IUDI

PROGRAM GUIDE

Master of Arts in Theology

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

IUDI's Master of Arts (MA) in Theology is designed to train Christians with a strong Biblical foundation and a unique emphasis in transformational development. Learners will receive a holistic education that includes ethical leadership and communication skills with an exploration of glocal and contemporary theology to prepare graduates to think theologically about how to respond to the challenges of our world with the character of Christ (cf. Phil. 2).

ABOUT US

IUDI's Vision
IUDI's vision is to be a catalyst for transformational development in Francophone Africa.

IUDI's Mission
IUDI provides accessible and innovative distance education in key areas of development, empowering leaders to address the holistic needs of their communities.

IUDI's Educational Model
IUDI offers fully online education following an asynchronous model, enabling learners to study flexibly and at their own pace. With no rigid class schedules, our approach allows for seamless integration of studies with life, family, and work commitments.

IUDI's Curriculum
At IUDI, we focus our curricula on empowering leaders with all the tools they need for transformational impact. Our carefully crafted programs provide a strong foundation in academic writing, research principles, and development tools. Our coursework is highly engaging and puts you in the driver's seat of your learning journey. Dive into great texts, dissect relevant case studies, and unleash your potential through hands-on capstone projects. Our curricula foster critical thinking, servant leadership, and a vision for transformational development.

Accreditation
IUDI is accredited by the Ministry of Higher Education in Cameroon, a recognition of our commitment to maintaining high academic standards. We collaborate closely with the University of Maroua to ensure that our programs meet rigorous academic requirements. This partnership enables us to leverage our combined expertise and resources, delivering a comprehensive and enriching educational experience for our learners.

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ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES

IUDI's Credit and Grading System
Our grading system is based on the model from Cameroon's Higher Education Ministry, which is similar to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). In this system, each credit equals about 25-30 hours of coursework, including time spent in tutorials, doing practical work, studying by yourself, and preparing for exams. This credit system is flexible and makes it easier for learners to move between universities in Cameroon and other countries.

At IUDI, we grade learners on a 4.0 GPA system. This is a standard grading system used both in Cameroon and abroad. A 4.0 GPA means excellent work, while a 2.0 GPA is usually the minimum grade needed to pass.

Continuous Enrollment
IUDI enrolls learners on a continuous basis. Learners can start their program at any time. With no fixed application deadlines or enrollment cycles, prospective learners have the flexibility to start their educational journey when it suits them best. This approach promotes accessibility, accommodating individuals with diverse schedules and commitments. It also streamlines the admission process, ensuring efficient evaluation and enrollment.

Academic Progress
Learners are expected to make consistent academic progress in their courses. Learners must contact their mentor if they need to make adjustments to their degree plan. If a learner needs to pause their studies for an extended period, they must contact their mentor to put their studies on hold until they are able to restart again.

Financial Policy
At IUDI, we prioritize a financially accessible education. Tuition fees are calculated per credit unit, reflecting the workload and value of each module. This flexible approach empowers learners to manage their financial commitments based on their course load. Payment is expected at the start of each module, ensuring continuous access to course materials. We provide multiple payment options, including online portals, bank transfers, and installment plans. Late payments may result in financial holds impacting resource access and module registration. Our aim is to support learners in their educational journey while maintaining a fair and sustainable financial system.

Note: This policy is subject to periodic review and revision to meet the needs of our learners and institution.

YOUR EXPERIENCE

Technology Requirement
At IUDI, we emphasize the integration of technology in our educational environment, necessitating learners to have a personal computer or laptop meeting basic specifications, as well as a webcam and microphone for online engagement. Furthermore, a stable and reliable internet connection is required for seamless participation in our online learning environment.

Technical Support

At IUDI, we are dedicated to providing timely technical support to assist learners with their technology-related challenges. Our online learning management systems serve as a central hub for accessing course materials, submitting assignments, and engaging in meaningful discussions with instructors and peers. We are committed to creating a technologically inclusive environment that empowers learners to thrive.

