

The Chinese University of Hong Kong Divinity School of Chung Chi College

Master of Theology (M.Th.) *Counseling Ministries* (P.T. or F.T.) Information Sheet

General Introduction to the M.Th. Program

In co-operation with an on behalf of member schools of the Association for Theological Education in South East Asia (ATESEA),¹ the South East Asia Graduate School of Theology conducts a program of advanced theological studies at the masteral level and grants the degrees of Master of Theology (M.Th.). The purpose of the M.Th. program is to provide specialized training in any field of leadership in the Christian ministry—in the professional pastoral ministry or in theological research and teaching. At present, we provide 13 fields of study, namely, *Ministry and Ministers, Old Testament, New Testament, Biblical Theology, Systematic Theology, Philosophy of Religion, Christian Ethics, Church History, Missiology, Ecumenics, Asian Religions, Christian Education, Liturgy and Worship.*

About the *Counseling Ministries* Specialization

The Master of Theology (specialized in Counseling Ministries) is designed to develop basic skills in biblical and theological interpretation, competency in the foundational skills essential to the practice of counseling in Christian settings. It is offered as an integral part of the existing M.Th. program (under the field of study titled *Ministries and Minister*), with the same basic requirements and shall be governed by the same set of rules and regulations. A thesis is also required the nature of which must be either a practice research on counseling ministries or a theoretical discussion on counseling practice in Christian settings. This M.Th. program provides practice-oriented academic preparation but not professional certification. Such studies may constitute an end in themselves or may lead to doctoral studies in pastoral counseling and/or clinical training leading to professional certification through various professional bodies.

Study Program

The M.Th. study program consists of study in four areas of concentration by eight courses (i.e. two courses per area), and individual research, resulting in a thesis. Three areas of concentration are from the candidate's field and one from another field chosen by the candidate.

After completion of study in the areas of concentration, the candidates shall sit for a General Examination. The purpose of this examination is to test the candidate's ability to integrate what has been studied, and to relate it to an Asian setting. The time allowed for this examination is two periods of three hours each, or a total of six hours.

¹ The Divinity School of Chung Chi College, CUHK is one of the member schools of the ATESEA.

When the candidates pass the General Examination, they have to start their work of research. Research results will be presented in the form of a thesis of at least 70 pages of text on a single subject related to counseling ministries. All materials shall be written in an acceptable expository style. The thesis may be written in English or Chinese or other language approved by the Area Committee.

Areas of Concentration and Course Offering

Areas of Concentration	Courses to be offered ²	Total No. of Credits Required
Contemporary theories of Christian counseling and general counseling	Christian Counseling (compulsory)	3
	Contemporary Theories of General Counseling (compulsory)	3
Counseling ministries to specific populations and problem areas	Counseling and Family Ministry Counseling and Youth Ministry Counseling and Children Ministry Counseling Ministries to Women Counseling ministries to the "Marginals"	6
Supervised Practicum	Supervised Practicum (compulsory) ³	4
	Clinical Pastoral Education (1 unit—compulsory)	2
A selected area from another field	2 courses from another field of study	6

Notes:

- ◆ *Each application for exemption will be considered individually and assessed on its own merits*
- ◆ *Most, but not all, of the courses will be conducted in evenings (or Saturday) at CUHK*

Entrance Requirements

1. Applicants for enrolments in the South East Asia Graduate School of Theology must hold a primary theological degree according to standards of the Association for Theological Education in South East Asia for an accredited Bachelor of Divinity or its equivalent, as decided by the Senate in consultation with the Area Committee concerned.
2. Normally, applicants for entrance into the Graduate School should have had two or three years practical experience in church work.
3. A working knowledge of whatever language is necessary for the student's research.

Entrance Examination

The applicants must demonstrate their potential for graduate theological study and their competence in the basic theological discipline at the first degree level by passing written examinations of not less than three hours duration. Applicants must pass all the written examinations in one sitting. In case of failure, no more than one re-examination is permitted.

² Subject to regular review and revision.

³ Individual Supervision will be provided to students doing a 320-hr counseling practicum in church settings.

Application

On or before the specified deadline to be announced every year, submit the following documents to the Divinity School of Chung Chi College (date of entrance examination and interview will be announced every year):

1. 2 copies of application form (attached)
2. 1 copy each of all educational qualifications
3. 1 certified true copy of official transcript of grades in the applicant's primary theological course
4. 2 letters of recommendation (at least 1 from the seminary where the applicant previously studied)
5. An up-to-date report of a complete medical examination (including chest X-ray)
6. 1 photocopy of the applicant's HKID card or other identity documents as given in the application form
7. Application fee HKD180- (cheque payable to "The Southeast Asia Graduate School of Theology, Hong Kong Area")

Note: the recommendation letters are to be sent directly to the Divinity School of Chung Chi College by the authorities concerned, not by the applicants.

School Fee⁴

School fee is to be paid according to the number of units taken.

1. The first 12 credit units (equivalent to 4 courses): HKD21050-⁵
2. Starting from the 13th credit unit: HKD5275-/3 credit units
3. Continuation Fee: HKD2638-/term

Time Limitation

A maximum of two years is allowed for full-time students to complete all the work on the M.Th. degree. A maximum of four years is allowed for part-time students for completion of all the work for the M.Th. degree

Enquiries

Please contact the course coordinator (Prof. Kwan or Rev. Ng) at 2609 6709 during office hours.

⁴ Subject to regular review and revision.

⁵ Students will be required to pay this amount in mid-August 2003. Students are also required to pay an amount of miscellaneous fee (such as deposit).