

**BRONNUM LUTHERAN SEMINARY, YOLA
AN AFFILIATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF JOS
MASTERS OF THEOLOGY (MTH) DEGREE
CURRICULUM**

Graduation Requirement

The total number of credits required for the degree is 48, of this total, 42 credits must be obtained through course work, and 6 from a thesis. A minimum of 24 credits must be obtained in the major subject area of specialization, and at least 18 from general courses and course taken from other subject areas. The normal pattern of credits per semester will be 15-15-12: the lighter load in the second year is to allow time for work on the thesis.

All courses of the programme will be examined separately. The pass mark is 50%. No provision is made to re-sit examination. A failed course is to be retaken, or (if not a compulsory course) a different course may be taken in its place. Marks for failed course would not be computed in the average. A further qualification for passing a course is a minimum 80% attendance at lectures or/and seminar. All courses will be graded 70% on examination and 30% on continuous assessment with the exception of REL 501 inter-disciplinary seminar for which there is no examination.

This Master of Theology is a two year programme. However, in some circumstances, such as the need to repeat a course or courses, permission may be given to extend the period of the degree, but the maximum extension will not exceed a further two years. To move to the next level, the student must accumulate not less than 16 credit units in any one year; a student achieving 10-15 credit will be put on probation; a student scoring less than 10 credits will be asked to withdraw from the programme.

Programme Outline

The Master of Theology programme offered in three major areas: Biblical theology, Historical and Theological studies, and Practical Theology. All of these are subdivided into narrower areas of specialization, many of which have specific entry requirement – see below for details.

All courses in the programme are 3 credit units. Only compulsory course, listed separately and marked by an asterisk (*) in the listing, are sure to be offered every time a specialization is taught; decision on which other courses will be offered will be the responsibility of the Academic Board in consultation with specialist in each area.

BIBLICAL THEOLOGY

Two areas of specialization are offered within this area of major: Old Testament and New Testament. Language entry requirements are as marked under each area of specialization. At the Academic Board's discretion, students may be admitted with less than this requirement; but if this is done, it will be on the condition that they make up the deficiency by the end of their first year; no credits will be awarded for these.

1. OLD TESTAMENT

Students must obtain at least 18 taught credits (including compulsory courses) as well as writing their thesis on a subject within the Old Testament. The other 6-9 credits for the area of specialization may be obtained from courses in New Testament. The language qualification for entry is at least one year's study of Hebrew syntax.

Compulsory Element (21 credits)

General component

REL 500 Inter-disciplinary Colloquium

REL 501 Inter-disciplinary Seminar

REL 502 Research Method

REL 503 Thesis (6 credits)

Old Testament courses

ROT 500 Old Testament Theology

ROT 501 Old Testament Exegesis in Hebrew

Required Courses (15 Credits)

At least four among the following courses in the area of specialization are required:

ROT 502 Old Testament Exegesis in English

ROT 503 Salvation and Liberation in the Old Testament

ROT 504 Old Testament Eschatology

ROT 505 Old Testament Ethics

ROT 506 Old Testament and African Themes

ROT 507 Deuteronomic Theology

ROT 508 The Psalms

ROT 509 Book of Job

ROT 510 Prophecy of Jeremiah

ROT 511 A survey of minor prophets

Electives (12 credits)

Electives are divided into two categories: 6-9 credits are to be taken from among any courses listed under New Testament: and further 6-9 credits are to be taken from among any courses listed under one or more of the other major subject areas or general component listed above the listings for each specialized area.

Courses Description

***REL 500 Inter-disciplinary Colloquium**

A first year course that will focus on recent publications relevant to doing theology in Africa: these will be selected by the lecturer.

***REL 501 Inter-disciplinary Seminar**

In this course, to be taken in a student's second year, each student will present a seminar paper on a topic associated with his or her thesis, and respond to comments, questions and criticisms from lecturer and fellow students. The paper should take between 45 minutes and one hour to read. Assessment will be on the basis of participation in discussion of the other students' seminars as well as student's own presentation and response to comments and questions raised by it. There is no examination for this course.

***REL 502 Research Methods**

This will equip students for research work at the Masters level. It will be taken during each student's second semester.

***REL 503 Thesis (6 credits)**

Unlike the other compulsory general components, this earns credits within the student's area of specialization. Three suggested topics, all within the student's area of specialization, shall be submitted in writing through the Academic Dean to the Academic Board not later than half way through the second semester of course work. Students should not start work on their thesis until a topic is approved and a supervisor assigned. Thesis will be written in English; their maximum length is 25,000 words, excluding notes and appendices. Three copies will be submitted to the Academic in computer printout on A4 paper with temporary binding at least three weeks before the end of the student's final semester, once the student has obtained his or her supervisor's approval. Thesis will be examined by oral defense before two examiners, one from the University of Jos and one from the College. Supervisors and other Master of Theology students may also be present. Four bound copies are subsequently to be submitted once the examiners approval has been secured for any correction that may have been required.

***ROT 500 Old Testament Theology**

A critical evaluation of the major twentieth and twenty-first century theologies of the Old Testament, with special attention given to perspective and methodology. A few basic themes of the OT will be studied in African context, such as election, covenant, holiness, righteousness and justice

***ROT 501 Old Testament Exegeses in Hebrew**

A detailed study of selected portion of the OT in Hebrew. Translation from the Hebrew into English will be expected together with linguistic comment and exegesis of the text. Texts may be chosen from Genesis 1-11; Ruth; 1 Samuel 1-10; Esther.

***ROT 502 Old Testament Exegesis in English**

A detailed study of selected portions of the OT in English, with some references to the Hebrew. Texts may be chosen from the Leviticus 17-26; Judges 1-9 and 18-21; Job 1-9 and 38-42; Proverbs 1-9; Isaiah 40-55; Jeremiah 32-52; Daniel.

***ROT 503 Israel's History for Africa**

A detailed study of two or three aspects or periods of Israel history for Church in Africa, to be selected from the following: The Patriarchs; Israel relations with Canaanites; exile and restoration; the Maccabees; religious persecution and revolt; religion and state; patterns of leadership and government; Israel and history.

