

M.Th. in CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY

SEMESTER-I

Course Code	Course Title	L - T - P	Credits
MTh/GPT-700	Research Methodology	2 - 0 - 0	2
MTh/Th-709	History of Christian Thought, Ancient, Medieval & Modern	4 - 0 - 0	4
MTh/Th-710	Methodological Issues in Theology	4 - 0 - 0	4
MTh/PM-701	Practical Ministry	0 - 0 - 4	2
Total Credits		10 - 0 - 4	12

SEMESTER-II

Course Code	Course Title	L - T - P	Credits
MTh/Th-711	Study of Texts	4 - 0 - 0	4
MTh/Th-712	Major Figures in Theology I- Cappadocian Fathers	4 - 0 - 0	4
MTh/PM-702	Practical Ministry	0 - 0 - 4	2
Total Credits		8 - 0 - 4	10

SEMESTER-III

Course Code	Course Title	L - T - P	Credits
MTh/Th-809	Major Figures in Theology II – <i>Martin Luther</i>	3 - 0 - 0	3
MTh/Th-810	Major Figures in Indian Christian Thought (any one Indian Christian Theologian)	4 - 0 - 0	4
MTh/ID-800	Inter-Disciplinary Seminar	2 - 0 - 0	2
Total Credits		9 - 0 - 0	9

SEMESTER-IV

Course Code	Course Title	L - T - P	Credits
MTh/Th-811	Christology	3 - 0 - 0	3
Relevant Course Code & Number	Any one course from the existing courses from any of these branches: OT/NT/Religion/Christian Ministry/ History of Christianity/Missiology	2 - 0 - 0	2
MTh/Th-899	Thesis		15
Total Credits		5 - 0 - 0	20

Course Title: Research Methodology

Course Code: MTh/GPT-700

Credits (2-0-0) 2

Course Objective: To help students with the preparation of Course Research Assignments, Theses and Dissertations.

Course Outlines:

- 1. Research and the Researcher.**
- 2. Basic Elements of a Research Proposal.**
- 3. Collecting and Organizing Materials.**
- 4. Analysis and Evaluation of Materials.**
- 5. Interrogation of a Text.**
- 6. Footnotes, Endnotes, Text notes, Bibliographical Entries and Reference Abbreviations.**
- 7. The Use of Quotations.**
- 8. Illustrative Materials and Tables.**
- 9. Format of the Research Report.**
- 10. Preparation of Book Reviews/Reports.**

Reference:

1. Anderson, Jonathan, Berry H. Durston & Millicent Poole (1970), *Thesis and Assignment Writing*, Wiley Eastern, New Delhi.
2. Booth, Wayne C, Gregory G. Colomb and Joseph M. Williams (1995), *The Craft of Research*, University of Chicago, Chicago.
3. Campbell, William G. (1975), *Form and Style In Thesis Writing*, Houghton Mifflin Co, Cambridge, Massachusetts.
4. Denzin, Normank and Yvonna S. Lincoln, (eds). 1994, "*Handbook of Qualitative Research*," Thousand Oaks/London/New Delhi, Sage.
5. Kothari, C.R. *Research Methodology, Methods and Techniques* (1990), Wiley Eastern, New Delhi.
6. Joseph, A. Antony (1986), *Methodology for Research, Guide for Writing Dissertations, Theses and Scientific Papers*, Theological Publications of India, Bangalore.
7. Mabry Hunter, P (2004), *A Manual for Researchers and Writers of Course Assignments, Theses, Dissertations and Other Research Reports*, The Board of Theological Education of Senate of Serampore College, Miller's Road, Bangalore, 560046.
8. Mauch, James E and Jack W. Birch, (1998), "*Guide to the Successful Thesis and Dissertation- A Handbook for Students and Faculty*," Marcel Dekker, Inc, New York.
9. Sjoberg, Gideon & Roger Nett, (1977), *A Methodology for Social Research*, Harper & Row, New York.

Course Title: History of Christian Thought, Ancient, Medieval & Modern

Course Code: MTh/Th-709

Credits (4-0-0) 4

Outline:

1. The birth of Contextual Theologies:

-Post colonialism and Post Liberalism, the ecumenical movement, Neo-Thomism and Neo-Barthianism, Postmodern (post-liberal) theologies.

2. Methodological shift in theological thinking:

- breakdown of modernity and the Enlightenment rationality
- emergence of Pluralism-resurgence of non
- European traditions in theology

3. Asian-African theologies: Japanese:

-theology of the Pain of God, Waterbuffalo, Chinese third Eye theology, Minjung, Dalit, Tribal, Indian theology etc.

4 Liberation Oriented Theologies:

- Latin American theology, Black theology, Feminist theology etc.

