



***International
Faith Theological Seminary***

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**New IFTS Degree
Core Program Bachelor
in Sacred Theology**



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Introduction

This booklet comes with our new CD-ROM edition *Bachelor in Sacred Theology 2008 & 2009*. Please read all the instructions carefully as they will help you to get started and to make the most of your studies.

This booklet is intended to serve as a first Guide in getting you started in your studies and contains important information on program and course structure, exam, grading and credit awarding policy, and on application and enrolment requirements and procedures.

Please note that information on academic requirements and semester hour credit awarding policy contained in this printed guide supersedes all respective information given on the disk and thus is finally binding and applicable.

First, we will give you an overview of Program Contents and the academic requirements. After that, you will be given some basic information on how to work with the contents contained on this disk.



國際信神學院

International Faith Theological Seminary®



Program Contents and Academic Requirements

This new program will replace our current curriculum in the same area of study with the same degree option. As we are moving towards state-recognised accreditation in Kenya, we have felt the need to make certain adjustments to the contents of our degree program and to

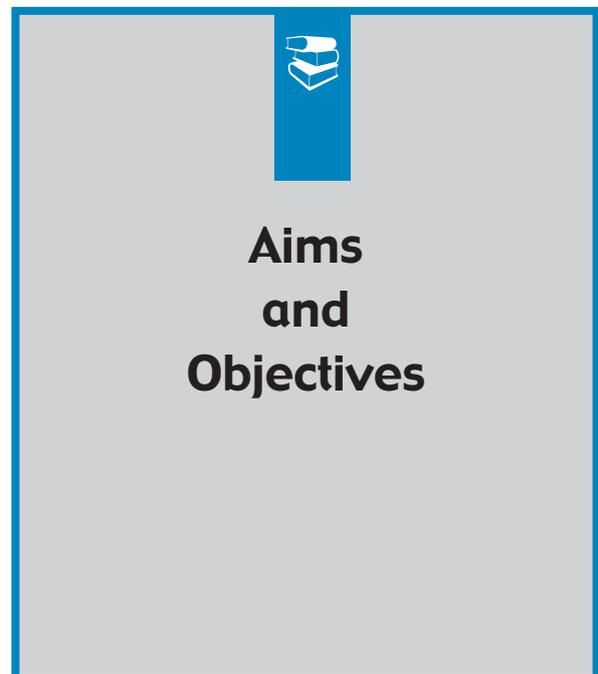
include other study materials in addition to those we are already using to catch up with academic standards used at other reputable seminaries and schools. In this, we largely depend on other third party resources available for free that meet the common, essential academic standards which at the same time are licensed for free use and distribution.

„Theology“ as a technical term is sometimes used in different senses. It can be used in the sense of a

- a. set of different academic disciplines subsumed under this heading relating to various sub-fields of study which form common standards in the training of Christian clergy at academic level such as Old and New Testament Exegesis and Studies, Hermeneutics (Biblical Theology), Biblical Hebrew and Greek, Church History, Systematic Theology (Dogmatics, Christian Ethics, eventually also including Dogmatic History), and Practical Theology (Homiletics as the Art of Christian Preaching, Christian Counselling, Christian Education, etc. – basically all you need for practical parish work!);
- b. special academic discipline that can be identified to be largely identical with what „Dogmatics“ is about – as a set of systematised doctrine of Christian faith, based in the Apostolic tradition common to all mainstream churches and deno-

minations but differing in certain minor details from denomination to denomination (for example, Roman-Catholic doctrine vs. Protestant doctrine, or Lutheran vs. Reformed doctrine, etc.).

It is in this first sense that we are using the term „Theology“ here, and this also is duly reflected in the curriculum presented in what follows below.



Faith and Reason, according to our understanding, and also in the Anglican tradition, are not opposed to another and complement each other instead. In other words, there is no Faith without Reason and no Reason without Faith.