Communication

As part of our commitment to fostering effective communication, learners are provided with an IUDI email, exclusively for educational purposes and internal communication within the university community.

Digital Campus

At IUDI, Moodle serves as our digital campus, enabling us to deliver dynamic and interactive online education. It provides a centralized interface for accessing course materials, engaging in discussions, submitting assignments, and interacting with mentors and peers. With Moodle, learners can navigate their courses, track progress, and communicate effortlessly within a secure and supportive virtual environment. To ensure a smooth experience, IUDI offers a comprehensive orientation on how to effectively use Moodle, empowering learners to maximize their online learning potential.

Transferability of Prior Coursework

At this time IUDI does not accept coursework or credit transfers.

Module Progression

At IUDI, our learning modules are thoughtfully designed groups of courses that provide a comprehensive educational experience. Learners can start with any course within the module and must complete all courses to unlock the next module with a new set of courses. Completion of a module prompts payment for the subsequent module, ensuring a seamless progression through the program. Each module focuses on a specific area of study, fostering critical thinking and practical skills under the guidance of our dedicated faculty.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The following is an outline of the courses required for the Master of Arts in Theology degree program. IUDI retains the right to change or modify its curriculum as needed.

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MASTER OF THEOLOGY DEGREE PROGRAM

Modules	Courses	Credit Units	Total Credit Units
Orientation	Orientation	0	0
Foundations	Introduction to Online Studies	3	
	Survey of Post-Colonial Africa	5	
	Introduction to Critical Thinking	5	
	Introduction to Development	4	17
Academic Writing	Academic French or Academic English	5	
	Citation Styles and Formatting	5	10
Core	Introduction to the Old Testament	4	
	Introduction to the New Testament	4	
	Introduction to Biblical Interpretation	4	
	Ethical Leadership	3	
	Effective Communication	3	18
Advanced	Theology of God, Creation, and Scripture	5	
	Theology of Christ, Humanity, and Salvation	5	
	Theology of the Church, Christian Life, and Last Things	5	
	Christian Ethics and Apologetics	5	
	History of Christian Thought	5	25
Application	Applied Theology	4	
	Theology and Culture	4	
	Development Integration	2	10
Academic Research	Ethical Research	5	
	Research Methods	5	10
Capstone	Thesis or Practicum	30	30
			120

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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Orientation
Course Description:
This orientation seminar introduces learners to the central values, mission, and tenets of IUDI education. Learners will gain tools to use IUDI's online platforms, learning systems, and resources effectively.

Course Objectives:
- Understand IUDI's mission, vision, and history.
- Demonstrate proficiency in using IUDI's online platforms, learning systems, and resources.
- Understand IUDI's university policies.

Introduction to Online Studies
Course Description:
This course prepares learners for success at online, asynchronous education. Learners will gain vital study skills, mobilize technological tools, and apply communication skills to online platforms to equip them for their studies. Furthermore, learners will develop a personalized learning plan and set goals for educational success.

Course Objectives:
- Define online learning and explain its benefits and challenges.
- Select and use appropriate technologies and resources for online learning.
- Understand online safety and ethics.
- Develop effective strategies for time management and staying motivated in online studies.
- Apply communication skills in online settings, such as email and discussion platforms.
- Develop a personalized learning plan.
- Reflect on personal goals and dreams for education and beyond.

Survey of Post-Colonial Africa
Course Description:
This course dives deep into understanding the concept of colonialism, its profound impact on Africa, and its enduring legacy shaping the socio-political and cultural landscape of the continent. Learners will engage in critical analysis of the political, economic, and social challenges in post-colonial Africa, influenced by colonial rule. The course fosters a deeper comprehension of the complex interplay between colonialism, African culture, identity, and the pathways towards sustainable growth and development in Africa's future.

Course Objectives:
- Define colonialism and explain its impact on Africa.
- Understand the nature and legacy of colonialism in Africa.

- Analyze the political, economic, and social challenges and opportunities facing post-colonial Africa.
- Evaluate strategies for sustainable development in post-colonial Africa.
- Reflect on the impact of colonialism on African culture and identity.

