

**An Introduction to Pauline Theology (3<sup>rd</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> February)**

The course will provide an introduction to the theology of Paul as observed in his letters. Attention will be given to how Paul's distinctive theology was formed in Jewish as well as Graeco-Roman backgrounds, and how he employed a challenging mission practice in service of his Gentile churches. While there will be a focus on 1 Thessalonians, 1 Corinthians, and Philippians, you will also explore theological topics that span all his letters, keeping in mind the life and mission in Sri Lanka, as well as several key issues pertaining to Pauline scholarship.

**Hermeneutics of Culture (11<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> May)**

This course will examine the concept of culture and how the hermeneutics of culture shape the way we interpret our perceptions and experiences of the world around us. The course seeks to equip students to interpret their own culture and to examine the ways in which culture and theology impact each other, so that you will be more effectively prepared to minister in cross-cultural contexts.

**Developing a Christian Education Programme in the Local Church (13<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> July)**

The course will explore the equipping of leaders (teachers) through teaching and learning, curriculum development, discipleship and team building. Attention will be given to both generational and intergenerational ministry with children, youth, young, middle, and aging adults. Participants will gain core educational and leadership competencies informed by biblical theology and an understanding of the human person in leading God's people toward maturity in Christ.

**1 and 2 Samuel (7<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> September)**

Narrative is a major literary genre across the Old Testament, running from the creation stories that open *Genesis* to the postexilic stories set in Persia in *Ezra-Nehemiah* and *Esther*. In this course, we learn the rules for interpreting Old Testament narrative. Using these skills, we read through the books of *Samuel* to understand what the big themes are, and what narrative theology emerges from the text. We will seek to apply the text's message to our faith and daily practice. Borrowing from the didactic purposes of the Samuel-narrative, we will see how storytelling can be useful in ministry to adults.

**Hermeneutics of Scripture (26<sup>th</sup> October - 14<sup>th</sup> November)**

*Hermeneutics of Scripture* aims to enable students to reflect on the authority of Scripture and gain expertise in the principles and tasks of interpreting Scripture. It includes an overview of different paradigms of interpreting Scripture in the history of the Church and introduces significant current trends.

Refer the CTS Course Catalogue for details of undergraduate courses



ROOTED IN THE WORD  
SKILLED TO SERVE  
COMMITTED TO THE CHURCH

**SPECIAL FEATURES OF THE PGDip/MA PROGRAMME**

Exposure to proven scholars from around the world.

Affords those with secular degrees the opportunity to engage in theological studies.

Relevant to Christians in ministry as well as in the marketplace.

Provides dedicated students of the Christian faith the opportunity to develop into cutting-edge theologians, who are able to engage with integrity both with the Bible and their cultural contexts.

Access to a wide range of relevant resources.

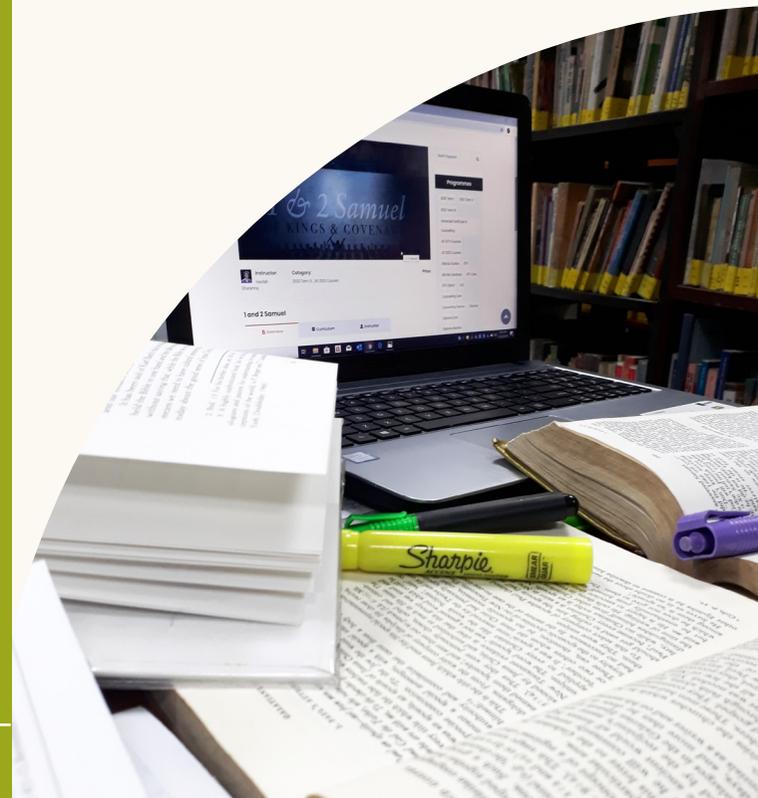
Study at your own pace.