Faith, on the one hand, must be based on Reason in order to be meaningful and rewarding; otherwise, why should

anyone believe in anything that seems quite unlikely or has to be rejected on basic grounds of Reason?

Reason, on the other hand, may well serve as a rough guideline in deciding of what may be true or not true but as such it is not everything and the ultimate point of orientation in decision making. Reason largely depends on common and special knowledge, and the things we know are clearly limited and not indefinite.

In the tradition of Theology at academic level, we therefore define the following set of *General Aims and Objectives* with respect to the competencies that we aim to be developed in academic terms for anyone graduating from this program and preparing for pastoral and clerical service in the Church:

- ❶ A sound academic knowledge in Holy Scripture, its history of textual transmission, original meaning of Biblical key concepts, the ability to read and understand the Biblical texts in their original languages, and to exegete and interpret Biblical texts properly on the basis of what the inspired writer originally wanted to say, with a view to practical application to daily life situations today (Biblical Theology);
- ❷ An understanding and insight into core Biblical and Christian teachings, based on Apostolic tradi-

tion from a more systematic point of view (doctrine) and the inferences to be essentially drawn for a life as a Christian (Christian Ethics) and an awareness that the present state of doctrine is the result of a historical process (Dogmatic History; all these fields forming part of Systematic Theology);

- ❸ Church History as a historical mirror of reflection of how the Church, its doctrine and clerical office developed during the course of time in a period of over two-thousand years;
- ❹ To acquire the theoretical knowledge and practical skills required for Christian Ministry under real-life circumstances in the present days such as Preaching, Christian Counselling, the Teaching Office of the Church, and other areas pertaining to Parish Work (Practical Theology);
- ❺ Knowledge, critical analysis for insight and reflection are the intellectual capacities that we wish to develop and promote in the personality of a candidate for graduation and preparing for service in the church;
- ❻ The ability to conduct inter-religious dialog in good manner and based on Reason and Faith which essentially requires a knowledge of other non-Christian religions, their

system of creed (doctrine), their culture and history, their sources, and their cult practices (Comparative Religion, minor subject area 1);

- ⑦ The teaching office of the Church forms one important aspect in its overall Christian Ministry, and therefore a sound knowledge and practical skills in what and how to teach are essential (Christian Education, minor subject area 2);
- ⑧ Research skills and a sound knowledge of current methodologies applied in research and the ability to write and submit standard research papers form an essential requirement in the academic world in general. The field of theological studies is no exception in this. The student needs to be aware of and needs to master all the technical academic skills required and pertaining to his special area of study as an academic discipline (a Literature Research Report Paper project to be assigned the end of undergraduate studies in this curriculum).



Contents of Studies and Academic Disciplines Included in This Curriculum

The main areas of study are listed below; each main area of study again is sub-divided into a number of courses and sub-disciplines:

A. Major Subject Area: Theology

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| I. Biblical Theology | 1. General Introduction to the Bible |
| | 2. Biblical Hermeneutics |
| | 3. Old Testament Studies |
| | 4. Biblical Hebrew |
| | 5. New Testament Studies |
| | 6. Biblical Greek |
| | 7. Selected Book Studies |
| <hr/> | |
| II. Systematic Theology | 1. Dogmatics |
| | 2. Christian Ethics |
| | 3. Dogmatic History |
| <hr/> | |
| III. Church History | 1. General Church History |
| | 2. Special Topics in Early Church History |
| | 3. History of the Early British Church |
| <hr/> | |
| IV. Practical Theology | 1. Pastoral Theology |
| | 2. Christian Counselling |
| | 3. Homiletics I |
| | 4. Homiletics II |
| | 5. Parish Work |

B. Minor Subject 1: Comparative Religion

1. Introduction to the Study of Comparative Religion – Its Methodology and Approaches.
2. Major World Religions and Christianity.
3. Religion in Africa.

