

2024

MASTER OF ARTS POST-GRADUATE DIPLOMA

BIBLICAL STUDIES INTERCULTURAL STUDIES COUNSELLING

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



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)

THE SECOND LETTER TO THE CORINTHIANS**(3RD – 29TH JANUARY) - ONLINE**

2 Corinthians is a very personal and apologetic letter where Paul defends his apostolic claim and ministry but is pastoral about it in a situation that seems to have advanced beyond that of 1 Corinthians. This course seeks to explore 2 Corinthians in its historical, literary and theological context and hear how it might speak to churches facing similar issues. Paul's rhetorical and other strategies in use will be given due consideration.

TRANSFORMATIVE ADULT EDUCATION IN INTERCULTURAL CONTEXTS**(18TH MARCH – 8TH APRIL) - ONSITE**

This course will explore the characteristics of adult learners with special regard to the use of research-based teaching practices within the theological classroom. These include principles from cognitive science (the study of how people learn), social-emotional learning (including the affective domain), and brain research. Students will also consider the importance of cultural safety and cultural humility in teaching in a multicultural setting to show both honour and respect to all cultures represented in the theological classroom.

FAITH, SOCIETY, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE**(27TH MAY – 10TH JUNE) - ONSITE**

This course begins by considering different models of relating the Christian faith to society and the state that Christians have used historically. You will have the opportunity to interact with the models to identify their strengths and weaknesses and to consider which one might best fit your ministry/mission context. We will then consider a biblical theology of justice, the poor and oppressed, and reconciliation. You will reflect on how these biblical concepts could shape the mission of the Church in your context and globally.

THE PENTATEUCH**(1ST – 20TH JULY) - ONSITE**

The course will look at specific texts within each of the Pentateuch texts, covering some core topics, such as the Shema, justice, and righteousness. It will also cover an introduction to tenets of the Israelite faith: election; covenant; land; the Passover; the Torah; temple/tabernacle; the sacrificial system; and kingship. By the end of the course, you should be more familiar with the Pentateuch in terms of narratives, genres, key themes, literary styles and theological trends, past and present. You will also be introduced to key biblical scholars, both Christian and Jewish. All these skills should enable you to better interpret Scripture, as well as grow in love for the Pentateuch and Old Testament. And, above all help you internalise the Shema (Deut 6:4) in loving the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and strength.

NEW TESTAMENT THEOLOGY**(9TH – 23RD SEPTEMBER) - ONSITE**

A description and analysis of the theology of the New Testament, with a particular emphasis on the teaching of Jesus and the theology of Paul, and a discussion of the distinctive themes of other New Testament authors, especially in terms of their teaching about Jesus - Messiah, Lord, and Saviour. Some attention is given to various approaches to New Testament theology, the theological relationship between the Old and New Testaments, the gospel and the Mosaic Law, the believer and the community of believers, and ethics.

OLD TESTAMENT WISDOM**PROVERBS AND ECCLESIASTES****(18TH NOVEMBER – 2ND DECEMBER) - ONSITE**

The Hebrew wisdom tradition is rich and multiplex. *Proverbs* gives the basic approach to wisdom that 'begins' with the fear of the Lord and 'opens' the way to growth in wisdom. *Ecclesiastes* questions the use of wisdom and all other approaches to life and 'ends' up with a richer and multifaceted fear of the Lord that permits a new and more mature 'starting' point in one's walk with the Lord. Both are complementary and unavoidable if we are to grow in the Christian life. Both are cognitive approaches that open up questions and issues that force individuals to come to know themselves and to grow in their knowledge of God.

**Danny Moses, BD, MA, PhD**

Former Director of LBC Centre for Graduate Studies. Holds a PhD in Biblical Studies from Wycliffe Hall/Westminster College Oxford (UK). A graduate of Union Biblical Seminary (India) and London Bible College (UK). Has taught in theological colleges and institutions in Australia, Canada, USA, and Sri Lanka. He is passionate about theological education and training leaders for the work of the ministry.

**Debbie Kramlich, MA, PhD**

Originally from the US, has lived more than half her life in Peru, Sweden, Germany, and now Thailand. Holds a PhD in Educational Leadership from the European School of Culture and Theology in Kandern (Germany), and an MA in Teaching English as a Foreign Language and Intercultural Studies. She has been engaged in research that focuses on transformative listening, and the role of the educator in creating a culture of belonging in the multicultural classroom.

**Stephen Bailey, PhD**

Associate Professor of Mission and Development Studies in the E Stanley Jones School of Mission and Ministry at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky. Also serves as Program Officer for the Institute for Global Engagement. Holds a PhD in Intercultural Studies from Fuller Theological Seminary (USA). In 2016, he founded SANTI Corporation, which promotes interfaith dialogue, peace building and religious freedom in SE Asia.

**Julie Woods, PhD**

A freelance Old Testament lecturer who concentrates on the majority world, though she also teaches in the UK. This includes an ongoing commitment in the summer term with the Guildford Diocese. Her research interests centre mainly around the prophets, and also animals.

**Eckhard Schnabel, PhD**

The Mary French Rockefeller Distinguished Professor of New Testament at Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary (USA). Has been involved in cross-cultural missions in Latin America, Europe and Asia for over 20 years, in preaching and teaching ministries, and has taught at theological schools in seven foreign countries. Has authored numerous books, including *The Book of Acts* (Zondervan Exegetical Commentary), *Mark* (Tyndale NT Commentary); *Jesus in Jerusalem: The Last Days*, and *New Testament Theology*.

**Willem A Vangemeren, BA, BD, MA, PhD**

Born in the Netherlands, he immigrated to the US for further education to serve the Lord. Served as the Director of the PhD in Theological Studies at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School Illinois (USA). Upon his retirement the Board of Trinity Evangelical Divinity School awarded him emeritus status. His areas of expertise include Old Testament theology, poetical and prophetic books, and the books of Psalms, Proverbs, and Isaiah. He has authored many books and articles.

MA COUNSELLING

CORE COURSES

Counselling Foundations*
Human Development and Counselling
Counselling Theories and Techniques I
Counselling Theories and Techniques II
Couple Therapy
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
Child and Adolescent Counselling
Gender and Sexuality – Counselling Perspectives
Community Mental Health Approaches

Note:

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

COUNSELLING FOUNDATIONS

(10th September – 3rd December)

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.

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 theology 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 theology 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 theology 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 2890809.

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 MA/PGDip course.

STEP 3

**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 2890809

EMAIL: MA@CTS.LK

WEB: WWW.CTS.LK