



**MARYKNOLL INSTITUTE OF AFRICAN STUDIES
OF SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
AND TANGAZA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, NAIROBI**



2017/2018

STUDENT HANDBOOK



**P. O. BOX 15199 LANG'ATA, 00509, KENYA
MOBILE PHONE (254-726) 818-917 OR (254-732) 818-917
E-MAIL: miasmu@tangaza.org
Website: <http://www.mias.edu>**



Maryknoll Institute of African Studies

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SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY OF
MINNESOTA/USA
AND
TANGAZA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
NAIROBI, KENYA**

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS: 2017/2018

SEPTEMBER 8 - DECEMBER 1, 2017 SEMESTER PROGRAM

September 8, 2017	Orientation workshop for all students new to the program 9:00am ó 12:00pm
September 11-15, 2017	First week of classes
October 2 - 6, 2017	Outline of paper due in the office, PTR and Field Research Workshop.
October 23 - 27, 2017	Rough draft of paper due in the office, PTR and Field Research Workshop.
November 27 - Dec. 1, 2017	Final week of classes, Examination week
December 1, 2017	Final copy of paper due in the office, final PTR, faculty meeting and closing banquet.

JAN 13 - APR 7, 2018 SEMESTER PROGRAM

January 13, 2018.	Orientation workshop for all students new to the program 9:00am ó 12:00pm
January 16 - 20, 2018	First week of classes
February 20 - 24, 2018	Outline of paper due in the office, PTR and Field Research Workshop.
March 13 ó 17, 2018	Rough draft of paper due in the office, PTR and Field Research Workshop.
April 3 ó 7, 2018	Final week of classes, Examination week
April 7, 2018	Final copy of paper due in the office, final PTR, faculty meeting and closing banquet.

MAY 16 - JUNE 7, 2018 FIRST IMMERSION PROGRAM

May 15, 2018	Orientation workshop for all first session students at Tangaza University College, 9:00 a.m.
May 16, 2018 a.m.	Beginning of first session of program at Tangaza University College 8:30 a.m.
June 6, 2018	Last class-day of first session of the program
June 7 - 11, 2018	One week break between sessions

JUNE 13 - JULY 5, 2018 SECOND IMMERSION PROGRAM

June 12, 2018	Orientation workshop for all first session students at Tangaza University College, 9:00 a.m.
June 13, 2018 a.m.	Beginning of first session of program at Tangaza University College 8:30 a.m.
July 4, 2018	Last class-day of second session of the program and closing Banquet

**MARYKNOLL INSTITUTE OF AFRICAN STUDIES SAINT MARY'S
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA/USA AND TANGAZA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE,
NAIROBI, KENYA**

INTRODUCTION

This handbook is designed to help you prepare for your participation in the 2017/2018 program(s) of the Maryknoll Institute of African Studies (MIAS). Once you have arrived in Nairobi it will also serve as a guide for some aspects of your academic work, so you are asked to bring the handbook with you. The information in the following pages can help ensure that you will be ready to make the most of the programs.

GOAL OF THE PROGRAMS

The primary goal of the MIAS programs is to teach, systematically, contemporary cultures and religion of Kenya in such a way that students begin to appropriate and articulate an African perspective on these realities. They are designed for the following types of postgraduate students: 1) African students, and African pastoral and developmental agents for systematic introduction and/or updating in contemporary African life and reality, 2) NGO personnel and missionary personnel including priests, sisters, seminarians, and laity assigned to apostolic work in East Africa for primary acculturation and/or updating, 3) lecturers and students from outside Africa for systematic introduction into and appropriation of African cultural knowledge.

The programs are designed to meet the needs of both degree students and continuing education students. The programs are ecumenical and open to students of all faiths. MIAS is sponsored by the Africa Area of the Maryknoll Fathers & Brothers and is **affiliated academically** with Saint Mary's University of Minnesota/USA and Tangaza University College, Nairobi, Kenya. The programs were designed as a response to the need for a contextualized approach to teaching cultures and religion of Africa, and training bi-cultural pastoral and developmental agents in Africa.