ROT 504 Salvations and Liberation in the Old Testament

A study of themes and language of salvation and liberation in the OT, with particular relevance to the African situation. Special reference will be made to the book of Exodus.

ROT 505 Old Testament Eschatology

A study of the OT expectation of the future, with special reference to the Day of the Lord and the Messianic age. Selected passages will be examined, especially from the Latter Prophets.

ROT 506 Old Testament Ethics

An overview of OT ethics, providing a framework for the subject as a whole and considering specific themes of OT ethics which have particular relevance to Africa today.

ROT 507 Old Testament and Africa Themes

A comparative study of some basic themes common to the OT and Africa Traditional Religions, such as the doctrine of God.

ROT 508 Deuteronomic Theology

A study of Deuteronomic theology as found in the book of Deuteronomy and former Prophets. The possible date and circumstances of this theology will be examined together with its main components; its relevance to African theology, including the Prosperity Gospel, will be considered.

ROT 509 The Psalms

A study of some of the forms, motif and hermeneutical problems of the OT Psalter, build around a reading of selected Psalms in the Hebrew text; special attention will be given to the use of the Psalms in worship in Africa.

ROT 510 Book of Job

An exegetical study of Jobs, centered upon the reading of selected passages in Hebrew. Attention will be paid to the characters in the book, its literary character, its hermeneutical impotence, its relation to salvation history, and its role as a resource for life and preaching in the African Church.

ROT 511 Prophecy of Jeremiah

A study of the book of Jeremiah and its messages, showing its relevance for the African Church. Selected passages will be exegete either in Hebrew or in English

ROT 512 Survey of the Minor Prophets

A historical and theological study of the minor prophets and their messages, including the exegesis of selected book and passages, showing its relevance for Nigerian society.

2. NEW TESTAMENT

Student must obtain at least 18 taught credits (including compulsory courses) as well as writing their thesis within the New Testament. The other 6-9 credits for the area of specialization may be obtained from courses in Old Testament. The language qualification for entry is at least one year's study of Greek syntax.

Compulsory Element (21 credits)

General components

*REL 500 Inter-disciplinary Colloquium

*REL 501 Inter-disciplinary Seminar

*REL 502 Research Method

*REL 503 Thesis (6 Credits)

New Testament courses

*RNT 525 New Testament Exegesis in Greek

*RNT 534 Pauline Theology

Required Courses (15 Credits)

At least four among the following courses in the area of specialization are required;

- RNT 526 New Testament Exegeses in English
- RNT 527 New Testament Theology of Holy Spirit
- RNT 528 New Testament Ethics
- RNT 529 Synaptic Gospels and Gospel History
- RNT 530 Sermon on the Mount
- RNT 531 Interpretations of Gospel Parables
- RNT 532 Mission in Mathew and/or Luke/Acts
- RNT 533 Johannine Theology
- RNT 535 Paul's Theology and Practices of mission
- RNT 536 Epistles to the Romans
- RNT 537 1 Corinthians
- RNT 538 Prison Epistles of Paul
- RNT 539 Priesthood and Sacrifice in Hebrew
- RNT 540 Apocalypse

Electives (12 credits)

Electives are divided into two categories. 6-9 credits are to be taken from among any courses listed under Old Testament; and a further 6-9 credits are to be taken from among the courses listed under one or more of the other major subject areas, general components listed above the listing for each specialization.

Courses Descriptions

***REL 500 Inter-disciplinary Colloquium**

A first year course that will focus on recent publications relevant to doing theology in Africa: these will be selected by the lecturer.

***REL 501 Inter-disciplinary Seminar**

In this course, to be taken in a student's second year, each student will present a seminar paper on a topic associated with his or her thesis, and respond to comments, questions and criticisms from lecturer and fellow students. The paper should take between 45 minutes and one hour to read. Assessment will be on the basis of participation in discussion of the other students' seminars as well as student's own presentation and response to comments and questions raised by it. There is no examination for this course.

***REL 502 Research Methods**

This will equip students for research work at the Masters level. It will be taken during each student's second semester.

***REL 503 Thesis (6 credits)**

Unlike the other compulsory general components, this earns credits within the student's area of specialization. Three suggested topics, all within the student's area of specialization, shall be submitted in writing through the Academic Dean to the Academic Board not later than half way through the second semester of course work. Students should not start work on their thesis until a topic is approved and a supervisor assigned. Thesis will be written in English; their maximum

length is 25,000 words, excluding notes and appendices. Three copies will be submitted to the Academic in computer printout on A4 paper with temporary binding at least three weeks before the end of the student's final semester, once the student has obtained his or her supervisor's approval. Thesis will be examined by oral defense before two examiners, one from the University of Jos and one from the College. Supervisors and other Master of Theology students may also be present. Four bound copies are subsequently to be submitted once the examiners approval has been secured for any correction that may have been required.

***RNT 525 New Testament Exegesis in Greek**

A detailed study of selected portions of the NT in Greek. Attention will be given to textual, grammatical and lexical questions related to the texts studied, but the primary emphasis will be on the exegesis of the text and understanding it within the African context.

RNT 256 New Testament Exegeses in English

A detailed study of English text, including some references to Greek, of selected portions of the NT. Text studied will include some of the following; Marks, James, 1 and 2 Peter, Jude.

RNT 257 New Testament Theology of the Holy Spirit

A theological analysis of NT teaching on the Holy Spirit and its relevance for the contemporary Nigeria situation.

RNT 258 New Testament Ethics

An overview of NT ethics, providing a framework for the subject as a whole and considering specific themes of NT ethics which has particular relevance to Africa today

RNT 529 Synoptic Gospels and Gospel History

A survey of special features of three synoptic Gospels and a detailed study of their similarities and differences, including the history of the Gospels and their inter-relationship.

RNT 530 Sermon on The Mount

A study of the Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 5-7) and its implications for Christian living today.

RNT 531 Interpretation of Gospel Parables

An exegetical study of selected parables in the Gospels, with special attention given to the Greek text and their and relevance to Nigerian society.

RNT 532 Mission in the Mathew and/or Luke/Arts

Mathew's gospel will be surveyed as model for missionary training; care will be taken to examine the distinctive of Mathew's theology of mission and also its contemporary application. The study of Luke's two-volume treatise on the mission of the Church will include a consideration of its contemporary application.

