

SENATE OF SERAMPORE COLLEGE

[University]

BACHELOR OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES

: Rules and Regulations :

I. CURRICULUM :

1. Objectives:

The objectives of the B.C.S. Degree programme shall be to:

- (a) Develop "Kingdom of God" values (with special reference to Justice, Peace and Integrity of all Creation);
- (b) Create critical consciousness and openness, to analyze cultural, social, economic, political and ecclesiastical values;
- (c) Provide tools for interpreting the Word of God in different contexts in society;
- (d) Enable persons to become effective witnesses in the context of their varied and diversified vocations;
- (e) Provide theological education as a transforming influence in personal, ecclesial and societal life.

2. Courses:

- (a) The programme will consist of a total of 20 courses with 13 required subjects and 7 optionals and thesis or two papers in lieu of thesis preferably in the area of professional involvement.

- (b) The following order of courses are recommended for study :

I Year - 1,3,5,8,9

II Year - 2,4,6,7,14

III Year - 10,11,12,13 and 1 optional from 23

IV Year - Remaining 5 Courses and Thesis
or 2 papers in lieu of Thesis

- (c) A candidate who has passed the B.Th. Degree of Serampore College (University) in Second Class shall be required to pass 12 courses and Thesis or 2 courses in lieu of Thesis :

Course Nos.

10 Required - 2, 15, 4, 16, 10, 13, 8, 14, 9, 21 or 22

2 Optional Courses & Thesis or two papers in lieu of Thesis other than those already completed :

A. Required Courses: (Compulsory 13)

1. Understanding the Old Testament (content, history, critical study of texts)
 2. Re-reading of Selected Old Testament texts from Liberation Perspectives.
 3. Understanding the New Testament (content, history, critical study of books)
 4. Jesus as presented in the Gospels with the study of selected texts
 5. Understanding Christian Faith
 6. Introduction to Christian Ethics
 7. History of Christianity in India
 8. (a) Study of Christian Denominations in Indian (History, Theology, variations and distinctive characteristics)
- OR**
- (b) Selected Events in the History of Christianity with emphasis on Ecumenical Movement
9. Outlines of Major Religions and traditions in India
 10. Christian responses to Multi-faith society
 11. Introduction to Christian Ministry
 12. Introduction to Communication
 13. Christological Issues - Classical and Contemporary

B. Optional Courses (Choose 7 courses Including No.14 and any one of No.23)

14. Contemporary Missiological issues (compulsory optional)
 15. (a) Re-reading of Selected Texts from the Book of Psalms
- OR**
- (b) Re-reading of Selected Texts from Wisdom Literature
16. (a) Re-reading of the Gospel of John
- OR**
- (b) Re-reading of the Letters of St. Paul
17. Contextual Theologies - Liberation, Dalit, Feminist, Black, Mingjung etc.
 18. One of No. 8 not chosen
 19. Modern Religious and Secular Movements in India
 20. Christian Education and Social Change
 21. Introduction to Counselling
 22. Communication Ethics
 23. Professional Issues in Christian perspectives : **(choose one)**
 - (a) Medical - Healing Ministry
 - (b) Labour and Industrial
 - (c) Social work
 - (d) Teaching
 - (e) Technology
 - (f) Legal
 - (g) Professional Ethics

- (h) Any other

24. Christian perspectives on Contemporary Issues : **(choose one)**

- (a) Ecology
- (b) Conflict Resolution and Peace Building
- (c) Human rights
- (d) Women in Church and Society
- (e) Globalization
- (f) Communalism and Fundamentalism

25. Understanding Social Analysis

26. Language Study and Other Requirements :

Candidate desiring to register for the M. Th. course shall be required to pass **additional** courses at the B.D. level (not including Preliminary) and have work experience as required by the M.Th. Regulations for each branch of study. All such papers shall be **Senate examined**.

3. Thesis :

A candidate may be permitted to write a thesis after completion of the required courses (13). He/she should submit the thesis proposal on a prescribed form by 15th April preceding the year of the third year examination to the Registrar for approval by the Committee for Academic Administration. The following conditions are to be observed regarding submission of a thesis :

- (a) The thesis should be written in English/Regional Language approved by the Senate.
- (b) A candidate shall submit his/her thesis proposal along with the name of the advisor by 15th April to the Registrar for approval by the Committee on Academic Administration. A candidate shall be expected to identify the resources and submit along with the title.
- (c) The thesis must be typewritten on paper of uniform size (preferably 8.5" x 11") and bound in stiff covers.
- (d) Three copies of the thesis must be submitted not later than Oct. 15 of the fourth year in which a candidate appears for his/her final Course Examination.
- (e) The thesis must be written in accordance with the guidelines given and published by the Senate.
- (f) The length of the thesis shall be not less than 10,000 words and not more than 12,000 words.
- (g) The thesis submitted for examination shall remain the property of the Senate.
- (h) A candidate may be permitted to write 2 papers in lieu of thesis.
- (h) The thesis will be evaluated for 200 marks.