WHAT THE PROGRAMS PROVIDE

For the price of tuition, the MIAS programs provide: 1) classroom facilities, 2) access to the MIAS and Tangaza Libraries, 3) highly qualified Africanist lecturers, 4) postgraduate courses awarded four graduate credits per course by Saint Mary's University of Minnesota/USA, a university accredited by the Higher Learning Commission* and a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, 5) a joint Tangaza University College/Saint Mary's University certificate and Tangaza University College Diploma for those who qualify, 6) trained Kenyan university graduates who work with students as field assistants when doing field research, and 7) master degree programs either a Master of Arts (M.A.) or a Master of African Studies (M.A.S.) awarded by Saint Mary's University of Minnesota/USA, an accredited university (cf.* above). The assistants work with students on a one to one basis in structured research projects in and about Nairobi, during the duration of a course.

In the **Immersion** programs, the assistant spends a minimum of thirteen hours per week in field research with a student, in the **Semester** programs a minimum of three and a half hours per week per course. **The MIAS programs do not provide board and room, books, or**

* The Higher Learning Commission
30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400
Chicago, Illinois 60602-2504
(800) 621-7440
www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org

internal transport in Kenya. Nor does it make arrangements for travel to and from Nairobi, Kenya. These items are the responsibility of the students.

A number of religious communities, Non-Governmental Organizations, and all the major churches have guesthouses in Nairobi where students are welcomed. If there are any problems with accommodations, the MIAS staff helps students find the most satisfactory arrangements.

LOCATION

The Institute is situated in Nairobi, Kenya due to 1) the widespread use of English, 2) the extensive transportation system in and about the Capital city and throughout the country, 3) the guest houses and hostels where students can reside and, 4) the libraries that are adequate for postgraduate work.

Classes are held at Tangaza University College¹ located near the village of Hardy seven miles South of the city of Nairobi. It is in close proximity to the Catholic University of Eastern Africa. The MIAS facilities are in a modern four-storey building with classrooms, offices, an assembly hall and its unique Africana library with 10,000 volumes. The cafeteria is in an adjacent building. The building does not contain residences.

METHOD OF THE PROGRAMS

The first MIAS program was conducted in 1989 on the principle that it is only through intensive, systematic study of African cultures and religion that one can come to any basic wisdom regarding contemporary African reality. The method developed by the Institute has enabled most of the **six hundred and fifty-five students** it has registered since 1989 to experience a major breakthrough in their understanding, appreciation and celebration of African life, reality and identity. The majority of the participants have evaluated the programs as demanding but most rewarding for their on-going apostolic and social work and the ability it has given them to be present to African people in a sophisticated, adult way.

The MIAS educational method is participatory combining classroom lectures with directed field research. For the **Semester** programs, it requires eighteen hours of formal study per week for twelve weeks per course. In the **Immersion** programs, it requires ten hours of formal studies **per day for twenty-two days**. It is not a workshop or seminar where one can be passive or participate according to one's wishes. All the courses are taught at a postgraduate level. Hence, it is assumed that a person has the skills to read a substantial amount of bibliographical material in preparation for classroom lectures, to write an acceptable fifteen-page research/integration paper, and to learn how to do professional field research. Also, one cannot **AUDIT** a course. All participants take the courses for credit. **If a person is not interested in this type of an educational process, he/she should not apply.**

THE PROGRAMS REQUIRE THE FOLLOWING:

- a) **Working** with a field assistant for a minimum of three and a half hours per week in the **Semester** program, and working three days a week for a minimum of four hours per day in the **Immersion** programs
- b) **Doing** field research in all parts of the Nairobi area including the squatters' camps
- c) **Riding** the local transportation system
- d) **Visiting** overnight the rural home of a field assistant
- e) **Writing** a fifteen page research/integration paper per course
- f) **Attending** all classes
- g) **Reading** all materials required for the courses
- h) **Putting aside** medical and vacation needs, except in emergency

¹ Tangaza is a center for theological studies sponsored by nineteen religious communities of men. It is served by matatu route #24, stage #13. MIAS is an affiliate Institute of Tangaza University College and a stakeholder in the building.

- i) **Bypassing** tourist places and sites
- j) (For non-Africans) **living** in an African environment

Section I PREPARATION FOR TRAVEL

TRAVEL IN EAST AFRICA

Day trips will be recommended and organized according to the interests of the students once at the end of each program. The costs of these trips will be split equally among the participants. A one-day trip of a hundred miles in a hired van costs about \$30.00 per person. Possibilities include: Nairobi Game Park, Lake Naivasha, the Rift Valley, Mount Kenya, Lake Magadi, and Lake Nakuru Game Park.

