

MTH IN PRACTICAL THEOLOGY
with a specific focus on
DIALOGICAL INTERGENERATIONAL PASTORAL PROCESS
2021 – 2022

The Faculty of Theology, Stellenbosch University offers a two-year programme MTh in Practical Theology (*pastoral care*).

The purpose of the programme is to assist students to develop dialogical intergenerational pastoral knowledge and skills through the integration of theory and practice.

Entries close on 31 October, 2020.

Unique learning experience

This course presents a unique learning experience to all the students. The course is structured to develop the ability of students to become pastoral caregivers by reading academic literature, reflecting in a learning community, skills training and articulation, as well as the integration of theory by means of assignments and/or book summaries and a research thesis. A key aspect of the learning experience in this course is the ecumenical community created by the students in the course. Therefore it is compulsory to attend all modules.

Focus

The focus is to understand people within their networks of relationships (contexts), especially between different generations. Nobody exists alone by him/herself. We are always connected to a 'significant other' and even more significant others, usually, in the first instance, our families.

Dialogical intergenerational pastoral process is of especial interest to family pastoral care, but cannot be limited to families, as it is applicable to individuals as well as communities. It is also of great significance for resolving conflict and facilitating greater understanding between people and cultures in general. The aim of the contextual pastoral approach is to endeavour to restore trust in human relations damaged by hurt and separation caused by conflict. Within this context, hope becomes one of the important key words.

Key objectives

- To integrate pastoral theory, theology and practice
- To motivate a trans-disciplinary approach between pastoral care & counselling and other relevant disciplines
- To help to make this approach appropriate to one's biography, including the offices of minister or/pastoral caregiver
- To develop basic counselling and listening skills in different cultures in accordance with this dialogical approach
- To establish a multi-directed pastoral sensitivity in care and counselling
- To develop a sensitivity for other people's suffering and enjoyment of life, *Coram Deo*, in awareness of their relational involvements
- To cultivate an attentive acceptance of the richness of cultural diversity
- To read and interpret the Bible text from an ethical relational perspective

Core Modules & Credits

This is a 180-credit master's degree. The research master's programme in contextual pastoral care consists of three modules. One module will be Systematic Theology and two of the modules Practical Theology.

- Systematic Theology 20 Cr
- Practical Theology 20 Cr
- Practical Theology 20 Cr
- Research (Full thesis) 120 Cr

Structure

- The course is structured in three contact weeks (modules) in the first year (March, June and October).
- It is compulsory to attend all block weeks. Each of the modules focuses on a specific core area of contextual pastoral care and counselling.
- Students need to prepare for the contact weeks by reading the prescribed material.
- The classes will take place at the Faculty of Theology in Stellenbosch.

Lectures

The lecturers are faculty members of the Faculty of Theology and accredited research fellows who are recognised as practitioners in their respective fields.

Applications

- All students need to apply at Stellenbosch University via www.sun.ac.za.
- All applications are subject to the admission requirements of Stellenbosch University.
- You will be notified whether your application was successful by the end of November 2019.

Bursaries

Bursaries are available.

For more information, please contact:

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