse backgrounds in the common pursuit of knowing Him more.

These students are encouraged to continuously apply what they are learning in their local ministries and personal lives, offering these up as a living sacrifice, which is their spiritual act of worship (Romans 12:1). In their various ministry roles, they lead others to worship, serve and enjoy Him forever.

The IRTC's dedication to weaving together academic excellence and spiritual formation invites students into a transformative experience that aims not only to inform but also to inspire a lifetime of worship and service. We invite you, reader, to sustain us in prayer so that we may be faithful to the calling He has placed on our hearts and minds.



The IRTC Expands: Introducing Our New Faculty Members

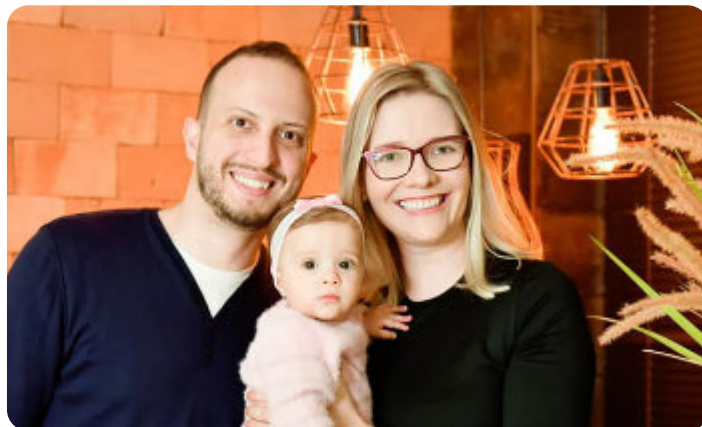
The IRTC is pleased to welcome three new faculty members, reflecting our ongoing commitment to excellence in theological education aligned with the biblical worldview of the reformed faith. Our faculty is now composed of 49 part-time instructors, most of whom only teach one or two courses. These instructors will replace other cherished faculty members who have taught the below-mentioned courses up to this point, allowing them to focus on other ministerial duties.

Gabriel Araújo Zambon, an IRTC alumnus, starts his teaching career with a unique and valuable perspective. After assisting Rev. Ralph Boersema—one of the College's founders and Honorary President—for several years in teaching his *Oral Communication* course, Gabriel now takes over this responsibility. His apprenticeship under Rev. Boersema, combined with his background in administration, public management, and theology, has prepared him to inspire students to communicate effectively, an essential skill they will implement as they go on to ministry and theological teaching.

Márcio Roberto Alonso's specialized Old Testament studies provide him with a solid foundation for teaching *Biblical Geography and Archaeology*. His deep understanding of biblical lands and cultures will provide students with valuable insights into the historical and geographical context of the Word.

Wendell Lessa Vilela Xavier, with an extensive academic background in language and literature, philosophy, theology, and a doctorate in Portuguese, will apply his rich teaching experience to *Introduction to Applied Linguistics* (part of our Master's in Missiology) and *Portuguese I and II* (basic yet essential courses for effective written and spoken communication).

We thank God for blessing us with such servants, willing to share their knowledge with students around the world, aiding their local ministries and helping proclaim the Kingdom of God. In a spirit of thankfulness to the Lord, we ask you to join us in praying for health and safety for them and for their families, and asking for His guidance upon their ministry at the IRTC in 2024.



Instructors Gabriel (top), Márcio (middle) and Wendell, with their families.

\$203,879
2024 Budget

38%

\$79,000
Raised (Jan 31)



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