Some of the most spectacular scenery and game parks in the world are just south of the Kenya border with Tanzania. At the end of one's participation in the MIAS program one might wish to make a special five day trip to visit Lake Manyara Game Park, Terangiri game park, Ngorongoro Crater, Olduvai Gorge, and the Serengeti game park. Travel arrangements will be the responsibility of those interested. However, MIAS recommends a reliable low-cost company called "Safari Seekers" for all Kenyan and Tanzanian trips (ph. 652-315/553-366) Mombasa Road or (226-206/211- 396) City center.

DRIVERS'S LICENSE

It is recommended that you get an international driver's license. It is recognized in Kenya and allows you to drive rental and private vehicles.

HEALTH

MEDICATIONS

If you are on medication, you should bring enough along with you to last the length of the program. Also be sure to bring your prescriptions signed by a physician, in case you need to refill it during your stay. There are well-stocked pharmacies in Nairobi.

MALARIA PROPHYLACTIC

Kenya is in a malarial area. It is necessary that you take a prophylactic medicine several weeks prior to arriving in Kenya, during the time spent in Kenya, and for several weeks after returning home. The proper medicine is obtained only by prescription. The drug "larium" (metakelfin) is a very toxic drug and a substantial portion of people have had mild to serious psychological reaction to it. It should only be taken under a doctor's advice and as a last resort.

Also, if you are not a resident of Africa, a doctor's recommendation assuring that you are in sufficient good health to follow the program is required as part of the application process.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Two letters of recommendation relating to one's flexibility in adjusting to new situations and ability to handle stress are also required. One of these recommendations is to be from one's employer, supervisor or superior.

INOCULATIONS

Tanzania requires a yellow fever inoculation while Kenya does not. Typhoid and Paratyphoid shots are recommended.

This would be a good time to update your tetanus immunization. If you have not had a tetanus immunization or booster in the past 10 years, it is recommended that you do so before the trip. If you are concerned about a particular ailment or allergy, please consult your physician before departure.

Section II FINANCES

TUITION: For Citizens and Residents of Africa, the program is subsidized 50%; the tuition pays only half of the actual cost per course. Foreign students from overseas are charged the full fees of US\$ 950 per course for the semester programs and US\$1080 per course for the Immersion programs.

Semester programs:

- All Citizens and Residents of Africa: **Ksh. 34,500 (US\$475) per course.**
- Foreign students from overseas: **US\$950 per course.**

Immersion programs:

- All Citizens and Residents of Africa: **Ksh. 37,500 (US\$540) per course.**
- Foreign students from overseas: **US\$1080 per course.**

TUITION RELIEF

The cost per course was set in terms of making the program self-sufficient through grants and tuition. However, **African** students who cannot afford the full amount can apply for some tuition relief. A tuition relief application form is available for those who request it after they are **officially accepted**. The program sponsors do not want qualified African students turned away due solely to tuition expenses.

PERSONAL EXPENSES:

Besides Tuition, there are the following expenses that are paid personally.

BOOKS: Kshs. 10,200 (US\$100) per course

TRANSPORTATION: for field research to and from Tangaza: Approx. Kshs. 6,800 (US\$70) per course.

BOARD AND ROOM (If not resident in Nairobi): US\$12-20.00 depending on where one stays and the Kshs exchange rate per US\$ at the time of the program. If staying in a guesthouse, to be on the safe side the cost of board and room should be calculated at US\$30.00 per day.

POCKET MONEY: Approximately US\$100.00 per course (Non-residents of Nairobi).

TRANSPORTATION: To and from Nairobi depends on the point of departure.

***Note:** The Kenya shilling (and prices) has fluctuated widely the past two and a half years. In July 2017, it stood at 103/US\$. As the program draws near, you will be notified of the Kenya shilling exchange rate with the US dollar so you can revise your budget, if needed.*

KENYA VISA:

Students traveling on non-commonwealth passports, e.g. USA can purchase a tourist visa at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport valid for three months for US\$50.00 or the equivalent in foreign currency. A Tanzania visa can be purchased at the Tanzania embassy in Nairobi or at the point of entry.

DEPARTURE TAX:

The departure tax from the Kenya airport is US\$20.00 or the equivalent in Kenyan or foreign currency. **Usually this tax is included in the price of your airline ticket and is indicated on the ticket.**

REMEMBER

MIAS is responsible only for the tuition paid for each course. **This is non-refundable once a course has started** except in the cases of medical hardship or family emergencies.