5.Issue Oriented Theologies .

- Ecotheology, ecofeminism, exclusivism, inclusivism, pluralism and pluralistic inclusivism.

6. Contemporary Western Theologies:

- Process, hope, death of God, evangelical, political, charismatic, ecumenical and Pentecostal theologies.
- Modern Theologians: Schleiermacher, K.Barth, Bultmann, J.Moltmann.

7. Postliberalism.

8. Critical evaluation of Postmodern tendencies.

Reference:

1. Balasundaram F. *Contemporary Asian Christian Theology*. Bangalore: UTC-ISPCK, 1995.
2. Aleaz K.P. *harmony of Religions*. Calcutta, 1993.
3. Moltmann, J. *God in Creation: An Ecological Doctrine of Creation*. London, SCM, 1985.
4. Patterson, Sue. *Realist Christian Theology in a Postmodern Age*. Cambridge, 1999.
5. Pannikar, Raimundo. *The Unknown Christ of Hinduism*. London: Darton, Longman and Todd, 1981.

Course Title: Methodological Issues in Theology

Course Code: MTh/Th-710

Credits (3-0-0) 3

Outline:

1. Definition of 'method' and 'methodology'.
2. What is a theological method?
3. Hermeneutics.
 - Meaning of the term hermeneutics
 - Some modern understanding: Schleiermacher, Dilthey, Heidegger, Husserl, Gadamer, Betti, Ricoeur.
 - Theological hermeneutics: Barth, Bultmann, Ebeling etc.
4. The problem of authority:
 - The Reformation debate on Scripture and Tradition.
 - The problem of Scriptural authority and Inspiration.
5. The Reason & Revelation.
 - Definition of 'faith', 'reason' and 'revelation' and their functions in Christian Theology.
 - Contemporary understanding of rationality in theology
6. Theology and other disciplines: theology as a human discipline, theology and science.
8. Some features of methods in systematic theology: system building, coherence, rationality, consistency, structure etc.

Reference:

- Balasundaram, F. *Contemporary Asian Christian Theology*. Bangalore: UTC-ISPCCK, 1995.
- Barth, Karl *The Humanity of God and the Epistles to the Romans*, preface to 2nd and 3rd Editions and Chapters 1 to 3.
- E, Troeltsch *Absoluteness of Christianity*
- Schleiermacher F.D. *On Religion Second Speech The Christian Faith*, Vol.1 Introduction Ch. 1 *The Definition of Dogmatics*.
- Thomas, M.M. *Salvation and Humanization and Risking Christ for Christ's sake*

Course Title: Practical Ministry

Course Code: MTh/PM-701

Credit (0-0-4) 2

Course Outline:

Introduction:

- 1 What is Practical Ministry?**
- 2 The Importance of Practical Ministry.**
- 3 The Goal of Practical Ministry.**
- 4 The Scope of Practical Ministry.**

Activities of Practical Ministry:

1. Ministry of Preaching:

Preaching from the Scriptures for Spiritual, Moral and Ethical upliftment of the people.

2. Ministry of Feeding:

Involving in the Food distribution service of Yeshu Darbar Ministry.

3. Ministry of Visiting the Sick:

Hospital Visitation and House Visitation.

4. Ministry of Counseling:

Youth Counseling, Personal Counseling, Family Counseling, Marriage Counseling etc. to the students and the families in the campus and in the neighboring localities.

5 Ministry of Prayer:

Conducting Prayer Meetings and Individual Prayer Sessions.

6. Ministry of Social Action:

Campus Cleaning, Plantation and Environmental Care.

Course Title: Study of Texts

Course Code: MTh/Th-711

Credits (4-0-0) 4

Objectives:

- To enable the student to locate the text in its historical context
- To identify the main ideas of the text
- To explain key terms that the author uses to convey the message
- To relate the main ideas to the present context.

Outline:

A study of the selected text of about 150 pages in each of the following areas.

- (a). Judeo-Christian/ Indian Classical
- (b). Modern Christian/ Modern Indian – Theological/ Philosophical

A (1) Judeo-Christian – One of the following.

1. Origen *Contra Celsum* Book VI, *De Principiis*.
2. St. Augustine On Christian Doctrine, Book I to III.
3. St. Gregory of Naziansus *The Theological Orations*.
Trans. C.G. Browne and J.E. Swallow in the Christology of the Later Fathers, ed. E.R. Hardy, The Library of Christian Classics, Vol.III, Philadelphia: the Westminster press, 1954.
4. St. Anselm *Monologium*
5. St. Thomas Aquinas *On the Truth of the Catholic Faith (Contra Gentiles)* Book II – Chapter 1-45.
6. Martin Luther *The Babylonian Captivity of the Church*, Selection on the Lord's Supper (Sacrament of the Bread), Baptism and Ordination. The Freedom of a Christian (On Christian Liberty).
7. Calvin J. *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, Book I, Chapters 1 to 10 and 15 to 16.

