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### **Faculty of Theology:**

Pursuant to a resolution taken by the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Theology from 30.06.2010 and a statement made by the Senate from 08.09.2010, the Presidential Board of the Georg August University Göttingen has approved the first amendments to the study regulations for the Master's degree programme in Intercultural Theology in the version published on 14.09.2009 (Official Bulletin No. 22/2009, p. 2054) (§ 44 para. 1 cl. 1 NHG in the version published on 26.02.2007 (Nds. GVBl. p. 69), as last amended by Article 1 of the Act of 10.06.2010 (Nds. GVBl. p. 242); § 41 para. 2 cl. 2 NHG; §44 para. 1 cl. 3 NHG).

## **Study Regulations for the Consecutive Master's Degree Programme in “Intercultural Theology” at the Georg August University Göttingen**

### **§ 1 Scope**

The present study regulations regulate the objectives, content and course of the Master's degree programme in Intercultural Theology on the basis of the “General Examination Regulations for the Bachelor’s and Master’s Degree Programmes as well as Other Academic Programmes at the University of Göttingen (APO)” (Allgemeine Prüfungsordnung für Bachelor- und Master-Studiengänge sowie sonstige Studienangebote an der Universität Göttingen (APO)) and the "Examination Regulations for the Master's Degree Programme in Intercultural Theology” (Prüfungsordnung für den konsekutiven Master-Studiengang „Intercultural Theology“ der Georg-August-Universität Göttingen) in the respective current versions.

### **§ 2 Objectives and Field of Activity**

(1) <sup>1</sup> The objective of the Master's degree programme in Intercultural Theology is to enable graduates to carry out sound academic work in the intercultural context of theology.

<sup>2</sup> The Master's degree programme in Intercultural Theology therefore provides students with knowledge of theology, ecumenism and mission in different cultural contexts, trains communication skills in international cultural exchanges and strengthens proficiency in dialogue between different cultural expressions of Christian theology and inter-religious communication competence within a culture (or multiple cultures).

(2) The Master's degree programme in "Intercultural Theology" enables students to reflect from a theological viewpoint on

- a. the intercultural character of the Christian message
- b. the communication of the Christian message in different cultural contexts and
- c. the interaction of Christians with people of other faiths and philosophies. In addition students are able to analyse the transformation processes involved in such encounters, taking social, political and economic conditions into account.

(3) Studies in Intercultural Theology with the degree of Master of Arts (MA) prepare graduates for work in missionary and ecumenical institutions, and in churches in Germany and partner churches abroad, and also for work in Christian world alliances, non-governmental organisations, media, educational institutions (adult education) and academic institutions.

(4) <sup>1</sup> In the Master's degree programme, the students should gain deep academic knowledge of theology in an intercultural context and the ability to carry out independent subject-specific, interdisciplinary academic research and to apply academic knowledge of intercultural exchange in theology, ecumenism and mission fields. <sup>2</sup> By means of career-relevant teaching of specialist knowledge and methodological and analytical skills the programme qualifies graduates for work in the above-mentioned areas and forms the basis for further study in doctoral programmes.

(5) The examinations taken in the course of the Master's degree programme determine whether examinees have acquired the necessary knowledge and skills required to satisfy the study objectives, are able to see subject-relevant connections and relationships and possess the ability to work according to scholarly principles, to impart academic knowledge and to reflect on and evaluate the acquired knowledge with regard to application contexts.

### **§ 3 Begin and Duration of Studies**

(1) The programme begins in the winter semester.

(2) <sup>1</sup> The course normally lasts 4 semesters. <sup>2</sup> At least 120 credits (abbreviated C) must be acquired.

(3) On the basis of these study regulations the faculty provides courses which allow students to complete the study programme, including all examinations, in the normal duration of study; this does not apply for every possible course of study.