MIAS is **not** responsible for: a) passport and visa fees, b) airport or border taxes, c) travel, visits, or excursions, d) life, accident, travel, or health insurance, e) board and room, f) airfares, g) for any medical expenses incurred by any member of the program, and h) for any additional costs incurred by participants who cannot complete the program for whatever reason.

CANCELLATION OF PROGRAM

MIAS reserves the right to cancel a scheduled program within a reasonable time limit, for reasons of incapacity of staff, perilous conditions, or other related situations. Ordinarily, notification of cancellation will be communicated to participants no later than 30 days prior to the beginning of the program. However, MIAS reserves the right to cancel the program at any time, prior to or during the program, when in the judgment of the staff, conditions exist which make it impossible to achieve the goals of the program. In case of cancellation prior to departure, MIAS will reimburse registered participants their full fees. In the event that a program would be canceled after it has begun, reimbursement will be provided for up to 75% of the unused portion of the tuition.

The staff also reserves the right to dismiss from the program anyone whose mental or physical health is judged to be a danger to themselves or the group, or anyone whose comportment is judged to pose a serious disruption to the program.

Transportation to and from the school and during field research trips is the responsibility of the students. The program, however, provides transportation from downtown Nairobi (The Stanley Hotel) to Tangaza University College and back on class days during the immersion programs.

Section III WHAT TO PACK

The following are some suggestions that may help you in deciding what to pack.

- a) The weather in Nairobi during your stay will be a mixture of warm and sunny 30 C. (80 degrees F.) to chilly and rainy 8 C. (47 Degrees F.). The nights are always cool since the altitude is 1600 meters (5200 feet) above sea level.
- b) If you are a woman, you will need fall-weight skirts and dresses as well as knee socks. **Blue jeans and slacks mark a woman as a tourist and militate against her blending into the society and are not permitted when doing participant observation and field research.** However, you might want to bring along one pair of warm dress slacks for lounging around your residence and a pair of blue jeans when you wish to play the tourist, e.g. in a game park.
- c) **Blue jeans also mark a man as a tourist and militate against his blending into the society and are not permitted when doing participant observation and field research.** However, you might want to bring along one pair for lounging at your residence. Dark color slacks are the norm for blending into the society.
- d) Since you will have some wet weather, it is good to bring rain gear such as a fold-up umbrella.
- e) A heavy sweater and lined jacket are also necessary for the evenings and during the overcast days.
- f) The sun is very intense in Nairobi. Bring things that can be layered when the weather gets cold and peeled off when it's warm. Dry cleaning is available.
- g) **Shorts are never worn in public except by tourists.**
- h) For your outfits, choose fall-weight, comfortable, durable and washable things. In Kenya, dark, conservative, English styles are the norm. Keep in mind that almost all laundry will be done by hand. Choose fabrics that will keep you warm, but that will be easy to keep clean. Also, you will want to bring one good dress outfit for the more formal occasions.
- i) An important item is shoes. You absolutely need a good pair of walking shoes (be sure to break them in before you leave). Women need comfortable walking shoes that look good with skirts. You may throw in a pair of sandals for around the house and a pair of jogging shoes for exercise or the game parks. High heels for women are not necessary.
- j) Bring a hat for the sun. Something light and washable is smart, since it will need scrubbing after a few encounters with the heat and dust of Africa. Head covering is essential to avoid the danger of overexposure. Furthermore, a dark pair of sunglasses is very useful.
- k) A small cassette tape recorder and an adequate supply of tapes is a very useful instrument in doing field research, but not a requirement. Batteries are available in Kenya at a reasonable price.
- l) **A laptop computer and an adequate supply of disks are highly recommended.** A computer is a very useful instrument in writing up field research and one's paper. Remember the voltage in Nairobi is 240V 50HZ. Be sure your power supply is able to handle it. Most newer laptops are dual voltage.
- m) **Guidebook:** preparing for a trip can be almost as enjoyable as the trip itself. You may want to purchase a guidebook to help you prepare for your time in Africa. Also, guidebooks will be helpful in preparing for travel at the end of the course. Check local bookstores and travel bureaus for these books.

The **checklist** on page nineteen of this booklet includes a number of **miscellaneous items** that have proven helpful to participants. We recommend you include them in your packing, if possible.

Section IV LIVING SITUATION/STAFF

Participants who belong to religious communities that have institutions in Nairobi live with their communities. Others make arrangements to stay as guests of religious communities or stay in hostels or guesthouses. If needed, the Director of the program facilitates these arrangements.