C. Minor Subject Area 2: Christian Education

1. Foundations of Teaching.
2. Defining Course Objectives
3. Course Planning, Methodologies and Activities
4. Evaluation of Student Performance (Grading and Exams)

D. Literature Research Project:

Supervised research project within the academic scope of an undergraduate curriculum, on a freely selected topic by the student in consultation with the appointed mentor, no further course work required. Preparing for a Final Bachelor Paper as a partial fulfilment of the graduation requirements.

This curriculum has been designed to meet the formal requirement of a minimum of a total of 120 semester credit hours for a candidate to graduate. On the next page, you will find the details of how many credits will be awarded for each course and subject area of study in this curriculum.





Details on Courses and Credit Awarding Policy

A. Major Subject Area THEOLOGY

I. Biblical Theology

1. Bible – General Introduction	Credits: 2	
2. Hermeneutics	Credits: 2	
3. Old Testament	Credits: 3	
4. Biblical Hebrew	Credits: 5	
5. New Testament	Credits: 3	
6. Biblical Greek	Credits: 5	
7. Selected Book Studies	Credits: 4	SUB-TOTAL: 24 credits

II. Systematic Theology

1. Dogmatics	Credits: 2	
2. Christian Ethics	Credits: 4	
3. Dogmatic History	Credits: 5	SUB-TOTAL: 11 credits

III. Church History

1. General Church History	Credits: 2	
2. Special Topics in Early Church History	Credits: 4	
3. The Early British Church	Credits: 4	SUB-TOTAL: 10 credits

IV. Practical Theology

1. Pastoral Theology	Credits: 4	
2. Christian Counselling	Credits: 4	
3. Homiletics I	Credits: 4	
4. Homiletics II	Credits: 5	
5. Parish Work	Credits: 5	SUB-TOTAL: 22 credits

MAJOR SUBJECT AREA TOTAL: 67 credits

B. Minor Subject Area 1: Comparative Religion

- I. Elective 1 – Introduction to the Study of Comparative Religion and its Approaches and Methodology. Credits: 5
- II. Elective 2 – Comparative Religion and Christianity. Credits: 5
- III. Elective 3 – Religion in Africa. Credits: 5 SUB-TOTAL: 15 credits

C. Minor Subject 2: Christian Education: The Growing Christian Teacher

- Unit 1: Foundations Credits: 5
- Unit 2: Objectives Credits: 5
- Unit 3: Principles, Guidelines and Activities Credits: 5
- Unit 4: Evaluation Credits: 5 SUB-TOTAL: 20 credits

D. Literature Research Project

In this final phase of your studies, you will be asked to conduct a small research project in the scholarly literature of any one of the following fields:

1. Christian Ministry (= Practical Theology)
2. Church History
3. Biblical Theology (Old Testament, New Testament Exegesis in combination with the respective Biblical languages)
4. Systematic Theology

First, identify one of the fields listed above to determine in which of these fields you want to conduct your literature research project. Second, determine a special topic within that field selected on which you want to conduct your research assignment. To determine the field of study and the topic, you may consult with any of the faculty members available. For your project, you are not allowed to make use of any other written sources than those listed below:

- Bible Study Tools | Install.exe
- Biblical Languages Library_Install.exe
- Church History Add Texts | Install.exe
- ReligionOnlineLibraryOffline Browser 2.10.exe

Search for relevant literature on your topic and compile a research report which contains a summary of the contents in that literature and your personal review on your findings. This writ-

ten research report will be submitted as your Bachelor Paper (ca. 20 typed pages) which is mandatory for graduation at undergraduate level. The paper must meet all formal and content requirements to be expected of a research paper.

Upon successful completion of this assignment, you will be awarded 18 semester hour credits.