RNT 533 Johannine Theology

A study of a content and message of the fourth gospel, with some attention paid also to its relationship with letters of John.

RNT 534 Pauline Theologies

A detailed study of selected themes in the theology of Paul, with particular attention paid to his doctrine of salvation. Exegetical study of passages of particular theological interest may also be included.

RNT 535 Paul's Theology and Practice of Mission

Through careful study of Paul in his Epistles and the book of Acts students will grasp the depth and contemporary relevance of Paul's missionary theology and methodology.

RNT 536 Epistles to the Romans

An exegetical analysis of the Epistle to the Romans and its relevance to Church today.

RNT 537 1 Corinthians

A study of historical context, social setting and epistolary structure of 1 Corinthians, with an emphasis on the major themes and issues of this letter brought into relation with the contemporary African Church.

RNT 538 Prison Epistles of Paul

An exegetical study of Philippians, Ephesians or Colossians, possibly taken together with Philemon. The historical, literary and theological dimensions of the text will be treated in relations to the Church in Africa today.

RNT 539 Priesthood and Sacrifice in Hebrew

A study of Priesthood and sacrifice in the Epistle to the Hebrews in the context of African traditional understandings.

RNT 540 Apocalypse

An exegetical study of the book of Revelation, including a critical analysis of the main types of interpretation.

HISTORICAL AND THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

Four areas of specialization are offered within this major subject area; Historical theology, Church History, systematic Theology and Christian Ethics.

Special entry requirements are as marked under each area of specialization. However, at the Academic Board discretion, student may be admitted with less than these requirements; but if this done, it will be on condition that they make up the deficiency prior to entering their second year; no credits will be awarded for these.

3. HISTORICAL THEOLOGY

Students must obtain at least 12 taught credits as well as writing their thesis within the discipline. The other 12 – 15 credits for the area of specialization may be obtained from course in Church History or Systematic Theology. The special entry requirements are substantial courses covering both the entire span of Church History and the principal logic of Systematic theology

Compulsory Elements (15 credits)

*REL 500 Inter-disciplinary Colloquium

*REL 501 Inter-disciplinary Seminar

- *REL 502 Research Method
- *REL 503 Thesis and (6 Credits)

Required courses (18 credits)

At least four among the following courses in the area of specialization are required:

Historical Theology courses

- RHT 500 Early Trinitarian and Christological Controversies
- RHT 501 Theology of Augustine of Hippo
- RHT 502 Theology of Martin Luther
- RHT 503 Theology of John Calvin
- RHT 504 Soren Kierkegaard as a Philosopher of Christian Religion
- RHT 505 Liberation Theology and the Rise of Neo-Orthodoxy 1890
- RHT 506 Theology of Emil Brunner
- RHT 507 Global Theology, 1940-1990

Church History Courses

- RCH 531 History of Evangelicalism since 1730

Systematic Theology Courses

- RST 554 Doctrine of the Trinity
- RST 555 Doctrine of Atonement
- RST 557 Doctrine of the Kingdom of God

Electives (15 credits)

Electives are divided into two categories: 9-12 credits are to be taken from among any courses listed under Church History and or Systematic Theology, related specializations within the major subject area of Historical Theological Studies; and further 6-9 credits are to be taken from among any courses listed under one or more of the other major subject area or general component listed above the listing for each specialized area.

***REL 500 Inter-disciplinary Colloquium**

A first year course that will focus on recent publications relevant to doing theology in Africa: these will be selected by the lecturer.

***REL 501 Inter-disciplinary Seminar**

In this course, to be taken in a student's second year, each student will present a seminar paper on a topic associated with his or her thesis, and respond to comments, questions and criticisms from lecturer and fellow students. The paper should take between 45 minutes and one hour to read. Assessment will be on the basis of participation in discussion of the other students' seminars as well as student's own presentation and response to comments and questions raised by it. There is no examination for this course.

***REL 502 Research Methods**

This will equip students for research work at the Masters level. It will be taken during each student's second semester.

***REL 503 Thesis (6 credits)**

Unlike the other compulsory general components, this earns credits within the student's area of specialization. Three suggested topics, all within the student's area of specialization, shall be submitted in writing through the Academic Dean to the Academic Board not later than half way through the second semester of course work. Students should not start work on their thesis until a topic is approved and a supervisor assigned. Thesis will be written in English; their maximum length is 25,000 words, excluding notes and appendices. Three copies will be submitted to the Academic in computer printout on A4 paper with temporary binding at least three weeks before the end of the student's final semester, once the student has obtained his or her supervisor's approval. Thesis will be examined by oral defense before two examiners, one from the University of Jos and one from the College. Supervisors and other Master of Theology students may also be present. Four bound copies are subsequently to be submitted once the examiners approval has been secured for any correction that may have been required.

RHT 500 Early Trinitarian and Christological Controversies

A study of aspects of the Trinitarian and Christological controversies from the second to the seventh centuries. The role of the Ecumenical Councils as well as of significant theologians will be considered.

RHT 501 Theology of Augustine of Hippo

There will be extensive reading in the Confessions and the city of God in order to understand Augustine's life and the influences that helped mould it, the basic tenets of his theology and ethics, and his relationship to Greek thought, especially Plato and the Neo-Platonists. His influence on subsequent Christian Theology will also be considered.

RHT 502 Theology of Martin Luther

Study of Luther's theology writing to gain an overall picture of his theology, with emphasis upon his theology of the cross, justification by faith the sacrament, Christian ethics and life, and the two kingdoms

RHT 503 Theology of John Calvin

An analysis and evaluation of the nature and theology of Calvin, as reflected specially in the 1559 edition of the systematic theology, *The Institute of the Christian Religion*.

RHT 504 Soren Kierkegaard as Philosopher of Christian Religion

Study of the writings in which Kierkegaard puts forward his redemptive philosophy.