A (2) Indian Classical – One of the following:

1. Sankaracharya *Brahmasutra Bhashya*, I:1, 1 to I, 1, 31 and *Brhadaranyaka Upanishad Bhashya* 1, 4: 7 and IV, 3:7
2. Ramanujacharya *Vedarthasamgraha*
3. Madhava
4. Charvaka

B (1). Modern Christian – One of the following:

1. F.D. Schleiermacher *On Religion* Second Speech *The Christian Faith*, Vol.1 Introduction
Ch. 1 *The Definition of Dogmatics*.
2. E. Troeltsch *Absoluteness of Christianity*
3. K.Barth *The Humanity of God and the Epistles to the Romans*, preface to 2nd
and 3rd Editions and Chapters 1 to 3.
4. P. Tillich *Systematic Theology*, Vol 1, pp. 1-159.
5. W. Hocking *Living Religions*. Lectures I pp. 17-63, Lectures III pp. 143-214,
Lectures IV pp. 215-272.
6. K. Rahner *Theological Investigations*, Vol. XI, Part I, Chapters 1-5
7. J. Oman *Grace and Personality*
8. A Liberation Text James H. Cone, *God of the Oppressed*. New York: The Seabury
press, pp.1-162.

B. (2). Modern Indian Text – One of the following

1. K.C. Sen Selected writings from Keshub Chunder Sen in David C. Scott,
Keshub Chandar Sen Madras: CLS press, 1979.
(a) *Jesus Christ: Europe and Asia*.
(b) *Great Men*
(c) *India Asks: Who is Christ?*
(d) *The Marvelous Mystery – Trinity*
(e) *Asia's Message to Europe*
2. Sri Aurobindo *The Life Divine*, Book I Chs. 1 to 8; Book II Chs. 2 to 5, 23.
3. S. Radhakrishnan *Recovery of Faith*
4. P. Chakkarai *Jesus the Avatar*
5. R. Panikkar *Unknown Christ of Hinduism*
6. M. Iqbal *Reconstitution of Islamic Thought*
7. M.M. Thomas *Salvation and Humanization and Risking Christ for
Christ's sake*

Course Title: Major Figures in Theology-I (Cappadocian Fathers)

Course Code: MTh/Th-712

Credits (4-0-0) 4

Objective:

- To have a detailed understanding of the theological scenerio in which the Cappadocian fathers lived.
- To get to know the various flow of thought regarding Trinity and Christology.
- To understand the theological influences and contributions of the fathers to Christian theology.

Outline:

1. Theological scenerio of 3rd and 4th century.
2. Greek philosophical influences: Aristotle, Plato, Gnostics.
3. Development and formulation of Christian dogmas to the point of Nice-Constantinople Creed.
4. Various streams of thoughts- Arianism, Origenism, Appollinarianism, Nestoricuism.
5. Theological influences on the Cappadocian Fathers- Alexandrian, Athanasian, Hellenistic, Origenistic.
6. Evaluation of the theological contributions of the Fathers to Christian theology

References:

Bromiley, Geoffrey, W. *Historical Theology*. Michigan: Eerdmans, 1978.

Campanhausen. *The Fathers of the Greek Church*. Translated by Stanley God Man. USA: Pantheon Books, 1955.

Deferrari, Roy Joseph. *The Fathers of the Church*. Vol.58. Translated by Virgin Woods Callahan. Washington: Catholic University America press,

Hinson Gleen, E. *The Early Church*. USA. Sbingdon, 1996.

Jurgens William A. *The Faith of Early Fathers*. Vol.2. Bangalore: TPI, 1984.

Course Title: Practical Ministry

Course Code: MTh/PM-702

Credit (0-0-4) 2

Course Outline:

Introduction:

- 1 The Importance of Practical Ministry.**
- 2 The Goal of Practical Ministry.**
- 3 The Scope of Practical Ministry.**

Activities of Practical Ministry:

1. Ministry of Preaching:

Preaching from the Scriptures for Spiritual, Moral and Ethical upliftment of the people.

2. Ministry of Feeding:

Involving in the Food distribution service of Yeshu Darbar Ministry.

3. Ministry of Visiting the Sick:

Hospital Visitation and House Visitation.

4. Ministry of Counseling:

Youth Counseling, Personal Counseling, Family Counseling, Marriage Counseling etc. to the students and the families in the campus and in the neighboring localities.

5 Ministry of Prayer:

Conducting Prayer Meetings and Individual Prayer Sessions.

6. Ministry of Social Action:

Campus Cleaning, Plantation and Environmental Care.

