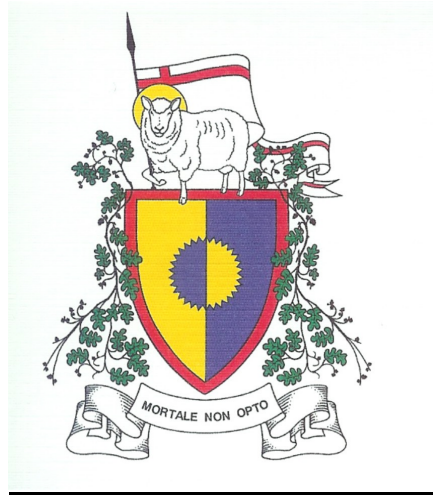


NCI University & Theological Seminary



Doctor of Philosophy in Intercultural Studies

DISTANCE LEARNING DEGREE PROGRAM

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7255 South Military Trail,
Lake Worth,
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As a global church we have come through some extraordinary times of change in every sphere of society in the last two millennia, but we are still called to the same mission with the same mandate –

"To Reach the Whole World with the Life Changing Power of the Resurrected Christ who Lives in Us through the Person of the Holy Spirit "

This means that as The Living Body of Christ, we need to be trained and equipped to utilize our head, our heart, and our hands in representing Him.

In other words, we must become "God With Skin On" to the world where we live!

NCIU seeks to train and equip men and women everywhere with relevant and culturally appropriate education to embrace these three areas.

Our specialty is the field of distance education through one-on-one mentored degree study programs to "polish the fine cutting edge" of those who see themselves as instruments in the hands of God.

"Learning without doing will hopefully increase your knowledge level - but learning that requires knowledge being applied, will translate into a vocational skill resource that can be more easily replicated again and again through faithful learners."

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION and APPLICATION ENROLMENT FORMS

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Doctor of Philosophy - Intercultural Studies

Ph. D (ICS) Distance-Learning Degree Program

Ministry leadership in the 21st Century presents tremendous challenges for even the most experienced leaders.

Leaders are faced with a rapidly changing world, and recent studies reveal the erosion of trust amongst both secular market-place leaders, as well as those representing the religious and Christian institutions that seek to serve our communities.

The neglect of personal character and spiritual formation in Christian leaders has become revealed as a pivotal obstruction that must be rectified before the world can be reached in fulfilling the Great Commission and prepare "The Bride for our returning Bridegroom".

Effective leadership today demands a deeper level of reflection and stronger commitment to excellence in the practice of Christian ministry.

At NCI University & Theological Seminary we are committed to developing leaders who are both biblically and theologically sound, spiritually vital, personally healthy, culturally aware, and professionally competent.

Our goals in simple terms are to reach the head, heart and hands of those who seek to enroll as students, in order they might become more effective in their chosen vocation as laborers in the Master's vineyard, and become Jesus with skin on to all they meet and embrace.

Ph.D in Intercultural Studies PROGRAM PURPOSE

The Doctor of Philosophy in Intercultural Studies program at NCI University & Theological Seminary is one of four academic research doctoral programs. It is a leadership-research doctorate in that its major purpose is the development of competent leaders in intercultural ministries who are extending the Kingdom of God throughout the nations of the earth. The curriculum is designed to nurture sound scholarship, meaningful research, and the symbiotic relationship of theory and practice that cross cultural boundaries and people groups.

The NCIU Ph. D in Intercultural Studies degree program is designed to enhance the understanding and practice of cross-cultural Christian ministry in the areas of church planting and missions, as well as for those currently engaged in positions of ministerial or missions leadership who need to develop their interpersonal and communication skills across cultural borders.

Missiology is primarily the academic study of missions, mission, and "Missio Dei". Missiology has three central concerns:

- The identity or nature of mission,
- The goal of mission, and
- The means or method of mission.

This Distance-learning doctoral degree in Intercultural Studies therefore exposes students to a wide range of new possibilities for missiological praxis that will enable them to meet the challenge of contextualizing the gospel in an increasingly urbanized, international, and highly “wired” technical global community.

In addition, it will enable practitioners to pursue special focus coursework in one area of intercultural and missiological study, culminating in a research-based writing project that draws upon the praxis objectives undertaken.