RHT 505 Liberation Theology and the Rise of Neo-Orthodoxy 1890-1940

A historical theology study of the period concentrating on the decline of liberation theology and the rise of neo-orthodoxy. Attention will be paid to the historical context of imperialism militarism nationalism, war depression and totalitarianism. Theologians to be examined may include Harnack, Herrmann, Weiss, Schweitzer, Troeltsch, Forsyth, Barth and Bultmann

RHT 506 Theology of Emil Brunner

A study center upon his three volume systematic theology; particular emphasis may be placed on certain themes.

RHT 507 Global Theology 1940-1990

A historical theological study of the period, focusing on the growth of influential theologies outside the west. Particular attention will be paid to Liberation theology and other political theologies.

RCH 531 History of Evangelicalism since 1730

An examination of the History of the movement, starting from the initial revivals in North America and Britain, passing through the first phase of the mission that made it a worldwide movement, and concluding with its recent history. Particularly attention will be paid to the changes that took place with the successive phase of Western culture, and their relevance to the exporting of the Evangelicalism to the churches founded by its mission, notably in Africa.

RHT 554 Doctrine of the Trinity

Important historical attempts to understand the doctrine of the Trinity will be considered, beginning with the early Church, in order to arrive at systematic theology of the Trinity that is scriptural and also relevant to the West African context.

RST 555 Doctrine of Atonement

The historical development of the doctrine will be traced from the early Church to the twentieth century, but the culmination of the course will be a systematic approach grounded in scripture. Parallels from African Traditional Religion may be considered to help set the doctrine in the African context.

RST 557 Doctrine of the Kingdom of God (E)

The course will be centered on a biblical study of the concept of the Kingdom of God. Historical theologies of the Kingdom such as those of Augustine, Luther, Rauschenbush and Liberation theology will also be considered. Questions such as the relationship of the Kingdom to the Church and to society will be addressed.

4. CHURCH HISTORY

Students must obtain at least 18 taught credits (including compulsory courses) as well as writing their thesis within the discipline. The other 12-15 credits for the area of specialization may be obtained from courses in Historical or Systematic Theology.

The special entry requirement is a substantial course or courses covering the entire span of Church History.

Compulsory Elements (18 credits)

General components

*REL 500 Inter-disciplinary Colloquium

*REL 501 Inter-disciplinary Seminar

*REL 502 Research Methods

*REL 503 Thesis (6 credits)

Church History course

*RCH 525 Christian Historiography

Required Courses (18 credits)

At least three among the following courses in the area of specialization are required;

RCH 526 History of missions

RCH 528 Medieval Reform Movement

RCH 529 German Reformation

RCH 530 History of Lutheranism

RCH 531 History of Evangelicalism since 1730

RCH 532 Christian Mission in Southern Nigerian

RCH 533 Christian Mission in Northern Nigeria

RCH 534 Africa Independent Churches

RCH 535 Reconstructing Local Church History

RCH 536 History of LCCN:1913-2013

Inter-religious Relations course

RIR 527 Christianity and Islam from 622 to 1453

Electives (12 credits)

Electives are divided into two categories. 6-9 credits are to be taken from among any courses listed under Historical and/or Systematic Theology related specializations within the major subject area of Historical and Theological studies; and further 6-9 credits are to be taken from among any course listed under one or more of the other major subject areas or general components listed above the listing for each specialized area.

Course Description

***REL 500 Inter-disciplinary Colloquium**

A first year course that will focus on recent publications relevant to doing theology in Africa: these will be selected by the lecturer.

***REL 501 Inter-disciplinary Seminar**

In this course, to be taken in a student's second year, each student will present a seminar paper on a topic associated with his or her thesis, and respond to comments, questions and criticisms from lecturer and fellow students. The paper should take between 45 minutes and one hour to read. Assessment will be on the basis of participation in discussion of the other students' seminars as well as student's own presentation and response to comments and questions raised by it. There is no examination for this course.

***REL 502 Research Methods**

This will equip students for research work at the Masters level. It will be taken during each student's second semester.

***REL 503 Thesis (6 credits)**

Unlike the other compulsory general components, this earns credits within the student's area of specialization. Three suggested topics, all within the student's area of specialization, shall be submitted in writing through the Academic Dean to the Academic Board not later than half way through the second semester of course work. Students should not start work on their thesis until a topic is approved and a supervisor assigned. Thesis will be written in English; their maximum length is 25,000 words, excluding notes and appendices. Three copies will be submitted to the

Academic in computer printout on A4 paper with temporary binding at least three weeks before the end of the student's final semester, once the student has obtained his or her supervisor's approval. Thesis will be examined by oral defense before two examiners, one from the University of Jos and one from the College. Supervisors and other Master of Theology students may also be present. Four bound copies are subsequently to be submitted once the examiners approval has been secured for any correction that may have been required.

***RCH 525 Christian Historiography**

This course will have two focuses. Firstly, it will look at historical method, how to sift, interpret, and synthesis documents, facts and evidence. Secondly, it will examine various major historiographical schools and explore distinctively Christian ways of studying history.

RCH 526 History of Missions

This course will provide an overview of the history of mission efforts since the Church began, and also examine in more depth certain episodes and themes, with particular emphasis on Africa. A short summary of the history of mission may be included.

RCH 528 Medieval Reform Movements

Some of the major reform movements of the Middle Ages will be studied from the tenth to the fifteenth centuries. The reasons for their rise and some of their unique contributions to the Church will be considered.

RCH 529 German Reformation

A study of the historical and theological development of the Reformation in Germany from immediately prior to its commencement to 1555 (the Peace of Augsburg)

RCH 530 History of Lutheranism

A study of the historical and theological development of Lutheranism. The course takes a study of how the Lutheran denomination came into existence, and its beliefs system that makes it distinct from other denominations. It aims at enabling students to know the origin of the Lutheran church as well as the fundamentals of their beliefs and global spread and affiliation of the denomination and others.

RCH 531 History of Evangelicalism since 1730

An examination of the history of movement, starting from the initial revivals in North America and Britain, passing the first phase of the mission that made it a worldwide movement, and concluding with its recent history. Particularly attention will be paid to the changes that took place with the successive phases of western culture, and their relevance to the exporting of Evangelicalism to the churches founded by its mission, notably in Africa.

RCH 532 Christian Mission in Southern Nigeria

A historical study covering different Christian missions, with particular emphasis on missiological approaches.