FOR MORE DETAILS  
**THE ACADEMIC OFFICE**

189 DUTUGEMUNU STREET, KOHUWELA  
TEL: 011 5524257  
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# POST-GRADUATE DIPLOMA/ MASTER OF ARTS BIBLICAL STUDIES INTERCULTURAL STUDIES

*EQUIPPING TEACHERS, WRITERS,  
AND RESEARCHERS FOR THE CHURCH*



## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Active involvement in a local church
- A minimum of a bachelors-level qualification
- Fluency in English (spoken and written)

## PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS

### HOLDERS OF THEOLOGICAL DEGREES

Those who hold an accredited theological degree are required to complete:

- 30 PGDip/MA credits (= 10 PGDip/MA courses of 3 credits each)
- Practicum and Spiritual Formation Essay

### HOLDERS OF NON-THEOLOGICAL UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE OR EQUIVALENT

Those who do not hold theological degrees are required to complete:

- 30 PGDip/MA credits (= 10 PGDip/MA courses of 3 credits each)
- 30 undergraduate credits
- Practicum and Spiritual Formation Essay

### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT FOR MA PROGRAMME

- A Dissertation

## COMPULSORY COURSES

- Developing the Christian Educator
- Hermeneutics of Scripture (*for Biblical Studies track*)  
OR Hermeneutics of Culture (*for Intercultural Studies track*)

## SPECIALISED TRACKS

### BIBLICAL STUDIES

This track provides the student the opportunity to develop a clear grasp of the various methodological approaches to the interpretation of biblical and related texts, to clearly evaluate the appropriateness of the application of particular hermeneutical methods to specific texts, and to become proficient in the use of the various tools available for biblical studies.

### INTERCULTURAL STUDIES

This track provides the student the opportunity to develop a biblical and theological foundation for missiological theory and reflection, to understand and learn to exegete culture, to become familiar with anthropological theories and issues relating to intercultural communication with special reflection on one's own ministry context.

## PGDip/MA COURSES

A typical PGDip/MA course is taught over 3 weeks in 7 sessions:

Session 1: Monday 6pm - 10pm

Session 2: Monday 6pm - 10pm

Session 3: Friday 6pm - 10pm

Session 4: Saturday 9am - 5pm

Session 5: Monday 6pm - 10pm

Session 6: Friday 6pm - 10pm

Session 7: Saturday 9am - 5pm

3 MONDAY EVENINGS | 2 FRIDAY EVENINGS | 2 SATURDAYS

Students are granted one month from the completion of each course to submit course assignments

## FEES

Your first course is offered at the special rate of Rs 5,000/-

**Important:** Those registering for a course for the first time must bring along a letter of recommendation from your pastor.

Please contact the MA Coordinator/Student Accounts for further details on programme costs and scholarships.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Meet with the MA Coordinator. You may set up an appointment by contacting the MA Coordinator via [ma@cts.lk](mailto:ma@cts.lk) or 011 5524257.

STEP 1

Complete and hand in your registration form (along with the full payment) for your introductory course to the Academic Office.

STEP 2

Hand in the completed programme application before your second PGDip/MA course.

STEP 3



**Havilah Dharamraj**, BSc, MA, PhD

Academic Dean and Head of Department (Old Testament) at the South Asia Institute for Advanced Christian Studies (SAIACS, India). Having earned an MSc in Biochemistry, she went on to obtain an MA in Christianity from SAIACS, and subsequently a PhD from the University of Durham (UK). She is a contributor and editor (OT) of the South Asia Bible Commentary and serves on the committee for Bible Translation for the NIV.



**Ivor Poobalan**, BA (Hons), ThM, PhD

Principal of CTS, Graduate of the London School of Theology (UK), and Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (USA), where he earned the ThM in Old Testament and Semitic Languages. He was awarded the PhD in Religious Studies from the University of Cape Town (South Africa) for his thesis that argued for the re-examination of the meaning of 'The God of this Age' in 2 Corinthians 4:4. He is a leader of the Kollupitiya Methodist Church; and, serves as Co-Chair of the Theology Working Group of the Lausanne Movement.



**Jacob Cherian**, BD, ThM, PhD

Professor of New Testament and Dean of Faculty at Southern Asia Bible College (SABC, Bangalore). A graduate of SABC, Regent College (Vancouver), and Princeton Theological College (USA).



**James Moore**, BA, MA, PhD

Associate Professor of Educational Ministries at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (TEDS, USA). He received his BA and MA from Indiana Wesleyan University, and his PhD in Educational Studies from TEDS. He is ordained in the Wesleyan Church and has served as a local church pastor in two churches. His professional interests include church education, intergenerational ministry, ministry with aging adults, and educational philosophy.



**Ted Rubesh**, BA, MA, DMiss

Chairman of the CTS Academic Affairs Standing Committee. Graduate of Multnomah University, Portland, Oregon, USA (BA in Biblical Literature), Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, California, USA (MA in Missiology), and Western Seminary, Portland, Oregon, USA (Doctor of Intercultural Studies). The co-founder of Kandy Bible Fellowship Church, he served as its pastor for many years.

Refer the CTS Course Catalogue for details of faculty teaching undergraduate courses