THE MIAS CONTACT ADDRESS IN KENYA FOR MAIL AND COMMUNICATION:

MIAS
Box 15199, Langøata
00509, Kenya
Mobile Phone (254) (0726) 818-917/
(0732) 818-917
E-Mail miasmu@tangaza.org

For EMS or COURIER Mail e.g. FedEx or DHL use:

MIAS
C/o Tangaza University College
Langøata South Road
P.O. Box 15199 Langøata
00509, Kenya

STAFF

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Prof. Michael C. Kirwen Ph.D., the founder of the MIAS program and a professor of interdisciplinary studies, is the director, dean of studies, and an Associate Dean of Saint Mary's University of Minnesota/USA. He holds a Ph.D. in theology in the area of special interdisciplinary studies combining theology and anthropology from the University of Saint Michael's College, Toronto. He teaches courses in Contextual Theology, Field Research Methodology and the unique MIAS transformational academic method. As a Maryknoll missionary, he has been a resident of East Africa since 1963 combining pastoral work among the Luo people, with writing, field research and teaching before starting the MIAS program in 1989.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT is the registrar of the program. He works closely with the Director on administrative aspects, processes students' applications, handles financial payments and oversees the running of the MIAS office.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

The executive assistant to the director works with the training of the field assistants, teaches the advanced field research workshop, supervises all the students in the MA programs, supervises the liturgical and pastoral reflection aspect of the program, and receives and collates reports and evaluations.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR

The personal assistant to the Director oversees the smooth running of the program and supervises the field and class assistants, teaches the foundational field research workshop, and reviews the evaluations.

FACULTY

The faculty, highly skilled Africanists, are recruited mainly from the East African Universities to teach one course each. Last year there were two teachers from the University of Nairobi, one from Grace College, Kenya, Six from Kenyatta University, Nairobi, and one from Nairobi International School of Theology, Nairobi. Many of the lecturers are heads of departments and five are associate or full professors.

CLASS ASSISTANTS

A class assistant is attached to each course. These assistants are trained to an M.A. level. They liaise with the lecturers, students, field assistants and staff on the daily administration of courses.

FIELD ASSISTANTS

Kenyan university graduates, called field assistants, are assigned to work with each participant in their field research on a one-to-one basis. These assistants are recruited through the recommendations of the faculty, and are selected on the basis of their competence in English, their knowledge of Nairobi and its surroundings, and their willingness to take students to their rural homesteads for overnight visits. They attend all classes and write five page essays on the material of the courses and field research. Fifty field assistants participated in the 2010/2011 programs. All of them had finished their first degrees, some were working on their MA degrees and two on their PhD degrees. Others teach at secondary schools and colleges, or are searching for full time employment.

Section V

THE PROGRAMS

CLASSES AND STUDY

The essential component of the program is an in-depth, academic study of African reality on a postgraduate level. It aims at teaching African cultures and religion systematically through participation in African cultural life. Each week during the **Semester** programs, there are three and one-half hours of formal classes at Tangaza University College, and three and one-half hours in the field per week per course. During the **Immersion** programs, there are three and one-half hours of formal class three days a week and four hours of field research another three days per week.

The **academic work focuses** on how cultures shape the way Africans understand God, the cosmos and humanity. The **field research focuses** on direct contact with African people through participant observation and professional field research. The class sessions involve both preparatory and follow-up work connected with the field research.

Moreover, the courses require a fifteen-page research/integration paper as well as a final written exam. The combination of class work, field research and a written paper gives MIAS a unique, process approach to the study of African life and reality. The MIAS programs do not allow **AUDITING** of courses under any circumstance.

The excellent Africana library of the Institute combined with that of Tangaza and Hekima Colleges are sufficient for all classroom assignments. The library at the University of Nairobi is also available for those interested.

All participants are expected to be present for the class sessions, do the field research and complete the required course paper as an integral part of their participation in the program. The programs are not meant to be an exposure to Africa. They are designed to blend academic study with an immersion experience of the people, land and cultures.

A detailed description of the academic components of the 2011/2012 programs and a list of suggested readings are found in the following sections.

TEXTBOOKS

The **books** listed below are recommended for the programs. In preparation for the courses, one should buy or borrow a copy of each and begin to browse through them. Those who have access to copies through local libraries should arrange to bring the books to the program.