RCH 533 Christian Mission in Northern Nigeria

A historical study covering different Christian missions, with particular emphasis on missiological approaches.

RCH 534 Africa Independent Churches

A study of the causes and history of the rise and growth of Independent churches. Attention will be given to their theologies and the issues of how faithful they are to the Bible and how responsive to the Africa context, with examples taken from different parts of the continent.

RCH 535 Reconstructing Local Church History

An examination of the research tools and techniques, with particular emphasis on oral history, and also of appropriate ways of recording results of research.

RCH 536 History of LCCN:1913-2013

The course studies the history of the existence of LCCN for the past hundred year. It assesses the history of its establishment, expansion and growth. It studies the achievements of the church under the missionaries. It also studies the developments within the church during the local/indigenous leadership. A comparative analysis of these periods will be carried out in order to forge a way forward for the church.

RIR 527 Christianity and Islam from 622 to 1453

A study of the history of the Christian church in the context of Islam from the rise of Islam to the fall of Constantinople.

5. SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

Students must obtain at least 18 taught credits (including compulsory course) as well as writing their thesis within the discipline. The other 12-15 credits for area of specialization may be obtained from course in the Church History, Historical Theology or Christian Ethics. The special entry requirement is a substantial course or courses covering the principal logic of Systematic Theology.

Compulsory Elements (18 credits)

General component

*REL 500 Inter-disciplinary Colloquium

*REL 501 Inter-disciplinary Seminar

*REL 502 Research Method

*REL 503 Thesis (6 credits)

Systematic Theology courses

*RST 552 African Christian Theology

Requirement Courses (18 credits)

RST 550 Systematic Theology in Practice

RST 551 Theology Method

RST 553 Theology of Mission

RST 554 Doctrine of Trinity

RST 555 Doctrine of Atonement

RST 556 Doctrine of suffering God

RST 557 Doctrine of the Kingdom of God

RST 558 Theology and the Justice of God

RST 559 Theology of Philip Melanchthon
RST 560 Theology of Jurgen Moltmann

Electives (12 credits)

Electives are divided into two categories. 6-9 credits are to be taken from among any courses listed under Church History and/or Systematic Theology, related specializations within the major subject area of History and Theological Studies; and a further 6-9 credits are to be taken from among any courses under one or more of the other major subject areas or general components listed above the listings for each specialized area.

Course Discretions

***REL 500 Inter-disciplinary Colloquium**

A first year course that will focus on recent publications relevant to doing theology in Africa: these will be selected by the lecturer.

***REL 501 Inter-disciplinary Seminar**

In this course, to be taken in a student's second year, each student will present a seminar paper on a topic associated with his or her thesis, and respond to comments, questions and criticisms from lecturer and fellow students. The paper should take between 45 minutes and one hour to read. Assessment will be on the basis of participation in discussion of the other students' seminars as well as student's own presentation and response to comments and questions raised by it. There is no examination for this course.

***REL 502 Research Methods**

This will equip students for research work at the Masters level. It will be taken during each student's second semester.

***REL 503 Thesis (6 credits)**

Unlike the other compulsory general components, this earns credits within the student's area of specialization. Three suggested topics, all within the student's area of specialization, shall be submitted in writing through the Academic Dean to the Academic Board not later than half way through the second semester of course work. Students should not start work on their thesis until a topic is approved and a supervisor assigned. Thesis will be written in English; their maximum length is 25,000 words, excluding notes and appendices. Three copies will be submitted to the Academic in computer printout on A4 paper with temporary binding at least three weeks before the end of the student's final semester, once the student has obtained his or her supervisor's approval. Thesis will be examined by oral defense before two examiners, one from the University of Jos and one from the College. Supervisors and other Master of Theology students may also be present. Four bound copies are subsequently to be submitted once the examiners approval has been secured for any correction that may have been required.

RST 550 Systematic Theology in Practice

The aim of this course is to help students develop the necessary skill for doing theology themselves. Some attention will be paid to theoretical issue, but the main emphasis will be on practical aspects, with the lecturer's own theological work serving as and stimulus to students, who will be expected to do creative theological work of their own.

RST Theological Method

This course offers a more theoretical approach to the question of how to do systematic theology. It will consider the various source available, from the Bible to the theologian's own mind, and how they are to be related, as well as going into key technical questions related to the discipline.

***RST 552 African Christian Theology**

A detailed study of various approaches to Christian theology from an Africa Christian perspective. Some examples of recent African Christian theology will be considered.

RST 554 Doctrine of the Trinity

Important historical attempts to understand the doctrine of the Trinity will be considered, beginning with the early Church, in order to arrive at a systematic theology of the Trinity that is Scriptural and also relevant to the African context.

RST 555 Doctrine of Atonement

The historical development of the doctrine will be traced from the early Church to the twentieth century, but the culmination of the course will be a systematic approach grounded in Scripture. Parallels from African Tradition Religion may be considered to help set the doctrine in the African context.

RST 556 Doctrine of the Suffering God

Significant historical examples of theopaschitism will be considered, including representatives of the early Church and Luther. Modern British, German and Third World theologians will also be studies in the course of a systematic exploration of the doctrine.

RST 557 Doctrine of the Kingdom of God

The course will center on a biblical-theological study of the concept of the Kingdom of God. Historical theologies of the kingdom such as those of Augustine, Luther, Rauschenbush and Liberation Theology will also be considered. Questions such as the relationship of the Kingdom to the Church and to society will be addressed.

RST 558 Theology and the Justice of God

This course explores questions of theodicy, with consideration given both to philosophically based approaches and to theological ones such as Luther's theology of the cross.

RST 559 Theology of Philip Melanchthon

A systematic study of the work of a leading Lutheran theologian. A study of the life, writings, and influence of Melanchthon on Lutheranism, with emphasis on Melanchthon's formative role in shaping subsequent Lutheran theology. Special reference be given to the theological themes in his *Loci Communes*.

RST 560 Theology of Jurgen Moltmann

Systematic study of the work of a leading contemporary theologian, to include a brief exploration of his influence. Particular attention will be paid to political aspects, and to Moltmann's significance for the Third World.

