

ST. MBAAGA'S MAJOR SEMINARY, GGABA

**ACADEMIC BOOKLET
2015/2016 – 2017/2018**

P. O. Box 4165
Kampala – Uganda
Tel/Fax +256 414 510458
+256 392 001126
E- mail: info@stmbaagaseminary.org

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

BRIEF HISTORY

St. Mbaaga's Major Seminary Ggaba was founded by the late Emmanuel Cardinal Nsubuga on 16th February 1976. It belongs to the Archdiocese of Kampala. The founding objective of this Seminary was to cater for candidates desiring to prepare themselves for the priestly ministry, without necessarily having gone through the minor seminaries. While remaining true to this vision, the seminary has nonetheless always admitted candidates from various minor seminaries. St. Mbaaga's Seminary currently has students from various Dioceses in East Africa; and four Religious Sisters from two indigenous/native congregations in Uganda.

ADMISSION

The seminary is an institute for priestly formation. Candidates applying to join St. Mbaaga's Seminary must therefore have a call - a vocation - to serve the Lord and the Church as ordained ministers. Due consultations with the home Parish-Priest of the candidate, as well as with the Vocations Director of the respective Diocese must be carried out in view of joining the Seminary. The recommendations of these two are a pre-requisite for any successful application.

The minimum academic standard required is the University entrance standard, namely, the Uganda Advanced Level Certificate of Education (UACE). The candidate must have passed with a minimum of two principle passes, both obtained at the same sitting. For students coming from outside Uganda, the criteria remain the same: the qualifications for entering the University in their respective countries of origin. After the applications have been forwarded through the Vocations Director's office to the Seminary, the candidates are invited for an interview. The successful applicants are duly informed consequently.

THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The studies at St. Mbaaga's Seminary last for eight years. Years I – III cover the Philosophical cycle, while Years IV – VIII constitute the Theological cycle; with Year VI as a year out for Pastoral Spiritual year.

Within the Philosophical cycle, the first year is basically an Initiation-Year which is also the first year of philosophy. The philosophical cycle lasts three years after which students sit a comprehensive philosophy examination leading to the award of the Urbaniana University Baccalaureate degree of philosophy.

Finally, the Theological Cycle has four years for academic formation (Years IV, V, VII and VIII). Year VI is a Pastoral-Spiritual Year, which the seminarians spend in parishes or (equivalent institutions) e.g. Minor Seminaries in the respective Dioceses of origin. At the

end of the fourth year of theological formation, candidates sit for the comprehensive Urbaniana degree examination leading to the award of the Baccalaureate degree of Theology.

THE INITIATION YEAR

The purpose of this year is to give the students an orientation into the priestly vocation, as well as an acquaintance with the practices, traditions and doctrines of the Church. During the entire year, the students receive daily talks (from Monday to Friday) on: prayer, spirituality, vocation, liturgy, academics, as well as human development.

EXAMINATIONS

There are two sets of examinations: course-work and the final semester examinations. The course-work, which covers all the mid-semester assignments, may be in the form of tests, individual and/or group-research papers, and finally class presentations.

Much emphasis is put on the development of the students' analytical abilities, so that they are able to critically assess what they have learnt or researched, in view of applying the acquired knowledge and skills to practical life and/or pastoral situations. Students who display this ability of creatively integrating what they have learnt are awarded better grades than those who simply reproduce the lecture material.

Depending upon the discretion of the individual lecturer, an examination may be either oral or written. In all the major philosophical and theological disciplines, there must be a written component in the examinations.

Finally, the principle of academic honesty is of utmost importance in all forms of examinations. There is no tolerance for any exhibitions of academic misconduct - including plagiarism, cheating or copying.

THE MARKING SCHEME

All exams are marked over 100, whereby the students are evaluated and given marks in two ways:

- i) Either one final exam, marked over 100, and given at the end of the semester, or
- ii) Course-work together with the final examination. The course - work, which accounts for 30% of the end result, consists of: assignments, research papers, and mid-semester exams. Consequently, semester final-exam accounts for 70% of the total.

The following is the marking scheme followed by Ggaba St. Mbaaga's Major Seminary, Ggaba:

80 and above: First Class Distinction

70 - 79: Distinction
65 - 69: High Credit
60 - 64: Credit
50 - 59: Pass
Below 50: Failure

The above marking scheme equally applies to the marking of essays, class presentations, researches, as well as the Graduation Research Papers.

A student who scores below the pass-mark (50%) in any examination is obliged to re-take that exam at the beginning of the following semester, or as soon as the examination results are out. This in turn implies that the lecturers should always do their best to have the marks ready at the beginning of each new semester. If a student repeats an examination, the highest mark attained constitutes his grade for that examination. If a student fails a retake, he will follow the course again in the subsequent academic year. If a student fails two-thirds of the papers in the same sitting, he will be advised to leave the seminary.

RESEARCH PAPERS, GRADUATION ESSAYS AND DIPLOMAS

One of the objectives of the academic program of the Seminary is the cultivation of a spirit of scholarship in the students. To meet this objective, assignments of research papers are given to the students in the different disciplines. The topics for the research are provided by the respective lecturers. In many of the disciplines, seminar presentations are frequently held.

Furthermore, at the end of each of the two cycles, namely, the philosophical and the theological, each student is obliged to present a Graduation Essay of 40 - 50 typed pages. The topic is chosen by the student, and discussed with the moderator whom the student has chosen. For the first cycle the topic is chosen from the philosophical, social and psychological disciplines. In the second cycle topics are chosen either from biblical or theological disciplines.