Synopsis of Credit Award Policy	
Field of Study	Number of Total Credit Hours Awarded
1. Biblical Theology ¹	24
2. Systematic Theology ²	11
3. Church History ³	10
4. Practical Theology ⁴	22
5. Course Electives in Comparative Religion ⁵	15
6. Christian Education ⁶	20
7. Literature Research Project ⁷	18
TOTAL OF CREDITS:	
120	

1 Including Introduction to Bible, Hermeneutics, OT and NT Studies, and Biblical Hebrew and Greek.

2 Including Dogmatics, Christian Ethics, and Dogmatic History.

3 Including General Church History, Special Topics in Early Church History, and The Early British Church.

4 Including Pastoral Theology, Christian Counselling, Homiletics I and II, and Parish Work.

5 Including Electives 1, 2 and 3 in Comparative Religion.

6 Including all 4 Units.

7 This is a project assignment under the supervision of a competent faculty member, and as a free research project in preparation of the Bachelor Paper, it does not include any course work requirements.



Practical Implementation

There are several options for teaching the entire curriculum:

- a. as a Far Distance study option, with exams given, taken, and graded by email over the Internet;
- b. as an in-house study option, with real students physically present in class, with duly qualified professors and lecturers making use of our study materials and exams given, taken, and graded according to procedures common to and required of all decent schools in the tertiary sector of education;
- c. as a combination of the options according to (a) and (b).

As our school clearly has its special strengths, potentials and experiences in the Far Distance study option, and because this option would realistically apply to most of our students worldwide, it will be this option which will be described a bit more in depth of what follows below.

Upon successful enrolment, the student will be assigned to a local / regional / national branch of our school, depending on his country of origin. For example, all properly enrolled students from Kenya and adjacent countries in Eastern Africa (e.g., Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, etc.) will be assigned to our School branch in Nairobi, Kenya. The student will be provided with a full set of lesson and other study materials, normally delivered to him on a single CD-ROM copy containing everything that will be needed for study. This CD-ROM contains the required textbook texts of all the courses prescribed in this curriculum and additional library material for free research and further reading, practical instructions for study and the exam files.

Upon completion of each course and sub-discipline in a main area of study, the student is required to take an exam. The exam consists of up to 30 essay-types of questions that the student must answer and submit by email as a separate file attached to his email. Student responses to an exam will be checked and graded by a competent and qualified faculty member in charge, and the graded exam will be returned to the student with a grade and additional comments whenever necessary and useful. Exam results will be recorded in the student database to be updated regularly whenever an exam had been graded; details recorded in the student database will be the date of the exam taken, the student's name

and other personal relevant data, course title of the associated exam, the grade itself, and the number of semester credit hours awarded. Final Student transcripts issued automatically at graduation with the actual graduation certificate to the successful graduate will be based on the data recorded in the student database. Each time a graded exam is returned to the student, the student will also receive an extract of the database showing his updated academic record and his average student performance.

A student qualifies for graduation only:

- upon successful completion of all course and project work assigned according to the standards, procedures and rules of this curriculum with a minimum of 120 semester credit hours awarded,
- when the individual exam grades bear a minimum C grade or better;
- when the student has not been found guilty of dishonest practices (e.g., cheating in an exam, or similar).

The CD-ROM is delivered to each properly enrolled student with a printed copy of this General Guide.

To most of the students, all our educational services including the study materials and their delivery will be free of charge, and there is no set tuiti-

on fee policy, and there no fixed tuition fees. The school, however, may determine on an individual basis in direct consultation with the student how much the student can and will contribute financially or by way of other services freely rendered to the school in compensation for the services he is receiving. It all depends on a student's individual situation of personal monthly income and his needs to support his livelihood.



A student qualifies for enrolment and admission if:

- the student is in possession of a graduation certificate from a school in the secondary sector of education qualifying him for enrolment at institutions of further study in the sector of tertiary education (colleges, universities, etc.);
- the grade in any exam / subject of his graduation certificate issued by an institution of secondary education is at least „C“ or better;

- in case of a non-native speaker of English, the student possesses a sufficiently high command of spoken and written English enabling him to follow courses of academic studies at institutions of Higher Education in the tertiary sector of education, and if his grade in English is not lower than „C“;
- the student is a Christian and has been recommended in writing by his native church for Theological Studies at our Institute.

