Cuttington University

**Doctor of Theology (Th.D.) in APPLIED THEOLOGY**

**SCHEDULE OF COURSES**

**Overview**

The Th.D. in Applied Theology offers expertise in theological praxis for the pastor-theologians, teachers, and others who will serve in various leadership contexts across the globe. Living in the tension between theology and application, students in the Th.D. in Applied Theology program will explore topics that helps one apply religious beliefs in practical ways. The intent is to expose the student to the application of Christian theological beliefs lived out in the normal daily experiences of their lives.

Combining theological knowledge with practical ability, the Th.D. in Applied Theology enables theological reflection upon experience. With an emphasis on doctrine, context and practice, this degree is more than just preparation for ministry; it is affirmation of the relevance of theology as a practical matter in significant areas of everyday living. The Th.D. in Applied Theology degree keeps theology and practice together.

Here is the suggested schedule of courses for the ThD in Applied Theology.

**Semester I**

* DT 701 Research Methods 1
* DT 721 Ecclesiology and Mission
* DT 723 Psychology and Theological Reflection

**Semester II**

* DT 703 Research Methods 2
* DT 725 Sociology and the New Testament
* DT 727 Theology, Gender, Ethnicity, and Class

**Semester III**

* DT 705 Transformational Leadership Within the African Context
* DM 719 African Theologies in Leadership: The Liberian Church
* DT 729 Ecological Theology

**Semester IV**

* DT 731 Theology and Culture
* DT 733 Christian Revelation and the Social Sciences

**Semester V**

* DM 733 Conflict Dynamics
* DT 735 Theology, Peace, and Development

**Semester VI**

* DT 798 Directed Study (with Assigned Supervisor)

**Semesters VII & VIII**

* DT 799 Dissertation Project Seminar

Departmental/Program Requirements

**DT 701 Research Methods 1**

*This course prepares the student to conduct and evaluate social science research, utilizing various research methods. Basic issues involving formulation of research questions, research design, data collection and analysis are dealt with.*

**DT 703 Research Methods 2**

*This is an advanced research methods course focusing on qualitative and quantitative research, analyses, notations, and overall integrity in outputting a quality research work.*

**DT 705 Transformational Leadership Within the African Context**

*Exploring the struggles and successes of leadership within the African context, and how to apply best practices for effective leadership within the Church, Academy, and beyond.*

**DM 719 African Theologies in Leadership/The Liberian Church**

*Concepts of basic expected norms of traditional African culture, idioms and thought patterns relevant to leadership (especially patriarchal attributes) are incorporated into theological teachings with emphasis on the Liberian Church. This course will provide the impetus for pupils to share African Theologies with the wider global community.*

**DM 733 Conflict Dynamics**

*The conflicts dealt with in this course will mainly be focused on issues dealing with school dynamics. Some issues will be the relationship and boundaries between boards and heads of schools, heads and church relations and heads and students’ relations.* *The course will explore ways of prevention, identification, mitigation, and resolution of conflicts. The goal is to provide tools that help leaders create and maintain healthy organizations, to enhance missional leadership and produce results.*

Core Requirements for a Concentration in Applied Theology

**DT 721 Ecclesiology and Mission**

*This course will explore mission as the Church’s prime objective. It will cover the biblical and denominational ecclesiologies; identify evangelism strategies, ‘marketplace’ ministries, including implications for public health and the environment.*

**DT 723 Psychology and Theological Reflection**

*This course will explore the key concept of integration; the foundation of psychological science and the insights it brings to the theological discourse. It will examine worldview integration, theoretical integration, applied integration, role, and personal integration as a major part of biblical and theological themes. It factors in Marriage, and trauma counselling.*

**DT 725 Sociology and the New Testament**

*In this course, insights from sociological concepts and theories will used to identify the origin and use of key New Testament language about God and the church. The urban environment of Pauline Christianity will be the backdrop for exploring concepts like the ecclesia, leadership, rituals, and symbols.*

**DT 727 Theology, Gender, Ethnicity, and Class**

*This course will explore the issues around gender, ethnicity, and class structure, and how they affect theological reflection. The Biblical foundations of ‘Justice’ will be explored. Key methods and concepts used, and their popularizers will be identified in Womanist, Black and Liberation theologies. Attention will be given to the liberation of theology itself.*

**DT 729 Ecological Theology**

*This course will give the student an appreciation of the environmental concerns and how they matter to the theological enterprise. From the scriptural bases of environmental care, it identifies ethical strategies for ecojustice and symbiosis, stewardship and spirituality. It explores insights of biodiversity and environmental virtues such as charity, nature, and friendship. It explores redeemed nature as the garden of reconciliation.*

**DT 731 Theology and Culture**

*This course explores the cultural implications of how theological reflection is undertaken in different parts of the world. Whether critical to or accepting of culture, this course allows the student to see culture both as a part of the gospel as well as the context for it, and sets the stage for how the Christian message is communicated. Controlling concepts of revelation, reception, the economy of response, and the ‘problematique’ are explored.*

**DT 733 Christian Revelation and the Social Sciences**

*This course explores the intersection of theology with the social sciences in terms of the similarities of both method and insights. In bringing clarity to the Christian revelation from multiple perspectives, it engages with major insights from the fields of sociology, political science, economics, psychology, anthropology, history, linguistics, and law.*

**DT 735 Theology, Peace, and Development**

*This course explores political theology, and the dialectic of conflict and peace transformation. Critical issues in peace and development studies are investigated.*

**DT 798 Directed Study (with Assigned Supervisor)**

*This course is part of the culminative work leading to a successful dissertation project. The supervising faculty will give guidance to students as they do preparatory and supportive work toward their final project. The final submission for this course is the student’s Dissertation Proposal, which must be approved before the student can advance to DT 799.*

**DT 799 Dissertation Project Seminar**

*This year long seminar provides students with a structured process to implement their research design, analyze results of the project, and write a dissertation. The dissertation is a culmination of the program that offers a theologically framed research design with key results and observations. The seminar concludes with a presentation and oral defense. Dissertation research can run currently with coursework. The Project Supervisor can make the determination in collaboration with the student.*

Notes:

1. The total pre-seminar credit requirement for the Th.D. program is 36.
2. The total hours required to complete the Th.D. program is 48.
3. The Research Method courses, and the African Theology course are required for every Focus Area in the Th.D. program.
4. At least 6 courses related to the Focus Area/Track of Study or Concentration, and at most 3 courses in another field.
5. A Leadership Course will be required for all Focus Areas/Tracks within the Th.D. program.