Introduction to Critical Thinking

Course Description:
This course empowers learners with robust critical thinking skills, enhancing their ability to identify, analyze, and evaluate information effectively. It delves into the fundamental role of critical thinking across an array of personal and professional settings. The course fosters lifelong learning and the ability to evaluate information with a thoughtful and informed manner.

Course Objectives:
- Define critical thinking and explain its importance in work, research, and daily life.
- Understand the impact of biases and fallacies in thinking processes.
- Apply critical thinking skills to a variety of tasks, including reading, writing, and problem solving.
- Evaluate the quality of information and arguments.
- Communicate ideas clearly and effectively.

Introduction to Development

Course Description:
This course is designed to introduce the key principles and theories of international development. Learners will explore the historical evolution of development work, evaluate strategies used by various entities, and examine the impact of development on social factors. This course will provide learners with the knowledge and skills they need to make a difference in the world.

Course Objectives:
- Define the key principles and theories of international development, including development economics, globalization, poverty reduction, and sustainability.
- Understand the historical evolution of the concept and practice of development.
- Evaluate the strategies and approaches used by various entities (nations, NGOs, international bodies) in promoting development.
- Analyze the impact of development on social factors and the role of technology in development work.
- Reflect on the ethical considerations in development work and the future trajectories of development in light of current global trends and challenges.

MODULE 3: ACADEMIC WRITING

Academic French*

Course Description:
This course equips learners to gain proficiency in reading, writing, and speaking French. Learners will also focus on academic writing skills for graduate studies, mastering the writing process. Learners will leave this course well prepared for the writing assignments at IUDI.

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Course Objectives:
- Demonstrate proficiency in French grammar, vocabulary, and writing mechanics.
- Read and understand French texts.
- Write and speak French fluently.
- Understand the academic writing process of outlining, summarizing, drafting, and editing.
- Reflect on personal learning experiences in French.

Academic English*

Course Description:
This course equips learners to gain proficiency in reading, writing, and speaking English. Learners will also focus on academic writing skills for graduate studies, mastering the writing process. Learners will leave this course well prepared for the writing assignments at IUDI.

Course Objectives:
- Demonstrate proficiency in English grammar, vocabulary, and writing mechanics.
- Read and understand English texts.
- Write and speak English fluently.
- Understand the academic writing process of outlining, summarizing, drafting, and editing.
- Reflect on personal learning experiences in English.

*Students will choose to take <u>one</u> of these courses.

Citation Styles and Formatting

Course Description:
This course provides a comprehensive understanding of various citation styles and formatting methods. Through hands-on exercises, learners will apply citation rules accurately and consistently in their academic writing. By the end of the course, learners will emerge proficient in applying citation styles and formatting rules accurately to their academic papers.

Course Objectives:
- Understand rules and conventions of the Chicago (Turabian) citation style and apply them appropriately and consistently in academic writing.
- Explore citation management tools and software and use how to use them responsibly.
- Define and recognize plagiarism and understand how to avoid it.
- Problem-solve common citation and formatting scenarios.

MODULE 4: CORE

Introduction to the Old Testament

Course Description:
This course offers an immersive study of the pivotal themes, narratives, and figures of the Old Testament. It provides learners with a firm grasp of the text's historical, geographical, and cultural milieu, along with an examination of its diverse genres and key compositions. The course unravels the intricate history of the Old Testament's formation and transmission. Additionally, it prompts thoughtful reflection on the text's

enduring influence on contemporary religious thought, societal norms, and practices. The course blends textual analysis and historical contextualization with personal reflection, equipping learners with a rich understanding of this fundamental religious text.

Course Objectives:
- Identify and analyze key themes, narratives, and figures in the Old Testament.
- Understand the historical, geographical, and cultural contexts of the Old Testament.
- Understand the major genres and prominent compositions of the Old Testament.
- Understand the history of the formation and transmission of the Old Testament.
- Reflect on the enduring relevance of the Old Testament in contemporary religious thought, practices, and societal norms.