### **§ 4 Programme Structure, Content and Course**

(1) The study programme comprises 120 credits, which are distributed as follows:

- |                                       |      |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| a. coursework                         | 88 C |
| b. professional training (key skills) | 12 C |
| c. Master's thesis                    | 20 C |

(2) <sup>1</sup> The programme is conducted by the Faculty of Theology of the Georg August University in close cooperation with the Mission Seminary Hermannsburg of the Evangelical Lutheran Mission in Lower Saxony (ELM). <sup>2</sup> Courses on offer take place both in Göttingen and in Hermannsburg. <sup>3</sup> It is possible, and recommended, to take an apartment on the campus of the Mission Seminary and form a learning community. <sup>4</sup> The transfer to block events in Göttingen and the accommodation during the block events will be organised in this case by the Mission Seminary. <sup>5</sup> For the duration of the block events there is ample opportunity to use the Göttingen libraries.

3) <sup>1</sup> The third semester in the Master's degree programme in "Intercultural Theology" is spent at one of the partner universities; <sup>2</sup> these are:

- a. Gurukul Lutheran Theological College and Research Institute, Chennai, India,
- b. Mekane Yesus Theological Seminary and Ethiopian Graduate School of Theology, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- c. Near East School of Theology, Beirut, Lebanon
- d. Trinity Theological Seminary, Legon, Ghana
- e. Karnataka Theological College, Mangalore, India
- f. The Graduate School of Theology, Ewha Womans University, Seoul, Korea, and
- g. Yerevan State University, Faculty of Theology, Yerevan, Armenia.

<sup>3</sup> The choice of university is subject to the following provisions and takes into account, where possible, individual study focuses and objectives <sup>4</sup> All students are strongly recommended to attend a preparatory counselling interview. If more students than there are places available choose a particular participating university, then a selection procedure in which students declare in writing the reasons for their preference, will decide. <sup>5</sup> The programme's examination committee determines selection on the basis of the following criteria:

- a. Individual study focuses and objectives (max. 4 points)
- b. Career prospects, work placement (max. 4 points)
- c. Personal reasons (max. 4 points).

<sup>6</sup> Where equal ranking occurs, then the <sup>6</sup> average grade achieved in examinations taken up to the time of application will be decisive. <sup>7</sup> Should equal ranking still occur, then lots will be drawn.

(4) During the semester at the partner university students complete the modules "Theology in Context" (M.IntTheol.10), "Cross-Culture III" (M.IntTheol.11) and "Implementation and Presentation of the Intercultural Project" (M.IntTheol.12).

(5) <sup>1</sup> The module "Cross-Culture III" (M.IntTheol.11) is carried out as a project. <sup>2</sup> The student formulates a suitable question with regard to his/her study focuses and areas of interest, either from the perspective of research or application and carries out the project himself or herself according to a procedure coordinated with the person responsible for the module. <sup>3</sup>

The project should link with the thematic, methodological and regional focuses in the other modules of the course. <sup>4</sup> The form of the independent development of a more extensive and complex question also serves as preparation for the production of the master's thesis later. <sup>5</sup> The formulation of the project question addresses the structured analysis of an exemplary situational context and the development of religious or denominational and theological backgrounds; and further, the institutional contexts within the socio-cultural and socio-political circumstances. <sup>6</sup> In particular, intercultural and interreligious specifics should be worked out in the light of the knowledge in religious studies and history which has been acquired in previous studies, whereby special attention is to be paid to the consideration of the difference between theory and concrete situational demands. <sup>7</sup> The project should be integrated into existing projects or be related to current local problems. <sup>8</sup> It is particularly desirable that the project enriches local intercultural work.

### § 5 Professional Training

(1) <sup>1</sup> The student takes the compulsory module M.IntTheol.04 "Language Instruction Course: German" and at least one of the offered elective modules. <sup>2</sup> Students whose proficiency in German is already at a suitable level can acquire 6 C in one of the other modules, e.g. in the elective module M.IntTheol.14 or in M.IntTheol.06 "Language Instruction Course". <sup>3</sup> The elective modules offered in the programme allow students to choose out of at least two options.

