

2025

**MASTER OF ARTS
POST-GRADUATE
DIPLOMA**

**BIBLICAL STUDIES
INTERCULTURAL STUDIES
COUNSELLING**

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



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)

HERMENEUTICS OF CULTURE**(9TH JANUARY – 17TH FEBRUARY) - HYBRID**

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.

**Compulsory for Intercultural Studies track*

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

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.

HERMENEUTICS OF SCRIPTURE**(17TH MARCH – 5TH APRIL) - ONSITE**

Hermeneutics of Scripture aims to enable students to reflect on the authority of Scripture and gain expertise in the principles and tasks involved in the responsible interpretation of the Bible. It includes an overview of the history of Biblical interpretation, familiarization with challenges of diverse biblical genres, and examines the strengths and weaknesses of different hermeneutical approaches. The course also equips the learner to utilize Socio-Rhetorical Interpretation (SRI) as an effective interpretive strategy.

**Compulsory for Biblical Studies track*

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

Principal at CTS. Graduate of the London School of Theology (UK) and Trinity International University (USA), where he earned a ThM in Old Testament & Semitic Languages. He was awarded a PhD by the University of Cape Town South Africa, for a thesis on the interpretation of a single Pauline phrase. His research was published by Langham Academic in 2024: Who is 'The God of This Age'? Paul and the Sovereignty of God in 2 Corinthians 4:4. Ivor is the Co-Chair of the Theology Working Group of the Lausanne Movement.

BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS OF GLOBAL WITNESS**(9TH – 26TH MAY) - ONSITE**

God's mission, as revealed in Scripture, flows from the heart of the Triune God, engaging His people in a global witness to every tribe, tongue, and nation. The Bible presents this mission not just as a theme, but as an invitation to join in Missio Dei – God's redemptive work in the world. This course examines the biblical foundations for global mission, emphasizing that it originates with God and is empowered by the Holy Spirit. Through key texts, lectures, and discussions students will gain a comprehensive understanding of how these scriptures shape our approach to global mission today.

**John Daniel, PhD**

Academic Dean and Head of the Department of Intercultural Studies at South Asia Institute for Advanced Christian Studies (SAIACS, India). He has also been an adjunct faculty member at several Bible schools in Europe, South Asia, and Southeast Asia. Specialising in diaspora studies, his academic research is supported by over three decades of pastoral leadership.

DEVELOPING THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATOR**(1ST – 20TH SEPTEMBER)**

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.

**Tabea Binder, MDiv, MTh, PhD**

She had her basic theology training in Germany and Belgium, and completed her doctoral studies from Colombia International University (US). Has served as a theological educator in various Asian countries, including as a full-time faculty member and MA Programme Coordinator at CTS. Currently, she leads a Christian Adult Education programme in Berlin, (Germany), and teaches at various Bible colleges in Europe. She specialises in Christian Education, Church History, Biblical Studies, and Christian Spirituality.

I AND 2 KINGS**(24TH OCTOBER – 7TH NOVEMBER)**

The books of 1 and 2 Kings set out the history of the united kingdom of Israel, and divided kingdoms of Israel and Judah. We study these books as narrative theology. That is, we seek to understand God and His world through His interaction with His people, the Israelites, and through this, learn how we may be faithful followers of Jesus.

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

Faculty in Old Testament at the South Asia Institute of 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). A writer and editor, she is a contributor to and editor (OT) of the *South Asia Bible Commentary*. Her areas of academic interest include OT narrative, and comparative literature which converses biblical texts with the sacred texts of other faiths.

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
Research Methods

*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
Spiritual Direction and Mentoring

Note:

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

COUNSELLING FOUNDATIONS

(9th September – 2nd 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.

For more details on the MA Counselling Programme

[Click or Scan here](#)

www.cts.lk >> [Academic](#) >> CTS Programmes
>> Master of Arts | Post-Graduate Diploma



PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS

BIBLICAL STUDIES

INTERCULTURAL STUDIES

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)
- Practicum and Spiritual Formation Essay

THOSE WITHOUT A THEOLOGY DEGREE

Those who do not hold an accredited theology degree are required to complete:

- 30 MA credits (= 10 MA 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 an accredited 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 COURSES

A typical 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

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

Register for your [introductory MA course](#).

STEP 2

Prior to your 2nd MA Course, submit completed
MA Programme application form along with a copy
of the Application Fee receipt to the Academic Office.

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