Introduction to the New Testament

Course Description:
This course offers an immersive study of the pivotal themes, narratives, and figures of the New Testament. It provides learners with a firm grasp of the text's historical, geographical, and cultural milieu, along with an examination of its diverse genres and key compositions. The course unravels the intricate history of the New Testament's formation and transmission. Additionally, it prompts thoughtful reflection on the text's enduring influence on contemporary religious thought, societal norms, and practices. The course blends textual analysis and historical contextualization with personal reflection, equipping learners with a rich understanding of this fundamental religious text.

Course Objectives:
- Identify and analyze key themes, narratives, and figures in the New Testament.
- Understand the historical, geographical, and cultural contexts of the New Testament.
- Understand the major genres and prominent compositions of the New Testament.
- Understand the history of the formation and transmission of the New Testament.
- Reflect on the enduring relevance of the New Testament in contemporary religious thought, practices, and societal norms.

Introduction to Biblical Interpretation

Course Description:
The course introduces learners to the key principles, methods, and significant developments of biblical interpretation. Learners will critically analyze interpretative approaches and assess their impacts on theological beliefs and practices. This course also addresses the importance of sound biblical interpretation and provides guidance on responding effectively to errors in biblical interpretation and application.

Course Objectives:
- Understand and apply key principles and methods of biblical interpretation.
- Identify key historical and intellectual movements and figures in biblical interpretation and analyze their impacts.
- Analyze principles and methods of interpretation.
- Evaluate the importance of biblical interpretation in shaping theological beliefs and practices.

- Reflect on how to effectively respond to errors in biblical interpretation and application.

Ethical Leadership

Course Description:

This course equips learners with actionable insights in the practice of ethical leadership. It intertwines the theoretical and the practical, allowing learners to explore key principles of moral philosophy and ethics and apply them directly to leadership contexts. The curriculum emphasizes the transformational impact of ethical leadership on organizational culture, behavior, and decision-making, while imparting strategies to navigate complex ethical dilemmas and intercultural dynamics. The course will hone communication skills, enabling learners to effectively convey ethical considerations and leadership strategies.

Course Objectives:
- Define ethical leadership and articulate its importance in shaping organizational culture, influencing behavior, and guiding decision-making processes.
- Understand and apply key principles and theories of moral philosophy and ethics in leadership.
- Evaluate and respond to ethical dilemmas in leadership, considering multiple perspectives, communication styles, and intercultural dynamics.
- Communicate effectively about ethical issues and leadership strategies.
- Reflect on personal leadership styles and practices, identifying areas for growth and self-awareness in ethical decision-making.

Effective Communication

Course Description:

In this course, learners will delve into the world of communication, discovering its importance in personal and professional settings. The course covers the essentials of verbal, non-verbal, written, and digital communication, preparing learners for a range of communication situations. The course focuses on active listening, empathy, and cultural sensitivity as well as conflict resolution and negotiation skills. The course encourages learners to improve their communication style and grow in self-awareness.

Course Objectives:
- Define effective communication and articulate its importance in various contexts.
- Understand and apply key principles of verbal, non-verbal, written, and digital communication.
- Understand and apply conflict resolution and negotiation skills.
- Demonstrate active listening skills, empathy, and cultural sensitivity in communication scenarios.
- Reflect on personal communication styles and practices, identifying areas for improvement.

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Theology of God, Creation, Scripture

Course Description:
This course examines the foundational Christian doctrines of God, creation, and Scripture as presented in the Bible. Learners will journey through the historical evolution of these doctrines, understanding the works of key theologians across Christian traditions. The course offers the opportunity to analyze and evaluate theological variances among Christian traditions and will enable learners to articulate doctrines effectively, connecting them to current issues and personal faith practice.

Course Objectives:
- Define and describe the key doctrines of God, creation, and Scripture as presented in the Bible.
- Understand the historical development of these doctrines and the works of key theologians.
- Analyze and evaluate the theological differences across Christian traditions.
- Communicate effectively about these doctrines, their biblical basis, and their relevance to contemporary issues.
- Reflect on how these doctrines inform and shape faith and practice.