A future student wishing to apply for admission and enrolment at our school must supply the following documents:

- a written enrolment / admission request indicating subject area and degree option pursued;
- a CV with full personal, educational, professional, and church-related details;
- a copy of his highest educational qualification;
- a copy of a current picture of the student in a format usable for ID cards or passports;
- a recommendation letter issued by a pastor or elder of the student's native church.

Only full application packages will be considered.



Working with the contents of this CD-ROM is intended to be easy and self-explanatory. It contains all you need for studies and to complete them. It also has an easy-to-use navigation system with links leading you to applications and to instructions on how to proceed:

- 1 Upon receiving your CD-ROM edition, insert disk in the disk drive of your computer and wait until the main entry window will pop automatically.
- 2 You should first install the main application, the *IFTS Bachelor Degree in Theology application*. This will take at least up to 170 MB space on your computer's hard disk. This application contains all components you will need for the study of the major subject core

components (Theology, according to the details of the program content outline on the previous pages) and on the minor subject 1 components (Comparative Religion with three Elective course modules). Complete all the courses and exam assignments according to the relevant instructions given.

- ③ After completing your studies and exams in the major subject and minor subject 1 area, turn to minor subject area 2 (Christian Education) by inserting the disk and then calling up the main page in this section and following the instruction given there. Begin with Unit 1, and then proceed to Unit 2, etc. Complete all the exams and send them to our Institute for grading.
- ④ By the time you have completed your course and exam work in the major subject area and in the two minor subject areas, graduation is not far ahead from you any longer. There is only still a final step to go, and time has come to prepare for your Final Bachelor Paper. To do so, determine a subject area and a topic in mutual consultation with a faculty member of our Institute. In this final phase of your studies, you are no longer required to do any course work and submit certain course exams; instead, you will be guided step by step through a process of independent research for your Final Exam Paper. On the disk, you will find a number of digital library applications which you are now urgently recommended to install for browsing their contents

in your search for suitable materials for your freely chosen topic. You may also include printed and digital materials from other sources such as your local library or from the Internet. Make sure that your final version of your Final Bachelor Paper includes the appropriate academic format such as Cover page with the title of your paper, your name, date and details of the degree program you are graduating from, and that it is appropriately page-numbered and that it includes a List of Contents, footnotes, and List of References. Make sure that for all material you are quoting from, full and appropriate reference is given. Another formal requirement for your Final Bachelor Paper is that it is at least 20 pages in length (in addition to cover title page, List of Contents page, and List of References at the end of your paper). In terms of contents, your Final Bachelor Paper must include all relevant information pertaining to the topic you have chosen; make sure that it is complete and correct. You should not only include factual information but also be able to demonstrate that you can analyse critically and reflect more deeply on the material you have included. Therefore, you will not only be expected to present your material in an appropriate manner but also to discuss it accordingly.



**Good luck and best
wishes of succes
in your studies!**



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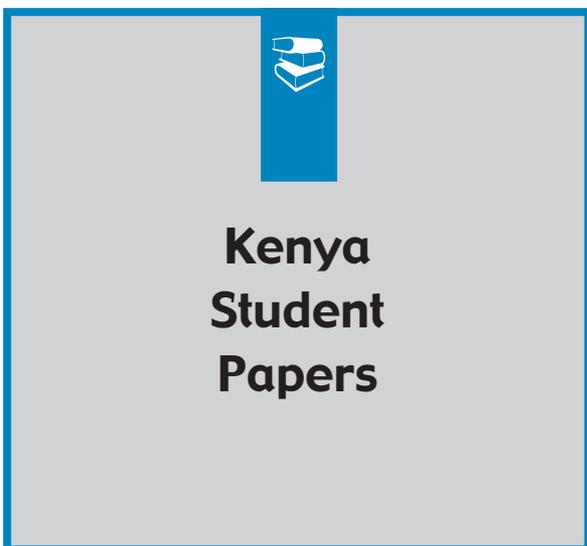