Successful students in each of the cycles are awarded the Diploma of St. Mbaaga's Major Seminary namely, Diploma in Philosophy and Diploma in Theological and Pastoral Studies.

THE URBAN DEGREES IN PHILOSOPHY AND THEOLOGY

The academic year 1995/96 marked St. Mbaaga's joining of the Affiliation Program of the Pontifical Urbaniana University, Rome. Since that date henceforth, this Seminary has been awarding the Bachelor of Philosophy as well as the Bachelor of Theology Degrees from the Pontifical Urbaniana University.

During the initial years of this program, the students were registered with our sister National Major Seminaries of Uganda, namely, Uganda Martyrs' National Major Seminary - Alokolum for Philosophy; and St. Mary's National Major Seminary Ggaba for Theology. In

2002, the theology section of St. Mbaaga's Major Seminary became a direct Affiliated Institute of the Pontifical Urbaniana University in Rome. And in July 2014 the Philosophical section, too got its direct affiliation to the Pontifical Urbanian University, Rome. This ended the 18 years of registering candidates through other Major seminaries.

For the candidate to qualify for admission to the degree examinations both in Philosophy and Theology, he must score an overall average mark of 60%.

COURSES OFFERED

SECTION ONE: INITIATION COURSES

INC1121	BASIC THEMES
INC 1122	INTRODUCTION TO SPIRITUAL THEOLOGY
INC 1130	SALVATION HISTORY
INC 1120	BIBLICAL HERMENEUTICS

SECTION TWO: LANGUAGES

LAN 1312	PHILOSOPHICAL LATIN
LAN 2220	REMEDIAL ENGLISH
LAN 2241	NEW TESTAMENT GREEK
LAN 2242	BIBLICAL HEBREW
LAN 2210	LUGANDA

SECTION THREE: HUMAN AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

HSS 1210	RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
HSS 1123	MUSIC
HSS 2123	PSYCHOLOGY
HSS 2130	SOCIOLOGY
HSS 2220	MANAGEMENT THEORIES
HSS 1130	CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY
HSS 5812	SOCIAL COMMUNICATION
HSS 7842	COUNSELING
HSS 7220	ACCOUNTS

SECTION FOUR: HISTORY AND SYSTEMATIC PHILOSOPHY

PHI 1120:	INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY
PHI 1230:	LOGIC

PHI 1130: HISTORY OF ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY
 PHI 1123: PLATO'S REPUBLIC
 PHI 1121: AUGUSTINE: DE CIVITATE DEI
 PHI 1220: THOMAS AQUINAS: DE ENTE ET ESSENTIA
 PHI 1231: HISTORY OF MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY
 PHI 2123: HISTORY OF MODERN PHILOSOPHY
 PHI 3124: HISTORY OF CONTEMPORARY PHILOSOPHY
 PHI 1140: PHILOSOPHY OF KNOWLEDGE (EPISTEMOLOGY)
 PHI 2124: PHILOSOPHY OF BEING (METAPHYSICS)
 PHI 1240: PHILOSOPHICAL ANTHROPOLOGY
 PHI 2125: PHILOSOPHICAL ETHICS
 PHI 3123: SOCIAL ETHICS
 PHI 3220: POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY
 PHI 3130: PHILOSOPHY OF GOD (THEODICY)
 PHI 3221: PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE
 PHI 3124: PHILOSOPHY OF NATURE (COSMOLOGY)
 PHI 3131: PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION
 PHI 2230: AFRICAN PHILOSOPHY
 PHI 2220: PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION
 PHI 2221: DESCARTES' MEDITATIONS
 PHI 1220: AFRICAN TRADITIONAL RELIGIONS
 PHI 3120: CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS
 PHI 3221: PHILOSOPHY OF ART AND BEAUTY (AESTHETICS)
 PHI 3121: PHILOSOPHY OF LANGUAGE
 PHI 3123: ARISTOTLE'S POLITICS

SECTION FIVE: THEOLOGICAL COURSES

BTH 4512: OLD TESTAMENT
 BTH 5120: NEW TESTAMENT ENVIROMENT
 BTH 5121: THE SYNOPTICS + ACTS OF APOSTLES
 BTH 7123: PAULINE CORPUS + ECCLESIAL LETTERS
 BTH 7130: JOHANNINE WRITINGS
 BTH 7120: THE APOCALYPSE + LETTERS TO HEBREWS
 BTH 4122: FUNDAMENTAL DOGMATIC THEOL
 BTH 5120: PROTOLOGY
 BTH 5140: ECCLESLOCOGY
 BTH 5141: ESCHATOLOGY
 BTH 8120: MARIOLOGY
 BTH 8121: CHRISTIAN ANTHROPOLOGY (DEGRATIA)
 BTH 5121: CHRISTOLOGY
 BTH 7120: TRINITOLOGY
 BTH 5122: SACRAMENTAL THEOLOGY
 BTH 5812: CANON LAW

BTH 5863:	MORAL THEOLOGY
BTH 4812:	SPIRITUAL THEOLOGY
BTH 4822	SACRED LITURGY
BTH 5220:	PASTORAL THEOLOGY
BTH 5223:	HOMILETICS
BTH 7220:	MISSIOLOGY
BTH 5862:	PATROLOGY
BTH 4123:	AFRICAN CHURCH HISTORY
BTH 5834:	GENERAL CHURCH HISTORY
BTH 8220:	AFRICAN CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY