

PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS

BIBLICAL STUDIES
INTERCULTURAL STUDIES

THOSE WITH A THEOLOGY DEGREE

- Those who hold an accredited theology degree are required to complete:
- 30 MA/PGDip credits (= 10 MA/PGDip courses of 3 credits each)
 - Practicum and Spiritual Formation Essay

THOSE WITHOUT A THEOLOGY DEGREE

- Those who do not hold a theology degree are required to complete:
- 30 MA/PGDip credits (= 10 MA/PGDip courses of 3 credits each)
 - 30 undergraduate credits
 - Practicum and Spiritual Formation Essay

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT FOR MA PROGRAMME

- A Dissertation

COUNSELLING

THOSE WITH A THEOLOGY DEGREE

- Those who hold an accredited theology degree are required to complete:
- 30 MA credits (= 10 MA courses of 3 credits each)
 - 2 Internships (3 credits each)
 - 1 Project (6 credits)

THOSE WITHOUT A THEOLOGY DEGREE

- Those who do not hold a theology degree are required to complete:
- 30 MA credits (= 10 MA courses of 3 credits each)
 - 30 theological credits*
 - 2 Internships (3 credits each)
 - 1 Project (6 credits)

* Holders of the CTS Advanced Certificate in Counselling

Those who hold the CTS ACC are given advanced standing, and are required to complete a quantum of courses in consultation with the MA Programme Coordinator in lieu of the 30 theological credits as mentioned above.

MA/PGDip COURSES

- A typical MA/PGDip 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

Online schedules may vary from the above

FEES

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

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

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Meet with the MA Coordinator. You may set up an appointment by contacting the MA Coordinator via ma@cts.lk or 011 5524257.

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

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



Colombo Theological Seminary

Resources to the Church for the Transformation of Nations

ROOTED IN THE WORD
SKILLED TO SERVE
COMMITTED TO THE CHURCH

- SPECIAL FEATURES OF THE MA/PGDip PROGRAMME
 - Exposure to proven scholars from around the world.
 - No prior theological qualifications required.
 - Affords those with secular degrees the opportunity to engage in theological studies.
 - Relevant to Christians in ministry as well as in the marketplace.
 - Three specialised tracks to choose from:
 - Biblical Studies
 - Intercultural Studies
 - Counselling
 - 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
EMAIL: MA@CTS.LK
WEB: WWW.CTS.LK

2022

MASTER OF ARTS POST-GRADUATE DIPLOMA

BIBLICAL STUDIES
INTERCULTURAL STUDIES
COUNSELLING

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



Be Transformed by the renewal of your mind
Romans 12:2

... speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ'
EPHESIANS 4:15

Be Transformed to Transform



Colombo Theological Seminary

Resources to the Church for the Transformation of Nations

THE MA/PGDip PROGRAMME

Designed to equip teachers, writers, counsellors, and researchers for the Church

The CTS MA programme is designed to provide local students the opportunity to benefit from international standards of scholarship without having to leave the country or give up work and/or ministry to pursue education at master’s level. While the courses do require a high level of commitment and periods of intense work, they have been designed with today’s active Christian in mind. Classes are held on weekday evenings and Saturdays, and students can enroll at any time during the year.

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.

COUNSELLING

Designed to train Christians to be competent counsellors, who will be able to:

Counsel: By integrating the Christian faith and up-to-date counselling theories to provide effective counselling in diverse, clinical, educational, and ministry settings.

Educate: By training others - especially Sinhala - and Tamil-language Christian counsellors.

Write: By producing Bible-based, contextually-relevant resource material in English, Sinhala, and Tamil that will help in promoting relational and emotional healing and wellbeing

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

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

MA/PGDip COURSES 2022

The Letter to the Hebrews (10th – 29th January)

Hebrews stands as a monument to early Christian reflection on the significance of the work of Jesus, his benefits, and the response to faith. This course will allow students to explore the author’s interpretation of Old Testament Scriptures and deployment of a variety of rhetorical strategies in the service of motivating his addressees’ perseverance in their allegiance to Jesus in the midst of an unsupportive society.

People on the Move:

When Mission and Migration Meet (7th – 26th March)

The course would look at the experience of migration and diaspora formation among the people of God in the biblical narrative, and examine the implications this has for missional engagement with multiplying migrant and diaspora communities around the globe today. A major part of the content would be dealing with a ‘theology’ of migration in Genesis 1-11 and then analysing Israel’s experience in the Old Testament as a diaspora community and using that as a model to understand and minister to diaspora communities today.

Hermeneutics of Scripture (9th – 23rd May)

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.

An Exposition of the Book of Job (4th – 25th July)

This course examines the structure and content of the book, synthesises its message, and contextualises this for a contemporary audience. It attempts to grapple with the problem of theodicy and responds to the following questions: Why does God allow pain and suffering? Why do godly people suffer? In the darkest time, what will sustain a person who is in pain? When God does not answer prayers, how are believers to deal with the perceived silence on His part?

Hermeneutics of Culture (10th – 29th October)

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.

MA/PGDip FACULTY 2022



David A deSilva

BA, MDiv, PhD

Trustees’ Distinguished Professor of New Testament and Greek at Ashland Theological Seminary (USA). Graduate of Emory University and Princeton Theological Seminary (USA). He has written over thirty five books, including *An Introduction to the New Testament*, *Sacramental Life*, *Introducing the Apocrypha*, *Honor, Patronage, Kinship, and Purity*, and *Discovering Revelation*, as well as commentaries on Galatians, Hebrews, Jude, and 4 Maccabees. He has published two books with CTS: *Reading Paul Through Asian Eyes: A Sri Lankan Commentary on Galatians* and *Reading Revelation: From Ancient Asia Minor to Modern South Asia*.



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.



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 Pauline phrase ‘The God of this Age’ in 2 Corinthians 4:4. He is a leader at the Kollupitiya Methodist Church, and ministers primarily through preaching, youth-guidance, and teaching 13-17 year olds in Sunday School. He serves as Co-Chair of the Theology Working Group of the Lausanne Movement.



Mona P Bias

PhD

Holds a doctoral degree in Old Testament Studies from Dallas Theological Seminary. She is an author and teaches in the Biblical Studies department of the International Graduate School of Leadership in the Philippines.



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.

MA COUNSELLING

CORE COURSES

Counselling Foundations*

Human Development and Counselling

Counselling Theories and Techniques I

Counselling Theories and Techniques II

Marriage and Family Counselling I

Multicultural Counselling and

Professional Ethics

Trauma and Crisis Counselling

Psychological Disorders

**Successful completion of this course is an entry requirement for the programme*

ELECTIVE COURSES

Counselling for Addictions

Marriage and Family Counselling II

Child and Adolescent Therapy

Gender and Sexuality – Counselling

Perspectives

Community Mental Health Approaches

Spiritual Direction and Mentoring

Note:

The above list is a representative selection. Elective courses will be confirmed annually

Counselling Foundations (6th Sep – 22nd Nov)

This course is designed to ensure you have a firm foundation in counselling skills. It will cover topics such as understanding the person of the counsellor, developing the therapeutic relationship, observing and using nonverbal communication, establishing goals, understanding the process of growth, and appropriately using empathy, authenticity, immediacy and confrontation. It will integrate biblical and theological reflection with current counselling practice. It will also give you guidance on recognising explicit and implicit spiritual concerns being presented by those you counsel.

Refer the CTS Course Catalogue for details of undergraduate courses

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