Theology of Christ, Humanity, Salvation

Course Description:
This course examines the foundational Christian doctrines of Christ, humanity, and salvation as presented in the Bible. Learners will journey through the historical evolution of these doctrines, understanding the works of key theologians across Christian traditions. The course offers the opportunity to analyze and evaluate theological variances among Christian traditions and will enable learners to articulate doctrines effectively, connecting them to current issues and personal faith practice.

Course Objectives:
- Define and describe the key doctrines of Christ, humanity, and salvation as presented in the Bible.
- Understand the historical development of these doctrines and the works of key theologians.
- Analyze and evaluate the theological differences across Christian traditions.
- Communicate effectively about these doctrines, their biblical basis, and their relevance to contemporary issues.
- Reflect on how these doctrines inform and shape faith and practice.

Theology of the Church, Christian Life, Last Things

Course Description:
This course examines the foundational Christian doctrines of the Church, Christian life, and last things as presented in the Bible. Learners will journey through the historical evolution of these doctrines, understanding the works of key theologians across Christian traditions. The course offers the opportunity to analyze and evaluate theological variances among Christian traditions and will enable learners to articulate doctrines effectively, connecting them to current issues and personal faith practice.

Course Objectives:
- Define and describe the key doctrines of the Church, Christian life, and last things as presented in the Bible.
- Understand the historical development of these doctrines and the works of key theologians.
- Analyze and evaluate the theological differences across Christian traditions.
- Communicate effectively about these doctrines, their biblical basis, and their relevance to contemporary issues.
- Reflect on how these doctrines inform and shape faith and practice.

Christian Ethics and Apologetics

Course Description:

This course deepens understanding and practical application of Christian ethics and apologetics. Throughout the course, learners will explore foundational principles of Christian ethics, applying these tenets to contemporary moral issues and dilemmas. Parallelly, the course introduces various approaches to Christian apologetics, providing learners the skills to confront contemporary challenges to Christian faith. This course integrates ethical reasoning and apologetic skills into practical Christian witness and service. Learners will refine their abilities to articulate issues in Christian ethics and apologetics effectively.

Course Objectives:
- Understand key principles of Christian ethics and apply them to contemporary moral issues and dilemmas.
- Understand different approaches to Christian apologetics and apply them to contemporary challenges to Christian faith.
- Integrate ethical reasoning and apologetic skills in the practice of Christian witness and service.
- Communicate effectively about issues in Christian ethics and apologetics in written and oral forms.
- Reflect on the personal and societal implications of Christian ethics and apologetics.

History of Christian Thought

Course Description:

This course explores the major figures and events that have shaped the history of Christian thought. By examining the interplay between Christian ideas and contemporaneous intellectual movements, learners gain insights into the development of theology throughout history and their impact on contemporary culture. Reflecting on the contributions of Christian thinkers, learners appreciate their legacy and evaluate their relevance in today's diverse world.

Course Objectives:
- Identify and describe the major figures and events in the history of Christian thought.
- Analyze the impact of contemporaneous ideas and movements on the development of Christian thought.
- Evaluate the impact of Christian thought in contemporary culture.
- Reflect on the legacy of Christian thinkers and their contributions to the world.

MODULE 6: APPLICATION

Applied Theology

Course Description:

This course explores the dynamic interplay between theological principles and their practical application in various ministerial contexts. The course offers opportunities to learn and apply foundational skills essential to effective Christian ministry. Learners will gain insights into leadership, service, and administration within the Church. The course invites learners to reflect on their calling, gifts, and motivations for ministry, while concurrently nurturing strategies to sustain a vibrant spiritual life.

Course Objectives:
- Understand the interplay between theological concepts and their practical application in various contexts.
- Learn and apply the basic skills of preaching, teaching, counseling, and discipling.
- Understand the structure of leadership and administration in Christian community life.
- Analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of various Christian resources and practices.
- Reflect one's own calling, gifts, and motivations for ministry, and develop practices to maintain a vibrant spiritual life.

