



PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Certificate
(Assistant Lay Pastor)



Certificate in Religious Studies (Assistant Lay Pastor)

Title of Award	-	Certificate
Programme Title	-	Certificate in Religious Studies
Awarding Body	-	St. Andrew's Theological College
Teaching Institution	-	St. Andrew's Theological College
Last Reviewed	-	June 2010

1.0 Mission Statement of Institution:

The mission of St. Andrew's Theological College (SATC), grounded in its motto *adduxit eum ad Jesum* (and he brought him to Jesus), is to provide programs of training that prepare its students for leadership marked by faith, integrity, scholarship, and competence in the Church and in the wider community.

1.1 Program Mission Statement:

The mission of the Diploma in Theology program of SATC is a Christian response to God:

- To equip the Church of Christ of the Twenty-first Century to serve the world loved by God,
- To motivate and train men and women for leadership, ministry and service, through quality tertiary education that is Reformed and ecumenical, holistic and contextual.
- To enable an understanding of faith and the development of pastoral/caring skills to ensure effective engagement with pastoral situations of people who belong to pluralistic, post-colonial, third world societies.
- To replace unacceptable elements of Euro-American modernized Christianity.



2.0 Programme Aims:

St. Andrew's Theological College seeks to provide sound theological education with a view to equipping and training persons in an ecumenical setting for various forms of Christian Ministry locally, regionally and internationally.

The programme aims to help students:

- Develop a better understanding of the Christian faith and to enable them to be more effective Christian witnesses in the church and community.
- Develop the values, attitudes and characteristics in keeping the Church's doctrinal position.
- Develop **basic** theological, historical, biblical, doctrinal knowledge of the Scriptures in relation to the other disciplines.

The Certificate in Religious Studies (Assistant Lay Pastor) programme is taught over a two (2) year period and requires students to take a total of 300 credit hours.

3.0 Programme Learning Outcomes:

3.1 Knowledge & Understanding

Outcomes

On successful completion of this programme students will have:

- A **basic** theological and biblical knowledge of Scriptures in the context of their faith.
- A **basic** understanding of the fundamental doctrines of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago

3.2 Practical Skills

Outcomes

On successful completion of this programme, students shall have the ability to:

- Develop and maintain good interpersonal skills
- Communicate more effectively
- Develop and maintain effective partnership ministry



3.3 **Attitude**

Outcomes

On successful completion of this programme, successful students shall demonstrate the following attitudes:

- Accountability
- Magnanimity
- A deep sense of Commitment, devotion and loyalty
- Honesty and Integrity
- Spiritual maturity

3.5 **Ministerial Formation**

Outcomes

On successful completion of this programme, student shall show evidence of:

- Personal growth and understanding of self as it relates to the call to ministry integration and the demands of ministry with personal lifestyles and values.
- Spiritual development and personal faith foundational to one's life and ministry
- Professional development and preparation to undertake the responsibilities of ministry.

3.6 **Teaching and Learning Strategies:**

- Class participation
- Class presentations
- Interactive sessions facilitated by lecturers.
- Reading assignments

3.7 **Assessment Methods:**



Students' intellectual skills in relation to their overall attitude are assessed through written examinations, coursework, individual and group presentations, case studies, projects, participation in class and field education (practicum).

4.0 Programme Structure and Requirements

The Certificate in Religious Studies programme requires students to take a total of 300 credit hours. The programme is offered as evening classes with **part-time** enrolment. The normal length a full time student spends on the programme is two (2) years.

Graduation from SATC is based on a combination of academic performance, personal and spiritual development. In addition to grades the student must also complete all other assignments and receive a recommendation from the pastoral region to which she/he has been assigned, their specific Presbytery and the Board of Theological Education.

5.0 Admission Requirements

Preference will be given to students above the age of 30 years. A student may meet the following two requirements:

- Should have at least a Secondary School Education
- Mature students will be considered.

6.0 Programme Curriculum

The curriculum is designed to ensure that the learning outcomes identified are achieved. The programme curriculum is divided into two (2) years with compulsory and optional courses as stated in the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago. The curriculum sheet shows all courses offered in this programme.

7.0 Assessment

Assessments should be fair, realistic, appropriate and consistent. The assessment methods employed for the programme are listed in Section 2.7 above as well as in the course outlines.

Assessment of the practicum (field education) is done by the Session of the Pastoral Region to which the student is assigned.



8.0 Indicators of Quality

Some of the indicators used for assessing quality are:

- Curriculum review and monitoring
- Feedback from staff, students and other stakeholders
- Analysis of report
- Self evaluation

9.0 Support Services for Learning

The following are support for the learning process:

- Library Services
- Computer, printer and photocopying use
- Guidance Counselling
- Medical Services

10.0 Support for Graduates

The Certificate in Religious Studies (Assistant Lay Pastor) is vocational and as such is intended to equip students with the necessary intellectual and personal skills, experience, attitudes and mission formation for Christian Ministry of various types.

Rev. Harold Sitahal

Principal

St. Andrew's Theological College