(2) Unless stated otherwise, the elective modules are given as block courses held at the University of Göttingen.

(3) The elective modules M.IntTheo.14.01, M.IntTheo.14.06, M.IntTheo.14.08 can be offered online; <sup>2</sup> and involve periods of:

#### **a. Attendance:**

At the beginning of the semester an introductory event provides information on the course of the module and the use of the e-learning platform. A concluding event at the end of the semester considers and evaluates the course of the module. If the module stipulates oral examination, then this takes place after the concluding event.

#### **b. Self-study:**

During the self-study phases, students work independently on given topics and assignments, using the teaching materials. The students organise themselves into groups and take part in online colloquia once a fortnight.

<sup>3</sup> The modules offered online can also be taken during the semester abroad, subject to technical conditions.

## **§ 6 Student Advisory Service**

(1) Teaching staff participating in the course advise in matters concerning studies, the Dean of Studies in matters concerning examinations.

(2) The university's central student advisory service is responsible for general student counselling, especially in cross-faculty issues.

(3) Students should avail themselves of the advisory service particularly in the following circumstances:

- after two failed examinations
- by deviations from the normal duration of study
- with a change of course of studies or university
- before the semester abroad.

## **§ 7 Taking Effect**

These study regulations take effect on the day following their publication in the Official Bulletin of the Georg August University Göttingen.

## Appendix I Module Overview for the Master's degree programme in Intercultural Theology

### 1. Master's degree programme in Intercultural Theology

A total of at least 120 credits must be acquired in accordance with the following provisions.

#### a. Studies

The following eleven compulsory modules, totalling 88 C, must be successfully completed:

<i>M.IntTheol.01</i>	"Processes of Translation, inculturation and Intercultural Communication" (7 C / 4 h <sup>*</sup> )
<i>M.IntTheol.02</i>	"Christianity in an Intercultural Perspective" (7 C / 4 h)
<i>M.IntTheol.03</i>	"Cross-Culture I" (9 C / 6 h)
<i>M.IntTheol.05</i>	"Religions, Churches and Theology in Europe and the Western World" (7 C / 4 h)
<i>M.IntTheol.07</i>	"Religions, Churches and Theology in Africa (8 C / 4 h)
<i>M.IntTheol.08</i>	"Religions, Churches and Theology in India and the Near East" (8 C / 4 h)
<i>M.IntTheol.09</i>	"Cross-Culture II" (8 C / 4 h)
<i>M.IntTheol.10</i>	"Theology in Context" (6 C / 4 h) "Cross-Culture III (15 C / 1 h)
<i>M.IntTheol.12</i>	"Implementation and Presentation of the Intercultural Project (8 C / 1 h)
<i>M.IntTheol.13</i>	Intercultural Project: Project Analysis and Evaluation "(5 C / 1 h)

#### b. Professional Training

A total of at least 12 credits must be acquired in accordance with the following provisions.

**aa.** The following compulsory module of 6 C, must be successfully completed:

<i>M.IntTheol.04</i>	"Language Instruction Course German (6 C / 6 h)
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Students whose proficiency in German is already at a level equivalent to that transmitted by module M.IntTheol.04 should, instead of module M.IntTheol.04, complete another module as stipulated under bb. or cc.