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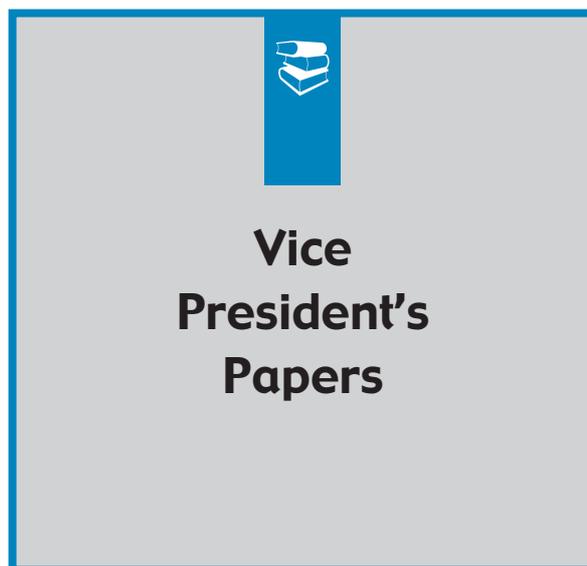
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Autor / ISBN	Titel / Preis
Macharia, Fred Mania 978-3-932756-93-1	»Tracing Jesus In The Bible And In The Holy Quran«. 23,00 € The presentation of Jesus in the Bible and in the Quran
Mboka, Jean Claude Mwinyi 978-3-937494-24-1	»Translating The Bible Into Kibangubangu«. 34,00 € Preliminary sociocultural and linguistic studies and problems
Kibiku, Peter Mbugua 978-3-937494-25-8	»Christian Worship In An African Context«. 28,00 €
Mogambi, Ernest 978-3-937494-26-5	»Missions And Evangelism In Kenya And Its Impact On The Abagusii Of Western Kenya In 1909 – 1963«. 34,00 €
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Ofosuhene, Godwin Kwame 978-3-937494-34-0	»The Concept of God in the Traditional Religion of the Akan and Ewe Ethnic Groups Compared with the Bible«. 28,00 €
Kithuka, Patricia Kalekye 978-3-937494-37-1	»Traditional Religion and Customs and the Impact of Christian Mission on the Akamba Tribal Community in Kenya«. 24,00 €

Muthoka, Peter Silleter 978-3-937494-38-8	»Akamba Theology Compared To Christian Theology«. 24,00 €
Ofosuhene, Godwin Kwame 978-3-937494-41-8	»Comparing the Concept of Spirit and Soul in the Traditional Religion of the Akan and Ewe Tribes to that of the Bible«. 32,00 €
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Simiyu, Michael Wakhangu 978-3-937494-55-5	»The Concept of Repentance in African Traditional Religion Compared With Christianity«. 28,00 €
Adhikari, Bidhya 978-3-937494-65-4	»A Syntactic Contrastive Study of Sherpa and English with Occasional Reference to Nepali and Hindi and a Brief Sherpa-English Dictionary«. 37,00 €
Demo, Mary Angasia Ondiaka 978-3-937494-68-5	»The coming of Christianity into Luhya Land«. 27,00 €



Autor / ISBN	Titel
Schmidt, Muhammad W. G. A. 978-3-932756-83-2	»Islam Studies Library«. English & Arabisch. Digital Books and Software for Education and Research 32,00 €
Schmidt, Muhammad W. G. A. 978-3-937494-28-9	»Comparative Religion: Islam and Christianity«. A Textbook English & German. Erschienen in Englisch mit ausführlichem deutschen Anhang 37,00 €