The design structure allows students to continue their present ministry functions while pursuing this external Doctor of Philosophy in Intercultural Studies degree program without major disruption to their vocational pursuit.

Ph.D in Intercultural Studies PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The program seeks to contribute to the discipline of cross-cultural mission and intercultural studies by enriching research, teaching and the practice of those involved in the field.

To that end, and in accordance with our commitment to provide the highest level of learning effectiveness we are able to provide, it is expected that at the completion of the Ph.D. program, graduates will be able to achieve the following learning outcomes:

- Demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of the disciplines that comprise missiology and intercultural studies;
- Understand and articulate a breadth of knowledge in theological and religious studies and other academic disciplines that support the focus of biblical mission
- Competently innovate, defend and critique scholarly work and missional practice for the benefit of the Christian church and the broader community of faith;
- Demonstrate ability to engage in original missiological intercultural research and writing for their nominated missions focus,
- Demonstrate the ability to utilize that research and theological/missiological reflection in specific contexts; and
- Make decisions, live and serve according to revealed truth and the will and purposes of God in a continuing integrated commitment to learning, spiritual formation, and personal and professional growth;
- Develop the knowledge and skills needed for disciple-making and mentoring of emerging leaders in cross-cultural mission and ministry service
- Plan, implement, and critically evaluate major undertakings in cross-cultural mission's ministry toward the fulfillment of the Great Commission and Great Commandment.

Ph. D in Intercultural Studies PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The program begins with a broad training in theological foundations, missions and intercultural studies and world religions, so that students can interact with faculty and gain further competency in seven key areas as needed:

- Theology of mission and culturally relevant methodology
- Understanding biblical and philosophical world views and meaning of life
- Cultural anthropology and world religions
- Cross-cultural communication
- Developing leadership and team building for cross-cultural mission
- Integration and urbanization in a globalized economy
- Church development and planting in pluralistic and multi-cultural societies

Ph. D in Intercultural Studies ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

The NCIU Doctor of Philosophy in Intercultural Studies (Ph. D - ICS) distance-learning program has been designed in response to the expressed needs of mid-career missionaries, church planters, senior leaders and pastors wanting to equip themselves for the changing global environ of the 21st Century through an increased understanding of missiology.

In order to enter this program, students must have in addition to the prerequisite graduate level academic award, a minimum of three years of cross-cultural and or urban pastoral ministry experience.

- Applicants to the Ph.D. in Intercultural Studies program must possess a master's degree or its equivalent appropriate from a recognized institution. Students must have a GPA of 3.30 in their previous graduate studies.
- All applicants should have at least three years of cross-cultural experience plus proficiency in a second language, or three years of teaching experience in a multicultural setting or its equivalent.
- Applicants without intercultural/missions or Bible & Theology may be required to have additional coursework added to their program.
- Applicants must have an academic record that shows promise of success in doctoral studies.
- All candidates must show evidence of their passion to follow Christ and serve His Kingdom in our contemporary world through consistent Christian character, ability and acceptability in Christian ministry.
- The applicant should also demonstrate a commitment to the primacy of the divinely authoritative, inerrant Written Word of God, and be prepared to embrace not just the traditions of theological thinking of their own denomination, but also be willing to explore other areas of faith and practice within the framework of both Evangelical and Pentecostal theology.

When the candidate has made the decision to proceed further, it is recommended that a Distance-learning Degree Application and Enrolment Application be completed and submitted to NCI University & Theological Seminary for evaluation. Note: Official documents presented for admission or evaluation become part of the student's academic file and normally cannot be returned or copied for distribution.

When the evaluation and assessment process is completed, NCI University & Theological Seminary will supply the candidate with a formal Letter of Assessment & Offer detailing the institution's reply and recommended pathway to attain the Doctor of Philosophy in Intercultural Studies award.

Usually at this point, the candidate will wish to dialog with the faculty as to the nomination of specified text modules and off-campus tutorials that have been incorporated into the study pathway. NCI University & Theological Seminary seeks to exercise wisdom by being spiritually, culturally and politically sensitive in such matters.