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

"A Manual for writers of Term paper, Thesis and Dissertations' Kate L. Turabian

"A Manual for Researches and Writers' - Hunter P. Mabry -- Rs. 100/-" (Senate publication)"

4. Affiliated Colleges offering the B.C.S. Degree Course :

- (a) The affiliated colleges permitted to offer the B.C.S. course will offer the following as college examined papers :

Courses - 8 papers + Thesis (All college examined)

- R/1 - Understanding O.T.
- R/3 - Understanding N.T.
- O/17 - Contextual Theologies
- R/9 - Outlines of Major Religions

Any 4 Optionals

- O/14 - Contemporary Missiological Issues
- O/15 - (a) Selected Texts from the Book of Psalms

OR

- (b) Selected Texts from the Wisdom Literature

- O/16 - (a) Re-reading of the Gospel of St. John

OR

- (b) Re-reading of the letters of St. Paul

- O/20 - Christian Education and Social Change
- O/23 - Professional Issues in Christian Perspective (any one)

- (a) Medical
- (b) Labour and Industrial
- (c) Social Work
- (d) Teaching
- (e) Technology
- (f) Legal
- (g) Professional Ethics
- (h) Any other

- O/25 - Understanding Social Analysis

- (b) (i) The B.Th. upgraders to the B.C.S. Degree through an affiliated college shall write the following 12 courses and a thesis (or 2 papers in lieu of thesis) :

Senate Examined papers - 6

- R/2 - Selected Old Testament Texts
- R/4 - Jesus as presented in the Gospel with the

- study of Sel. Texts
- R/7 - History of Christianity in India
- R/11 - Intro. to Christian Ministry
- O/14 - Contemporary Missiological issues
- R/9 - Outline of Religions Traditions in India

College Examined

One paper from :

- R/1 - Understanding O.T.
- O/15 - (a) Selected Texts from the Book of Psalms

OR

- (b) Selected Texts from the Wisdom Literature

One Paper from :

- R/3 - Understanding N.T.
- O/16 - (a) The Gospel of St. John

OR

- (b) The letters of St. Paul

Two papers from :

- R/10- Christian response to multi-faith society
- R/12- Introduction to communication
- O/20- Christian Education and Social Change
- R/21 - Introduction to Counselling

One paper from :

O/23- Professional Issues in Christian Perspective

- (a) Medical
- (b) Labour and Industrial
- (c) Social Work
- (d) Teaching
- (e) Technology
- (f) Legal
- (g) Professional Ethics

One paper from :

- O/24 - Christian perspective on Contemporary Issues
 - (a) Ecology
 - (b) Conflict Resolution and Peace Building
 - (c) Human Rights etc. upto (h)

(b) (ii) B.Th. upgrading to B.C.S., Degree (direct admission)

[See P. 5 Secn. 2 (c)]

5. Mode of Study :

- (a) The Senate will provide detailed syllabus for each course on payment of prescribed fee.
- (b) The Senate will conduct Contact Seminars periodically with prior notification either regionally or nationally.

The SCEPTRE Programme Center (Senate Center for Extension and Pastoral Theological Research) at 74/B A.J.C. Bose Road, Kolkata - 700016 will be the Venue for some Contact Seminars. The Programme Center will provide a library, accommodation for candidates at a reasonable cost for stay during the Seminars. The Director for Extension shall be responsible for organizing the Seminars.

- (c) A candidate is expected to attend at least two Seminars during the entire study period. Affiliated Colleges may hold the Seminars for candidates registered by them.

II. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE B.C.S. , DEGREE :

1. A candidate at the time of admission to the B.C.S. degree course must satisfy one of the following conditions. He/She shall be
 - A. a holder of Bachelor Degree of a recognised Indian University,
OR
 - B. a holder of the B.Th. Degree of Serampore College and has already passed the two qualifying English papers (B.Th. 72 + 73);
OR
 - C. a mature person who is at least 25 years of age and, was prevented for special reasons from pursuing his/ her secular studies and is able to produce evidence to that effect and has been in full time vocation/ profession / employment for two years and has passed the "Mature Candidates" Entrance Examination. The Mature Candidates Entrance Examination will be conducted by the Senate and will consist of seven papers. (For details write to the Registrar)
 - D. A holder of the Diploma in Christian Studies of Serampore College (University) in II Class including TWO Qualifying English papers (B.Th.72 & 73). Such candidates shall be required to do the full B.C.S. Course.

2. Registration for the Course :

The academic year for the B.C.S., Degree Course is January to December.

- (i) Application for registration as an External candidate must be made on the appropriate form obtainable from the Registrar on application, and sent directly to the Registrar together with fee as indicated below so as to reach before 15th December. An applicant must provide (a) academic certificates or certified copies of academic qualification (b) certificate of birth, registration or other acceptable evidence of date of birth (c) a satisfactory certificate of character from his/her appropriate church authorities, and (d) must be ready to supply additional information and references that may be considered desirable in support of his/her application.

The registration fee must be sent by Demand Draft drawn in favour of the "Senate of Serampore College" and reach the Registrar on or before 15th December each year.

- (ii) Application for registration which reaches the Registrar later than the specified date, may be received at the discretion of the Registrar, provided that it reaches him not later

than 30th December of the same year on payment of a late registration fee as indicated below.

3. Language of the B.C.S., Degree Course:

The medium of study and examination for the B.C.S. New degree course shall be English. However, candidates may be permitted to study and write the examinations in the regional languages approved by the Senate.

4. Length of the B.C.S., Degree Course :

The B.C.S. Degree Course shall be of 4 (Four) year's duration from the date of registration. The maximum time allowed to complete the degree is 7 (Seven) years.

5. Extension of Time :

Extension of time for the completion of the degree may be granted by the Committee on Academic Administration of the Senate in very exceptional circumstances only, such as illness at the time of the examination. Application for such extension will only be considered if it is received within one month after the examination is over together with a certificate from a qualified medical officer.

6. Annual Examination :

- (i) The Annual Examinations for the B.C.S. Course will be held during the third and fourth week in November each year.
- (ii) Each paper, unless otherwise stated, is of three hours' duration and covers the subject matter indicated in the syllabus.

7. Admission to the Examinations:

After registration, application for admission to the annual examination must be made on the appropriate form obtainable from the Registrar on application and should reach the Registrar on or before 15th July each year. The examination fee as indicated below should also be sent to the Registrar, Senate of Serampore College on or before 15th July.

All the Senate examinations for the Bachelor of Christian Studies shall normally be evaluated by two examiners. The Senate shall not entertain requests for re-evaluation of any script and/or permit to write examination for improvement.

A candidate shall give an undertaking at the time of registration that he shall abide by all the rules and regulations of the Senate of Serampore college as applicable to the Bachelor of Christian Studies including the decisions of the Senate and its Committee for Academic Administration.

8. Centre for Examinations :

Normally Serampore College and all affiliated Colleges are centres for the annual examinations.

A candidate applying for permission to take his/her examination at an affiliated College must obtain prior consent of the Principal and submit it along with his/her Examination Entry Form.

If a candidate wishes to write the examination overseas, he/she should seek prior permission from the Registrar submitting a letter from a responsible academic body consenting to supervise the examination and pay the prescribed fee.

9. Late application for Annual Examinations :

An application made under Section 8 which reaches the Registrar later than the specified date may be received at his discretion, provided the application is received by him not later than 31st July. Such application, if accepted, is subject to the payment of a late examination entry fee as prescribed below.

10. Withdrawal or Absence from Senate Examination :

A candidate who withdraws from the Senate examination or who fails to take examination, for which he/she has been registered, forfeits the examination fee paid. Under no circumstances the examination fee will be refunded.

11. Maximum and minimum number of papers to be taken:

A candidate for the B.C.S., Degree shall normally appear for examination in courses each year according to the sequence given under II 2(b). He/she shall not receive credit unless he/she appears in atleast two courses at each sitting. A candidate may appear for any referred paper in addition to the five papers mentioned under 2(b) and 2(c) provided he/she does not appear in more than 8 papers in any one year. This rule will not apply to those who have less than five papers to complete the course.

12. Pass and failure in examinations:

A candidate who fails in any paper or papers is regarded as being "referred" in such paper or papers, and is permitted to offer himself/herself for re-examination in that paper or those papers, or in any other paper or papers that may be substituted in accordance with the Regulations, provided that he/she is able to complete the requirements of the Degree within the time allowed. Any change in the papers already taken but failed must be applied for before July 15th each year.

13. Standard of pass and class:

The pass mark in each paper in the examination for B.C.S., Degree course is 40%.

14. Results, Marks and Transcript of Record:

(a) Notification of results of the Senate examinations with grades obtained will be sent to the candidates by the Registrar.

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(b) A transcript of record giving a candidate's complete record in the Course may be obtained on application to the Registrar on payment of a fee.

15. Fees : (see Senate website for any modification)

Registration Fee.....	300.00
Late Registration Fee.....	100.00

Examination Fee (per paper).....	150.00
Centre Fee	75.00
Marks Fee.....	25.00
Late Examination Fee	100.00
Transcript Fee.....	150.00
In-absentia Fee.....	150.00

N.B.

- (i) The Senate reserves the right to change the fee as and when it is found necessary.
- (ii) Fees once paid are not refundable.
- (iii) All fees must be sent by Demand Draft in favour of the "Senate of Serampore College" to the Registrar.

16. Correspondence :

All communications shall be addressed to the Registrar, Senate of Serampore College, Serampore - 712201, Dist. Hooghly, West Bengal. INDIA.

Convocation of Serampore College :

The Convocation of Serampore College is held annually. Normally every student who has qualified for the B.C.S. degree is expected to attend the Convocation to receive his/her degree in person.

Candidates who have been granted the degree in *absentia* should apply to the Registrar for the degree sending the *in absentia* fee by Demand Draft in favour of the Senate of Serampore College.

III. Date of Validity of Regulations :

The Regulations relating to the Bachelor of Christian Studies (B.C.S.) and examinations as detailed above shall be in force from 2001 academic year.