Theology and Culture

Course Description:

This course explores the relationship between Christian theology and culture. The course provides tools to analyze Christian engagement theories with societal norms and evaluates cultural trends using theological perspectives. Learners will learn to apply these insights to address cultural challenges effectively. The course invites learners to consider the impact of their cultural experiences on personal theological understanding.

Course Objectives:
- Understand the dynamic relationship between Christian theology and culture.
- Analyze the theories and beliefs of how Christians ought to engage with cultural constructs and norms.
- Evaluate cultural trends and phenomena through a theological lens.
- Apply theological perspectives to engage constructively with contemporary cultural challenges.
- Reflect on one's own cultural context and experiences and consider their impact on personal theological understanding.

Development Integration

Course Description:

The course reviews the fundamental principles, theories, and concepts of development work and invites learners to examine various strategies and interventions used to combat global poverty, inequality, and underdevelopment. Learners will conduct research on pertinent topics in international development, highlighting the relevance and contributions of their major to this critical work. In addition, the course fosters reflective thinking on how development principles can be effectively applied to professional endeavors, thereby integrating theory and practice.

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Course Objectives:
- Review the key principles, theories, and concepts of international development.
- Examine the diverse strategies and interventions used to address global poverty, inequality, and underdevelopment.
- Conduct research on a relevant topic in international development, demonstrating the relevance and contributions of your major to development work.
- Reflect on how development principles and concepts may be applied to your professional work.

MODULE 7: ACADEMIC RESEARCH

Ethical Research

Course Description:
This course invites learners to delve into the fundamental principles and guidelines that govern research methodologies across diverse disciplines. Learners will explore complex ethical dilemmas and considerations that arise during the research process. Learners will navigate and resolve challenges encountered in research, enabling them to ethically conduct their own research. By engaging in this course, learners will emerge with the knowledge, skills, and mindset necessary to uphold ethical standards and integrity in their research practices.

Course Objectives:
- Understand the ethical principles and guidelines governing research methodologies.
- Develop awareness of ethical dilemmas and considerations that arise during the research process.
- Apply ethical decision-making strategies to resolve ethical challenges in research.
- Demonstrate ability to apply ethical guidelines and regulations to real-world research scenarios.
- Exhibit responsible and ethical behavior throughout the research process.
- Reflect on personal values, biases, and assumptions that may impact research.

Research Methods

Course Description:
In this course, learners will gain a comprehensive understanding of various research methods, such as quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods, and their applications across academic disciplines. Learners will explore the intricacies of designing research methods and approaches. They will master crafting hypotheses and research proposals, collecting data, and presenting research findings. Furthermore, learners will discover tools to analyze and interpret data and refine their oral and written communication skills. This course equips learners for successful research endeavors and prepares them to make a meaningful impact in their chosen field.

Course Objectives:
- Demonstrate comprehensive understanding of various research methods, including quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods, and their application in different academic disciplines.

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- Develop the ability to design research studies, formulate research questions or hypotheses, and select appropriate research methods and approaches.
- Develop a well-structured research proposal.
- Learn and apply data collection techniques relevant to different research methods.
- Analyze and interpret research data using appropriate analytical techniques.
- Learn how to conduct a comprehensive literature review to identify existing research, theories, and gaps in knowledge.
- Develop effective oral and written communication skills to present research methods, and findings.

MODULE 8: CAPSTONE

Thesis or Practicum

Course Description:

The capstone is the culminating course in the Master of Arts program. Learners will complete a significant paper or project that demonstrates mastery of theological concepts and applies them to a specific problem. Learners may choose to write a final thesis or complete a practicum. Learners will work with a professor to design a research project, paper, or internship experience.

Course Objectives:

- Propose a research paper or project, demonstrating the ability to apply research methodologies and ethical considerations.
- Prepare a scholarly paper that demonstrates deep understanding of the topic.
- Reflect on the contribution of the research paper or project on one's field of study and how it addresses societal challenges.

For More Information

IUDI's team is dedicated exclusively to helping you achieve your academic goals. We are committed to excellence service and continuous improvement. If you have inquiries or concerns, please email us at support@iudi.org.