The candidate is then asked to review the Letter of Assessment & Offer, and if agreeable, give written acceptance of the offer with their first installment payment for tuition. Tuition payment plans are provided in the Letter of Assessment & Offer.

Ph. D in Intercultural Studies TRANSFER CREDITS & RPL UNITS

Students enrolling in the graduate degree level programs may be allowed to transfer up to 12 semester credit hours total (including RPL units and validated life-experience etc). All graduate level courses in Biblical Studies, Christian Ministry, Christian Pastoral Counseling, Missiology or Theology from accredited or recognized institutions will be evaluated in the assessment process.

Please note:

- (a) Transfer credit in the State of Florida is solely at the prerogative of the receiving institution (NCI University & Theological Seminary).
- (b) Transfer credit is based upon evaluation of official transcripts and other documentary evidences.

The required credit hours for Advanced Standing status may be transferred into the program by RPL (Recognized Prior Learning) credit units from an approved alternate institute or accredited program.

Ph.D in Intercultural Studies GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

All students enrolled in this program and wishing to graduate are required to

- Satisfactorily complete a total of 48 semester units as outlined in the curriculum beyond the Master degree award level. This includes transfer credits allowed as Advanced Standing status.
- Complete at least 36 semester credit units taken at this institution.
- Obtain a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale with no grade below "B-" in all courses to be credited toward graduation.
- Complete the entire program with this institution within four years from commencement, unless special circumstances are approved in writing by the institution upon application.
- Successfully pass all written assignments for each study unit as detailed in the Unit Study Guide as supplied, and or complete any additional position papers assigned by the institution as replacement unit assignments.
- Comply with all academic demands for rectification: Students, who are placed on probation after the first 15 credits, are granted one semester in which to bring their academic work up to the required level for continuance in the program. A student cannot graduate while on probation.
- Complete dissertation and submit for review prior to entering final phase of submission development
- Have all financial and academic requirements satisfied 30 days before desired graduation event and release of academic transcript documentation.

Ph. D in Intercultural Studies PROGRAM PATHWAY

The Doctor of Philosophy in Intercultural Studies requires the successful completion of 48 semester credit hours beyond the graduate academic level entrance degree. The four modules in the curriculum provide studies to engage, increase, and assess the student's capacities in affective, cognitive and psychomotor domains.

This 48 semester credit hour distance-learning program provided by NCI University & Theological Seminary requires the student sequentially follow the four module pathway as specified:

- Module 1 – Foundational studies in Bible & Theology track (12 crs)
- Module 2 – Core competencies in Missiology and Intercultural studies track (12 crs)
- Module 3 – Concentration and Missions electives track (12 crs)
- Module 4 – Ministry Praxis, Guided research and Dissertation track (12 credit hours)

Note:

Students who enroll with sufficient RPL (Recognized Prior Learning) semester credit hour units that have already been assessed and validated by NCI University & Theological Seminary as being equivalent credit hour units, may be granted exemption from the completion of Module 1.

Students can usually complete this degree within a three year (3yr) full-time study program, or they can pace the program as distance-learning students over a longer period of part-time study depending upon their vocational and family demands.

There is a real measure of flexibility within the program to accommodate most vocational ministries, but this must be resolved in writing with the college at commencement, or subsequently through the services of the Adjunct Tutor/Professor assigned as mentor to the student.

This curriculum consists of four modules as stipulated.

Modules 1, 2 & 3 - each have three component units (A, B, C) that target the head, heart, and hands:

- Unit A: Specified textual study assignment based on designated text nominated by the institution, with written assignment (2 x 3 credits).
- Unit B: Guided research and specified reading assignments which must be completed prior to completing the third unit in the module. Students will normally read 1,500 pages for 1 x 3 credits.
- Unit C: A one- or two-week intensive seminar of classroom interaction, including faculty presentation and peer discussion; or a course project which applies the reading and class work to the ministry setting. Generally the project is 20-30 pages for 3 credits.

Note:

In some locations students may not be able to attend a recognized seminar or special classroom interaction program due to a variety of factors.

Where this is the case, and dialog has taken place between the student and adjunct professor, NCIU & TS may give consent for a variation to the above being agreed to in writing. However, each case must be evaluated upon its own merits.