6. CHRISTIAN ETHICS

At least 18 taught credits, along with the thesis, must be taken within the field of theological ethics. The other 6-9 credits for the area of specialization will be taken from courses in Church History and/or Systematic Theology with relevance to Ethics, as listed below.

The special entry requirement is a substantial course or courses covering the broad domain of Christian ethics.

Compulsory Element (21 credits)

General components

*REL 500 Inter-disciplinary Colloquium

*REL 501 Inter-disciplinary Seminar

*REL 502 Research Method

*REL 503 Thesis (6 credit)

Courses in Christian Ethics

*REP 575 Principles of Christian Ethics

*REP 576 African Christian Ethics

Required courses (15 credits)

Old Testament course

ROT 506 Old Testament Ethics

New Testament course

RNT 528 New Testament Ethics

RNT 530 The Kingdom Ethics

Christian Ethics courses

REP 577 A Christian approach to social Ethics

REP 578 Environmental Ethics

REP 579 Human Right and the Church

REP 580 Agape; an Ethical Analysis

REP 581 Modernization, Secularization and Cultural Pluralism

RET 582 Bio Ethics

REP 583 Sexual Ethics

REP 584 Social Theology of H Richard Niebuhr

REP 585 Lutheran Ethics

Electives (12 credits)

Electives are divided into two categories. 6-9 credits are to be taken from among any courses listed under New Testament and /or Biblical Theology, the other specialization within the major subject area of Biblical Studies: and further 6-9 credits are to be taken from among any courses listed under one or more of the other major subject area or general component listed above the listing for each specialized area.

RHT 502 Theology of Martin Luther

RCT 556 Doctrine of the Suffering God

RST 557 Doctrine of the Kingdom of God

RST 558 Theology and the Justice of God

RST 560 Theology of Jürgen Moltmann

Courses Descriptions

***REL 500 Inter-disciplinary Colloquium**

A first year course that will focus on recent publications relevant to doing theology in Africa: these will be selected by the lecturer.

***REL 501 Inter-disciplinary Seminar**

In this course, to be taken in a student's second year, each student will present a seminar paper on a topic associated with his or her thesis, and respond to comments, questions and criticisms from lecturer and fellow students. The paper should take between 45 minutes and one hour to read. Assessment will be on the basis of participation in discussion of the other students' seminars as well as student's own presentation and response to comments and questions raised by it. There is no examination for this course.

***REL 502 Research Methods**

This will equip students for research work at the Masters level. It will be taken during each student's second semester.

***REL 503 Thesis (6 credits)**

Unlike the other compulsory general components, this earns credits within the student's area of specialization. Three suggested topics, all within the student's area of specialization, shall be submitted in writing through the Academic Dean to the Academic Board not later than half way through the second semester of course work. Students should not start work on their thesis until a topic is approved and a supervisor assigned. Thesis will be written in English; their maximum length is 25,000 words, excluding notes and appendices. Three copies will be submitted to the Academic in computer printout on A4 paper with temporary binding at least three weeks before the end of the student's final semester, once the student has obtained his or her supervisor's approval. Thesis will be examined by oral defense before two examiners, one from the University of Jos and one from the College. Supervisors and other Master of Theology students may also be present. Four bound copies are subsequently to be submitted once the examiners approval has been secured for any correction that may have been required.

***REP 575 Principles of Christian Ethics**

Rather than dealing topically with various ethical principles and procedures, the theological basis of Ethics will be examined historically by looking at the writings of major thinkers who may include Augustine, Aquinas, Luther, Calvin, Wesley, Edwards, Kant, Hegel, Kierkegaard, Rauschenbusch and Barth.

***REP 576 African Christian Ethics**

A study of selected specific ethical issues relevant to the Africa context, with particular attention to Nigeria. Special reference may be made to the Nigerian Covenant.

REP 577 Christian Approach to Social Ethics

The Biblical basis and history of Christian efforts at social involvement. Issue to be addressed will include relationship between church and state war and peace, poverty and the environment.

REP 578 Environmental Ethics

An examination of the historical survey, issues/concerns/crisis (problems), and theological ground of creation care. Including defining ecology and environment, the Christian view of nature and creation, fundamental orientations and concrete requirements for an ethics of the environment/ecology, obstacles to ecological responsibility, equity and justice – concern for eco-justice today, the community and church response for environmental stewardship – the individual/personal responsibility, the community responsibility, the national responsibility, the church responsibility.

REP 579 Human Rights and the Church

This course will examine the history of human rights. The role of the Church in the pursuit of human rights will also be considered, with special reference to the African situation.

REP 580 Agape: An Ethical Analysis

Taking as point of departure biblical teaching concerning God's Love and our own, this course will examine the ethics of Christian Love, in dialogue with a variety of, such as Plato, Augustine, Luther, Kierkegaard, Barth, Nygren and Smedes.

REP 581 Modernization, Secularization and Cultural Pluralism

A critical survey of these related processes and an analysis of the problems they cause in developing countries, with an attempt to make a Christian response to such problems.

REP 582 Bio Ethics

This course will cover selected topics in medical ethics, including in-vitro fertilization, genetic engineering, abortion, infanticide, AIDS and euthanasia.

REP 582 Sexual Ethics

This course will address issues in relation to marriage, divorce, polygamy, homosexuality and others.

REP 584 Theology of H. Richard Niebuhr

A study of the theology and moral philosophy of H. Richard Niebuhr, and an articulation of its social relevance.

REP 585 Lutheran Ethics

The Evangelical Lutheran Church does not have ethics as its opponents allege. It has an incredible organized body of ethics, which is rooted in the doctrine of justification by grace through faith. This course is designed to study such Lutheran ethics as found in Luther, Bonhoeffer and Lutheran confessional writings. The course introduces students to justification as the foundation of Christian ethos, natural law, order of creation, two governments, just war, love, marriage, parenthood, work, property, business and the state. These ethical topics will be examined with specific reference to the African context.

ROT 506 Old Testament Ethics

An overview of OT ethics, providing a framework for the subject as a whole and considering specific themes of OT ethics which have particular relevance to Africa today.

