

SENATE OF SERAMPORE COLLEGE

FACULTY OF THEOLOGY

M.C.S Degree Programme

1. Nature of the M.C.S. Course

Master of Christian Studies (M.C.S.) is a post-B.C.S/B.D program, primarily meant for laity and Christian ministers who wish to continue theological studies through external programs. It is designed to provide Christian professionals, Church workers and laity with in-depth theological knowledge to facilitate the lay leadership in the church and society. It is a post graduate professional degree course for the laity who cannot enroll for a postgraduate regular course like M.Th. MCS is not equivalent to M.Th, neither will be accepted for teaching in theological Seminaries. MCS is a three year program in which first two years the candidates study the courses and write the examinations while the third year is given for the project work/thesis which is compulsory.

2. Objectives

The objectives of the programme are:

- To provide an opportunity for ongoing learning for spiritual (both individual and communitarian) and vocational growth of the candidate within his/her context;
- To develop necessary skills and tools to understand and interpret the socio-political, religio-cultural context of the Church and society and to identify the issues of the times;
- To equip the candidate for rendering services to the Church and society through a particular ministry of his/her choice.
- To provide an opportunity to bring about an ongoing integration of theological understanding and practical ministry in varied contexts.

3. Admission Requirements for the MCS degree

A candidate at the time of admission to the M.C.S degree course must satisfy one of the following conditions:

- i. At the time of registration a candidate should have passed BCS, B.D or any degree equivalent to BCS from a university recognized by the Senate of Serampore College.
- ii. The candidate should have a minimum of one year ministerial experience after BCS or B.D.

4. Medium of Instruction

The medium of study and examination for the degree course is English or any regional language as approved by the Senate.

5. Duration of Study

Minimum time to complete the course shall be three years, and the maximum shall be five years from the time of registration.

6. Courses

The courses recommended for study may be seen in Part III: Curriculum

7. Fees*

The details of fees can be obtained from the Senate/colleges

i. Senate fees:	
Regulation & Syllabus	Rs. 200
Registration	Rs. 1000
Late Registration	Rs. 500
Examination fee per paper	Rs. 400
Late Examination Fee	Rs. 300
Thesis/Dissertation Evaluation Fee	Rs. 3000
Transcript of Record	Rs. 250
Transcript fee	Rs. 300
Graduation fee	Rs. 100
In absentia Fee	Rs. 750
Migration Certificate fee	Rs. 250
Migration-equivalence Certificate	Rs. 250
Duplicate Certificate fee	Rs. 2000
Re-registration fee	Rs. 1500
Urgent delivery of documents	Rs. 200
Transfer of Registration	Rs. 1500
Extension of time fee	Rs. 1000
ii. SCEPTRE Fee	
Application and Prospectus	Rs. 500
Contact Seminar Fee	Rs. 3000
Methodology Seminar	Rs. 2000
Tuition Fee	Rs. 2500
Library	Rs. 1500
Examination Centre Fee	Rs. 100
Late fee	Rs. 500
Study Material fee	Rs. 3000

N.B

- a) The Senate reserves the right to change the fee as and when it is found necessary.
- b) Fee once paid is not refundable.
- c) All Senate fees must be sent by Demand Draft in favor of the "Senate of Serampore College" to the Registrar.
- d) All the SCEPTRE fees must be sent by the Demand draft in favour of the 'Senate of Serampore college, payable at Kolkata, to the Dean.

8. Important Dates

Last date for registration	December 15
Registration with late fee	December 31
Commencement of Academic Session	January 1
Submission of thesis	November 30
Last date for submission of Examination Entry form	October 15
Examination Entry Form (with late fee)	October 31
Annual Examination	November-December

9. Contact Address

The Dean
SCEPTRE
Shrachi Centre, 74/B,
A.J.C. Bose Road
Kolkata – 700016

Phone: 033 – 22177868, 22177869

Email: sceptrext@vsnl.net, dminsceptre@vsnl.net

CURRICULUM

The major components of the course are as follows:

A. Foundational and Contextual Study Course (First Year- 4 credited for each course)

1. Spiritual Growth (Individual, Collegial and Communitarian)
2. Biblical Understanding of God's Purpose for Creation, Human Beings, Society and the Church
3. Contemporary Issues and Challenges in the Society/World
4. A Historico-Critical Analysis of the Church: its structure, worship patterns and ministries
5. Towards a Relevant Theological Understanding of the Church, Mission and Ministry

B. Optional Specialization (2nd Year - Choose ONE Area – 4 credited for each course)

Area A: Ministry among Children, Youth and Adults

1. The Bible and Holistic Child Growth
2. Christian Education and Age/stage related Child Growth
3. Ministry among the Youth
4. Ministry among the Adults
5. Christian education for Social Transformation

Area B: Christian Mission in Contemporary Society

1. Biblical Understanding of God's Mission in the World
2. Christian Response to Other Faith Traditions in Society
3. Mission, Unity and Ecumenism
4. Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation
5. Religious Fundamentalism & Conversion in Contemporary India

Area C: The Bible and Contemporary Concerns

1. The Bible and Globalization
2. The Bible and Ecological Concerns
3. The Bible and Pluralistic Society
4. The Bible, Dalit, Tribals and Poor
5. The Bible and Women

Area D: Worship & Church Administration

1. Trends in Worship – A Critical Study
2. Contemporary Trends in Preaching
3. Effective Management of People, Program, Finance & Property
4. Patters of Church Organization

5. Church Law, State Constitution and Legal matters

Area E: Counseling and Spiritual Formation

1. Theology & Principle of Pastoral Care and Counseling
2. Marriage & Family Counseling
3. Youth Care and Counseling
4. Christian Traditions and Contemporary Spirituality
5. Issue-based Spirituality

Area F: Ministry among Vulnerable Communities

1. Ministry among Children at Risk
2. Embracing Inclusive Community: Disability perspective
3. The Church & People Living with AIDS
4. Ministry among Victims of Caste
5. Ministry among Indigenous Communities
6. Ministry among Victims of Patriarchy

For courses under each area, see Part IV

C. Thesis/Dissertation - Submission on 30th November. The thesis shall carry 8 credited.

A candidate may be permitted to write a thesis after completion of the required courses in the third year. He/she should submit the thesis proposal by 15th August preceding the year of the second year to the Dean for approval by the Academic Council. The following conditions are to be observed regarding submission of a thesis:

- a) The thesis should be written in English.
- b) A candidate shall submit his/her thesis proposal along with the name of the guide by 15th August to the Dean for approval by the Academic Council.
- c) The thesis must be on paper of uniform size (preferably 8.5" x 11) and bound in stiff covers.
- d) Four copies of the thesis must be submitted not later than November 30 of the third year
- e) The thesis must be written in accordance with the guidelines given and published by the Senate.
- f) The length of the thesis shall not be less than 20,000 and not more than 25,000 words.
- g) The thesis submitted for examination shall remain the property of the Senate.
- h) The thesis will be evaluated for 200 marks.

The candidate is expected to follow the research manuals prescribed below:

“A Manual for Researchers and Writers” by Hunter Mabry – Rs. 250 (Senate publication)