The program begins with a broad training in theological foundations, missions and intercultural studies and world religions, so that students can interact with faculty and gain further competency in seven key areas as needed:

- Theology of mission and culturally relevant methodology
- Understanding biblical and philosophical world views and meaning of life
- Cultural anthropology and world religions
- Cross-cultural communication
- Developing leadership and team building for cross-cultural mission
- Integration and urbanization in a globalized economy
- Church development and planting in pluralistic and multi-cultural societies

MODULE 1

Foundational studies in Bible & Theology track (12 crs)

In the first module all students will gain a fresh understanding of the biblical and theological basis for mission and cross-cultural ministry.

At the same time the student will be given opportunity to expand their understanding of personal spiritual formation, while offering the student a variety of ministry study options and the flexibility to focus his or her learning in the most helpful way.

The student will also be directed into a specified reading and research program to formulate essential missiological standards, and to create a framework of understanding for the future modules yet to be explored.

NCI University & Theological Seminary seeks to customize the specified textual study units in accordance with the personal objectives of the student, as detailed in their application, and some students may be exempted from this module based upon their formal Letter of Assessment & Offer.

MODULE 2

Core Competencies in Missiology & Intercultural Studies track (12 crs)

The foundation of the program is evangelical Christian theology, which provides the basis for the evaluation of the interaction between a given culture and the gospel of the Kingdom of God in such areas as evangelism, church planting, and the application of theology through Christian ethics.

The major in intercultural studies enables the student to increase their understanding of the biblical and philosophical world views and meaning of life, as well as addressing socio-anthropological issues that demand the proper contextualization of the biblical message of God in the world.

The student also is required to complete special studies that facilitate understanding of the new world order of pluralism and multi-culturalism from a Christian perspective with a view to interaction and evangelism.

MODULE 3

Concentration and Missions Electives Development track (12 crs)

Intercultural studies represent a broad category of professional inquiries related to the differences and commonalities across cultures. The scholarly task in this field of doctoral studies is to grasp with knowledge and wisdom those matters of diversity that impinge on human relationships and understandings of spiritual reality, and to evaluate these in the light of biblical teaching.

Through the process of elective study units that address these and other relevant subjects. Students are able to gain understanding of the nature of intercultural relationships and to develop a strategic philosophy of ministry and mission service.

The student is able to complete the required credit hours through specified ministry and mission focused textual units, plus the opportunity to complete an internship and or practical field project that undergirds the knowledge base gained.

This module also requires the student to read a series of texts that will require the development of a field manual to be used in discipling in cross-cultural ministry during a 12 week period with reporting of interpersonal relationships and progress.

MODULE 4

Ministry Praxis and Dissertation track (12 credits)

The PhD in Intercultural Studies degree is primarily designed for those students who have already completed significant service in cross-cultural ministries or careers and who now wish to pursue new understanding and critical reflection on intercultural and cross-cultural programs.

Given the contemporary trends in globalization of our present world society, this degree seeks to critically engage with research and theory in order to promote a better understanding regarding the process of culture change, the role of change agents, and the consequences associated with change.

Students are expected to produce a significant and original research dissertation that addresses some aspect of cross-cultural communication, or intercultural ministry focus that furthers a better understanding of the theory, process or effects of cross-cultural contact and activities.

The Doctor of Philosophy in Intercultural Studies praxis and dissertation normally requires six months of advanced preparation and another six months following approval to complete the module project.

Students at NCI University & Theological Seminary have carried out a wide range of ministry praxes, including but not restricted to

- Creating structures for the discipling of new converts and church members in ethnic minority migrant communities
- The development of church planting programs that target specified cultural and or ethnic groups amongst others
- Training church members to provide cross-cultural pastoral care for those needing social care and integration as new migrants
- Development of early-child care and education cross-cultural development programs involving children with disabilities
- Cross-cultural teaching, training and development programs for those needing spiritual healing and wholeness

Students are encouraged to begin to explore ideas and to consult with their adjunct-tutor/mentor about ideas for ministry praxis early in their program. Obviously in choosing their ministry praxis, students would be wise to recognize their own particular gifting and skills abilities, as well as the needs of the target group to whom they will minister.