RNT 528 New Testament Ethics

An overview of NT ethics, providing a framework for the subject as a whole considering specific themes of NT ethics which have particular relevance to Africa today.

RNT 530 Kingdom Ethics

A study of the sermon on the mount (Matt. 5-7) and its implications for Christian living today.

7. PASTORAL THEOLOGY

Students must obtain at least 21 taught credits (including compulsory courses) as well as writing their thesis within Pastoral Studies. 12-15 credits for the area of specialization may be obtained from courses of other areas of specialization within the Practical Theology. The other 6-9 credits will be obtained from any courses listed in any other area of specialization.

Compulsory Course (18 credits)

General components

*REL 500 Inter-disciplinary Colloquium

*REL 501 Inter-disciplinary Seminar

*REL 502 Research Method

*REL 503 Thesis (6 credit)

Pastoral Theology course

*RPT 525 Pastoral Theology

Required courses (18 credits)

RPT 520 Biblical Leadership

RPT 529 Theology and practice of worship

RPT 530 Church and Society

RPT 532 Pastoral Care

RPT 533 Church Administration and Stewardship

RPT 534 Spirituality and Discipleship

RPT 535 Educational Ministry of the Church

RPT 536 Specialized Ministry

RPT 537 Apologetics

RPT 539 Dynamics of Biblical Change

RPT 540 Historical Perspectives on the Cure of Souls

Counselling and Guidance course

RCG 522 Pastor as a Counsellor

RCG 528 Marriage and Family Counselling

Preaching Course

RPR 531 Preaching and Communication Skills

Electives (12 credits)

Electives are divided into two categories. 6-9 credits will be taken from courses in other area of specialization within the major subject area of Practical Theology; and a further 6-9 credits are to be taken from among any courses listed under one or more of the other major subject areas of general components listed above the listing for each specialized area.

Courses Descriptions

***REL 500 Inter-disciplinary Colloquium**

A first year course that will focus on recent publications relevant to doing theology in Africa: these will be selected by the lecturer.

***REL 501 Inter-disciplinary Seminar**

In this course, to be taken in a student's second year, each student will present a seminar paper on a topic associated with his or her thesis, and respond to comments, questions and criticisms from lecturer and fellow students. The paper should take between 45 minutes and one hour to read. Assessment will be on the basis of participation in discussion of the other students' seminars as well as student's own presentation and response to comments and questions raised by it. There is no examination for this course.

***REL 502 Research Methods**

This will equip students for research work at the Masters level. It will be taken during each student's second semester.

***REL 503 Thesis (6 credits)**

Unlike the other compulsory general components, this earns credits within the student's area of specialization. Three suggested topics, all within the student's area of specialization, shall be submitted in writing through the Academic Dean to the Academic Board not later than half way through the second semester of course work. Students should not start work on their thesis until a topic is approved and a supervisor assigned. Thesis will be written in English; their maximum length is 25,000 words, excluding notes and appendices. Three copies will be submitted to the Academic in computer printout on A4 paper with temporary binding at least three weeks before the end of the student's final semester, once the student has obtained his or her supervisor's approval. Thesis will be examined by oral defense before two examiners, one from the University of Jos and one from the College. Supervisors and other Master of Theology students may also be present. Four bound copies are subsequently to be submitted once the examiners approval has been secured for any correction that may have been required.

***RPT 525 Pastoral Theology**

The course will deal with the biblical basis and strategies of the pastoral care, the authority and functions of the pastoral office and of other leaders in the church; the fourfold ministry of healing, sustaining, guiding, and reconciling; the pastor's role in equipping all the people of God for ministry and promoting the spiritually healthy life, growth, and development of the congregation.

RPT 526 Biblical Leadership

The course will cover subjects such as the theology of the leadership, history of leadership, styles of leadership, developing a philosophy of ministry, recognition and releasing spiritual gifts, leadership training, the spiritual and family life of leaders, and the pastoral role in church renewal and mission.

RPT 529 Theology and Practice of Worship

A study of the history, principles and practice of Christian worship, including private and family worship, but with special emphasis on the different aspects of public or congregational worship.

Careful consideration will also be given to recent Liturgical developments, as well as practical issues such as the administration of the sacraments, and the conduct of marriage and funeral services.

RPT 530 Contemporary Ecclesiology

Beginning with the biblical teaching as to the nature of the church, its order and ministry, its authority and discipline, the course will include the evaluation of recent ecclesiology in the African context. Issues of church administration, strategies for church renewal and growth, denominationalism, para-church organizations, church-mission relationships, and ecumenical movements will also be considered.

RPT 532 Pastoral Care

Detailed examination of the various cases met by the pastor in his local church ministry. These include care of the sick and dying, ministry to the bereaved, marriage counselling, understanding the spiritual condition of the people and developing ways of caring for their spiritual welfare.

RPT 533 Church Administration and Stewardship

A theology of church administration and stewardship; the principles and methods of administration, personnel and financial management; principles and practice community development; financial and strategic planning; proposal writing, and project management.

RPT 534 Spirituality and Discipleship

The course will cover areas such as the devotional life, discipleship training for new Christians, leadership development; prayer and the spiritual disciplines; and the pastoral role in the nurture of spirituality at the personal, family and congregational levels.

RPT 535 Educational Ministry of the Church

Beginning with the theology of Christian education, the course will take a practical approach to the pastoral responsibility for the ministry of the world in the congregation. Various way of fulfilling the educational mission of the church will be considered, including preaching, Bible Studies, Sunday School, Baptismal or Confirmation classes, theological education by extension, Christian schools, youth and other groups in the church in need of teaching.

RPT 536 Specialized Ministries

Pastoral ministry as directed to particular group will be considered in detail, including women, men, youth, children, single, families, etc.

RPT 537 Apologetics

A study of ways of commending Christian faith in the face of the various challenges facing it in contemporary Africa. Issues to be addressed will include ones arising from traditional religion and culture and influence of Islam, as well as others originating from the West. Students will be encouraged to develop a Christian world-and life-view.

RPT 539 Dynamics of Biblical Change

This looks at the biblical process of behavior change often known as sanctification. Then the course will examine counselling methods which assist in implementing God's plan for change in people's lives. Issues of motivation and the counselling relationship will also be considered.