**Course Title: Major Figures in Theology II
(Martin Luther)**

Course Code: MTh/Th-809

Credits (3-0-0) 3

Outline:

1. Biographical information of Martin Luther (1483 – 1545)
2. The doctrine of Justification by Faith
- Luther, Council of Trent.
3. The doctrine of Scripture
- Luther, Catholicism, Radical Reformation
4. The doctrine of Sacraments.
- Luther, Zwingli, Calvin, Council of Trent
5. The doctrine of the Church.
- Luther, Calvin, Radical Reformation, Catholicism.
6. Political Thought of the Reformation.
- Luther, Calvin, Radical Reformation, Catholicism.

References:

Mc Grath, Alister E. *Reformation Thought: An Introduction*. Second Edition, UK/USA, 1999.

Althaus, Paul. *The Theology of Martin Luther*. Philadelphia, 1966.

Ebeling, Gerhard. *Luther: An Introduction to His Thought*. Philadelphia, 1970.

**Course Title: Major Figures in Indian Christian Thought
(Any one Indian Christian Theologian)**

Course Code: MTh/Th-810

Credits (4-0-0) 4

Objective:

- To understand the theological contributions made by M.M. Thomas to the development of Christian theology and to critically analyze the issues connected with his contribution

Outline:

1. Biographical information

- Early life,
- Theological influences,
- Life in search of understanding and responsibility.

2. His methodological framework

- i. Interpretation of the context
- ii. Contextual interpretation of the Bible
- iii. Interpretation of the doctrines
- iv. Integration of ideology, theology and mission.

3. Major themes in his writings

- i. Salvation and humanization.
- ii. Participation in people's struggle
- iii. Prophetic spirituality in the postmodern context
- iv. Church as a genuine human community

4. Appraisal and evaluation of his work.

References:

M.M. Thomas. *The Christian Response to the Asian Revolution*. London, 1966

Chakkararai, Vengal. *Jesus the Avatara*.

Hogg, A.G. *Karma and Redemption*.

Panikkar, R. *The Unknown Christ of Hinduism*.

Samartha, S.J. *The Hindu Response to the Unbound Christ*.

Scott, D.C (ed. With intro.). *Keshub Chander Sen*.

Course Title: Inter-Disciplinary Seminar

Course Code: MTh/ID-800

Credit (2-0-0) 2

Objectives:

1. To assign to the students certain important topics from various branches of theological studies.
2. To make the students of different branches write research papers and present Seminar Papers from the perspective of one's own discipline of which one is a student.
3. Students of various branches will sit together and make a creative discussion on the Issue/topic presented in the seminar class.

Areas of study:

1. Issues from the Old Testament
2. Issues from the New Testament
3. Christian Theological Issues
4. Religious Issues
5. Historical Issues
6. Christian Ministerial Issues
7. Missiological Issues
8. Issues in Communication
9. Sociological Issues
10. Gender Issues
11. Ethical & Environmental Issues

Course Title: Christology

Course Code: MTh/Th-811

Credits (3-0-0) 3

Objective:

- To enable the student to know the basic issues of christological concerns and to be able to respond to such issues in the light of his/her own situation

Outline:

1. Different Approaches to Christology:

- Christology from above vs Christology from below.
- Christ of faith vs Jesus of history.
- Ontological (ontic) vs functional (soteriological) Christology.

2. The N. T. titles of Jesus.

- The Son of Man, Son of God, Messiah, Logos, High Priest, Lord, New Adam of the new creation etc.

2. Jesus as both God and Man: The concept of incarnation.

- religious and philosophical consideration of incarnation
- Biblical understanding of incarnation
- The concept of incarnation and Avatara, the significance of the concept in Indian context.

3. The Passion of Christ: Suffering and death of Christ.

- The biblical understanding of the death of Jesus.
- Contemporary issues in understanding the significance of Jesus' death.
- The problem of suffering and the significance of God's suffering

4. The significance of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

- Biblical witness to the reality of resurrection.
- The significance of the resurrection belief for faith and action.
- The concept of reincarnation and resurrection.

5. The Christ-event as God's act of salvation.

- The universal significance
- Issues in understanding the Christ-event

The implications of the universal significance of the Christ-event for the Christian faith and life.

References:

- Althaus, Paul. *The Theology of Martin Luther*. Philadelphia, 1966.
- Balasundaram F. *Contemporary Asian Christian Theology*. Bangalore: UTC-ISPCK, 1995.
- Barth K. *The Humanity of God and the Epistles to the Romans*, preface to 2nd and 3rd Editions and Chapters 1 to 3.
- Chakkarai V. *Jesus the Avatar*
- Panikkar, R. *The Unknown Christ of Hinduism*