Ph. D in Intercultural Studies

GRADING & ASSESSMENT

Methods of Assessment

Assessment methods of Unit Assignments are shown in the individual unit guides. The accepted methods of assessment generally employed by NCIU are:

- Essays
- Examination papers
- Structured practical assessments
- Feasibility studies
- Report on projects

- Dissertation

All NCIU Unit Study Guides come complete with Written Assignment questions for the student.

In some cases, a practical project of applied theology is required due to the nature of the textual study text and special allowances are made to incorporate these into the overall grading and evaluation undertaken.

In the Doctor of Philosophy in Intercultural Studies program, all dissertations are required to be graded by two professors, and the student may be called upon to give an oral defense if the issue is considered "outside the norms" and is breaking new ground, or warrants the benefit of the student being able to make presentation of specific aspects of the submission.

Obviously as a distance learning institution, the additional costs to the student may be significant and this pathway is not normally recommended. Any such oral defense and presentation will take place in Lake Worth Florida, USA unless alternative location is accepted by mutual agreement.

Grading Allocation

Full details of the NCIU Standardized Grading Allocation policy are detailed in the Student Handbook.

The Grading Allocation List shows the grade point percentages that can be allocated by the grader for each of the specific categories NCIU considers important in making adequate assessment of the submitted work.

Students, who fail to attain the minimum passing grade, will be asked to resubmit either the entire course, or the portion of the course needing remedy.

Ph. D in Intercultural Studies DISTANCE LEARNING

This degree program like all of the religious vocational degree award programs offered by NCI University & Theological Seminary is designed to be completed totally by Distance Learning.

Distance learning with NCIU includes correspondence courses, online courses, directed textual study courses, supervised practical field projects (under supervision of a recognized proctor) guided research and specified reading plus the writing projects.

In some special study units, students may be required to attend a campus-based program for partial studies at a recognized and/or approved institution, with a credits earned being part of the total NCIU program.

Ph. D in Intercultural Studies TIME LIMITS

In order to ensure that a degree, when granted, represents education that is current and reasonably focused (not acquired a little at a time over an unreasonably long period), all credit applied to the degree must be earned within a specified period of time.

- For the Doctor of Philosophy in Intercultural Studies degree at NCI University & Theological Seminary, this period has been set at five years, without formal written extension.
- This period does not include credit earned elsewhere and applied to the degree, as transfer (RPL units) credits.

- The time limit for the written papers (research and guided reading) projects is three-four months.
- Written extension is normally granted when there are extenuating circumstances such as prolonged illness, family death, ministry disruption or financial disaster. The program does require concentrated discipline and application.
- If a student drops out or discontinues without written notification and agreement, they will be subject to an assessment revision for readmission, with subsequent increase in fees based on fee structure at that time, not original enrolment date.

Ph. D in Intercultural Studies CONCLUSION

The proven design features incorporated into this curriculum should allow students to continue their present ministry functions while pursuing this external Doctor of Philosophy in Intercultural Studies degree program without major disruption to their vocation.

As a distance-learning degree program, the Ph. D (ICS) degree study pathway can be completed entirely at the domicile location of the student. All studies and interaction with the mentor can be conducted through electronic means and email connections. Where necessary, the student can view special ministry class sessions via internet facilities or other electronic media.

The PH.D (ICS) award is the highest theological award in Missiology offered by NCIU, prepares students for a vocation in global missions teaching and scholarship by:

- equipping them with the essential tools for high-level scholarship,
- guiding them in a major research project in the area of their major concentration, and supporting the development of teaching skills

Based upon the experiences and testimonies of previous graduates and their continuing influence, NCIU is able to declare that such graduates are of great benefit to the Christian Church worldwide.

Students who complete this degree program should be able to make significant contribution to the Body of Christ and leave behind a lasting legacy that continues to extend the Kingdom of God, until the Lord Himself returns.

We welcome your inquiry into this exciting opportunity to enlarge your leadership capacity and further develop your potential.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION and APPLICATION ENROLMENT FORMS

CONTACT: *The Administrative Officer*
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Or go direct to our website www.newcovenant.edu and download the Degree Application Form.

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