**bb.** At least one of the elective modules totalling 6 C must be successfully completed:

<i>M.IntTheol.14-01</i>	"Theories of Religion" (6 C / 2 h)
<i>M.IntTheol.14-02</i>	"Concepts of Healing and Salvation in Ancient Religion (Paganism, Judaism, Christianity) (6 C / 2 h)

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<sup>\*</sup> Contact hour (SWS, weekly lecture hour)

<i>M.IntTheol.14-03</i>	"The Early Christians in a World Full of Gods: Cultural Encounter and Religious Debate" (6 C / 2 h)
<i>M.IntTheol.14-04</i>	"Paradigms, themes and traditions of German-speaking Protestant Theology" (6 C / 6 h)
<i>M.IntTheol.14-05</i>	"Ethical Expertise in the Horizon of Religion" (6 C / 2 h)
<i>M.IntTheol.14-06</i>	"Literacy and Education in Religion" (6 C / 2 h)
<i>M.IntTheol.14-07</i>	"Concepts and Theories of Religious Counselling" (6 C / 2 h)
<i>M.IntTheol.14-08</i>	"Importance of Law and Legislation in Religions" (6 C / 2 h)

### **cc. Additional Voluntary Examinations**

One of the following modules of 6 C may be completed as an additional voluntary examination.

<i>M.IntTheol.06-01</i>	"Introduction to the Arabic Language" (6 C / 6 h)
<i>M.IntTheol.06-02</i>	"Introduction to Biblical Hebrew" (6 C / 6 h)
<i>M.IntTheol.06-03</i>	"Introduction to New Testament Greek" (6 C / 6 h)
<i>M.IntTheol.06-04</i>	"Introduction to Latin" (6 C / 6 h)

### **c. Master's Thesis**

20 credits are acquired by the successful completion of the Master's thesis.

## **2. Courses in Key Skills**

Students of other suitable Master degree programmes may complete the following modules in professional training (key skills):

<i>M.IntTheol.14-01</i>	"Theories of Religion" (6 C / 2 h)
<i>M.IntTheol.14-06</i>	"Literacy and Education in Religion" (6 C / 2 h)
<i>M.IntTheol.14-08</i>	"Importance of Law and Legislation in Religions" (6 C / 2 h)

Appendix II Example of Studies Plan

(h = contact hour (SWS))

Sem.	Studies in "Intercultural Theology" (88 C)				Professional training (12 C)	
	Module	Module	Module	Module	Module	Module
1. Σ 29 C (Σ 33 C)	<b>M.IntTheol.01</b> Processes of Translation, Inculturation and Intercultural Communication (compulsory) 4 h 7 C	<b>M.IntTheol.02</b> Christianity in an Intercultural Perspective (compulsory) 4 h 7 C	<b>M.IntTheol.03</b> Cross-Culture I (compulsory) 6 h 9 C		<b>M.IntTheol.04</b> Language Instruction Course German (compulsory) 6 h 6 C	<b>M.IntTheol.06</b> Language Instruction Course Arabic, Hebrew, Greek, Latin" (additional voluntary examinations) 6 h 6 C
2. Σ 31 C (Σ 33 C)	<b>M.IntTheol.05</b> Religions, Churches and Theology in Europe and the Western World" (compulsory) 4 h 7 C	<b>M.IntTheol.07</b> Religions, Churches and Theology in Africa (compulsory) 4 h 8 C	<b>M.IntTheol.08</b> Religions, Churches and Theology in India and the Near East (compulsory) 4 h 8 C	<b>M.IntTheol.09</b> Cross-Culture II (compulsory) 4 h 8 C	<b>M.IntTheol.14</b> Elective theological module (elective) 6 C	
3. Σ 29 C (Σ 25 C)	<b>M.IntTheol.10</b> Theology in Context (compulsory) 4 h 6 C	<b>M.IntTheol.11</b> Cross-Culture III (compulsory) 1 h 15 C	<b>M.IntTheol.12</b> Implementation and Presentation of the Intercultural Project (compulsory) 1 h 8 C		<b>OR</b> <b>M.IntTheol.14</b> Elective theological module (elective) 6 C	
4. Σ 31 C	<b>Master's thesis</b> 20 C		<b>M.IntTheol.13</b> Intercultural Project: Analysis and Evaluation (compulsory) 1 h 5 C		<b>OR</b> <b>M.IntTheol.14</b> Elective theological module (elective) 6 C	
Σ 120 C	88 C (+ 20 C)				12 C	