RPT 540 Historical Perspective on the Cure of Souls

The course will consider the way in which the church, throughout its history, has approached the task of the care and cure of souls. The history of pastoral care counselling will be considered with particular emphasis on the writing of Chrysostom, Martin Luther, Richard Baxter, and John Wesley.

RCG 527 Pastor as a Counsellor

Principles and methods of pastoral counselling; the role of the pastor; approached to particular problems including the crisis pregnancy, marriage breakdown, alcohol and drugs addition, the sick, and the dying; the role of church discipline.

RCG 528 Marriage and Family Counselling

Principles and methods of pastoral counselling as related to the dynamics of marriage and family life. Premarital counselling, marriage enrichment, communication, conflict resolution, child rearing, and divorce counselling will be among the issues covered. A particular effort will be made to address common marriage problems in modern Nigerian.

RCG 538 AIDS Counselling

The course will be designed to train counsellor who will minister to people living with HIV/AIDS. Issues to be addressed include awareness, confidentiality, medical ethics, and ministry to the dying and to the delivery.

RPR 531 Preaching and Counselling Skills

A biblical theology of preaching and gospel communication will be discussed. Advanced preaching methods covering preparation and delivering.

8. COUNSELLING AND GUIDANCE

Students' must obtain at least 21 taught credits (including compulsory courses) as well as writing their thesis within Counselling and Guidance. 12-15 credits for the area of specialization may be obtained from courses of other areas of specialization within the Practical Theology. The other 6-9 credits will be obtained from any courses listed in any other area of specialization.

Compulsory Course (21 credits)

General components

*REL 500 Inter-disciplinary Colloquium

*REL 501 Inter-disciplinary Seminar

*REL 502 Research Method

*REL 503 Thesis (6 credit)

Pastoral theology course

*RPT 525 Pastoral Theology

*RPT 532 Pastoral Care

Required courses (18 credits)

RCG 527 Pastor as a Counsellor

RCG 538 Marriage and Family Counselling

RCG 535 AIDS Counseling

RCG 550 Methodologies in Biblical Counselling

RCG 551 Counseling Problems and Procedures
RCG 552 Marriage Enrichment
RCG 553 Fertility and Pregnancy Counseling
RCG 554 Loss and Grief
RCG 555 Ministry to the Chemically Dependent
RCG 556 Counseling Adolescents

Electives (12 credits)

Electives are divided into two categories. 6-9 credits will be taken from courses in other area of specialization within the major subject area of Practical Theology; and a further 6-9 credits are to be taken from among any courses listed under one or more of the other major subject areas of general components listed above the listing for each specialized area.

Courses Descriptions

***REL 500 Inter-disciplinary Colloquium**

A first year course that will focus on recent publications relevant to doing theology in Africa: these will be selected by the lecturer.

***REL 501 Inter-disciplinary Seminar**

In this course, to be taken in a student's second year, each student will present a seminar paper on a topic associated with his or her thesis, and respond to comments, questions and criticisms from lecturer and fellow students. The paper should take between 45 minutes and one hour to read. Assessment will be on the basis of participation in discussion of the other students' seminars as well as student's own presentation and response to comments and questions raised by it. There is no examination for this course.

***REL 502 Research Methods**

This will equip students for research work at the Masters level. It will be taken during each student's second semester.

***REL 503 Thesis (6 credits)**

Unlike the other compulsory general components, this earns credits within the student's area of specialization. Three suggested topics, all within the student's area of specialization, shall be submitted in writing through the Academic Dean to the Academic Board not later than half way through the second semester of course work. Students should not start work on their thesis until a topic is approved and a supervisor assigned. Thesis will be written in English; their maximum length is 25,000 words, excluding notes and appendices. Three copies will be submitted to the Academic in computer printout on A4 paper with temporary binding at least three weeks before the end of the student's final semester, once the student has obtained his or her supervisor's approval. Thesis will be examined by oral defense before two examiners, one from the University of Jos and one from the College. Supervisors and other Master of Theology students may also be present. Four bound copies are subsequently to be submitted once the examiners approval has been secured for any correction that may have been required.

RCG 527 The Pastor as a Counsellor

Principles and methods of pastoral counselling; the role of the pastor; approach to particular problems including the crisis pregnancy, marriage breakdown, alcohol and drug addiction, the sick, and the dying; the role of church discipline.

RCG 538 Marriage and Family Counselling

Principles and methods of pastoral counseling as related to the dynamics of marriage and family life. Parental counseling, marriage enrichment, communication, conflict resolution, child rearing, and divorce counselling will be among the issues covered. A particular effort will be made to address common marriage problems in modern Nigeria.

RCG 535 AIDS Counseling

The course will be designed to train counselors who will minister to people living with HIV/AIDS. Issues to be addressed include awareness, confidentiality, medical ethics, and ministry to the dying and to the bereaved.

RCG 550 Methodologies in Biblical Counselling

An examination of secular and Christian methods and systems of counseling from biblical perspective.

RCG 551 Counseling Problems and Procedures

A case study approach dealing with current counseling problems such as drug and alcohol abuse, sexual victimization, insanity, homosexuality, etc.

RCG 552 Marriage Enrichment

This course will cover biblical principles of marriage and family life, communication skills and conflict resolution. Various marriage enrichment/marriage encounter programmes will be surveyed. A weekend seminar/workshop for students and their spouses will be held with the aim of strengthening the students' own marriages and helping them develop marriage enrichment ministries in the local church.

RCG 553 Fertility and Pregnancy Counseling

This course will deal with the common problems of infertility and childlessness, as well as the crises of unwanted pregnancy, addressing abortion and post-abortion trauma. Issues of medical ethics are also raised in this course.

RCG 554 Loss and Grief

This course addresses the issues involved in counseling the bereaved, those facing bereavement, and others in similar situations.

RCG 555 Ministry to the Chemically Dependent

This course will equip students for ministry to people dependent on alcohol, tobacco and other drugs or substances; it will include study of the physiology and psychology of addiction.

RCG 556 Counseling Adolescents

This course will consider the problems faced by young people growing up in a changing world. Various Christian approaches to counseling adolescents and their parents will be explored.