- 1) Magesa, Laurenti. (2004). *Anatomy of Inculturation: Transforming the Church in Africa*. Maryknoll, New York: Orbis.
- 2) _____. (1997). *African Religion: the Moral Traditions of Abundant Life*. New York: Orbis.
- 3) Ray, Benjamin. (1976). *African Religions*. Englewood Cliff, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, Inc.
- 4) Kirwen, Michael. (Ed.) (2010). *African Cultural Domains: Cycle of Family and Interpersonal Relationships* Nairobi: Mias Books.
- 5) _____ (Ed) (2008). *African Cultural Domains: Life Cycle of an Individual*. Nairobi: Mias Books.
- 6) _____ (Ed.) (2005). *African Cultural Knowledge: Themes and Embedded Beliefs*. Nairobi: Mias Books.

- 7) _____ . (1987). *The Missionary and the Diviner*. Maryknoll, New York: Orbis.
- 8) Bourdillon, M. (1990). *Religion and Society: a Text for Africa*. Harare, Zimbabwe: Mambo Press.
- 9) Geertz, Clifford. (1973). *The Interpretation of Culture*. New York: Basic Books.
- 10) Olupona, Jacob K. (Ed.)(1993). *African Traditional Religions in Contemporary Society*. New York: Paragon House.
- 11) D. A. Low and Alison Smith (Eds) (1976). *History of East Africa*. Oxford: Clarendon Press.
- 12) Collins Robert O. (1990). *Eastern African History*. New York: Markus Wiener Publishing.
- 13) Spadley, James. (1980). *Participant Observation*. New York: Holt Rinehart and Winston.
- 14) Ayisi, E. O. (1972). *An Introduction to the Study of African Culture*. London: Heinemann.
- 15) Zahan, Dominique. (1970). *The Religion, Spirituality, and Thought of Traditional Africa*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.
- 16) Mbiti, John. (1991). *An Introduction to African Religion*. (Second Edition) Nairobi: East African Educational Publishers.
- 17) Parratt, John. (Ed.) (1987). *A Reader In African Christian Theology*. London: SPCK.
- 18) Shorter, Aylward. (1998). *African Culture, An Overview: Social-Cultural Anthropology*. Nairobi: Pauline's.
- 19) Schreiter, Robert. (1975). *Constructing Local Theologies*. Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books.
- 20) Mbiti, John. (1969). *African Religions and Philosophy*. London: Heinemann.
- 21) Zuesse, Evan. (1979). *Ritual Cosmos*. Athens, Ohio: Ohio University Press.
- 22) Bernard, Russell H. (1988). *Research Methods in Cultural Anthropology*. London: Sage Publication.

Other books are required for specific courses. They are on reserve in the MIAS library. Some are available in Nairobi bookstores, and others are sold through the program. It is expected that each student buys the required textbooks for their personal libraries so that they have adequate resources to teach the material afterwards.

JOURNALS

East Africa is a land where the local people are facing very complex social, political and economic questions. One should try to increase one's awareness of these issues by reading local journals and magazines both secular and religious e.g. "New Africa," "Africa Theological Journal," and "AFER: African Ecclesiastical Review." Look through these journals and magazines for contemporary articles on the churches and cultures of Africa. Also, The East

African Publishing House has a series of novels written in English by Africans. They are an excellent way to gain insight into the kinds of issues and emotions that are of major importance to African peoples. One should buy a number of these books in the Nairobi bookstores for future reference. Furthermore, the video series by Ali Mazrui "The Africans," and Basil Davidson's "Africa," are most informative and recommended viewing as part of one's preparation.

AFRICAN RELIGIONS

East Africa is a land of three major world religions: African, Christian and Moslem. Besides the readings on African Religion and African Christianity something should be read on African Islam, e.g. Kateregga, Badru D. (1980). *Islam and Christianity*. Grand Rapids: William B. Erdmans Publishing Co.

Section VI ACADEMIC INFORMATION

DATES OF 2017/2018 PROGRAMS

September – December Semester program begins on September 8, 2017 with a day of orientation and continues through to December 1, 2017.

January - April Semester program begins on January 19, 2018 with a day of orientation and continues through to April 13, 2018

May - June First Immersion program begins on May 15, 2018 with a day of orientation and continues through to June 6, 2018.

June - July Second Immersion program begins on June 12, 2018 with a day of orientation and continues through to July 4, 2018

Students new to Africa are requested to arrive two to three days before the beginning of a program so that they are adjusted to the climate and altitude, and are over their jet lag before classes begin.

COURSE ACCREDITATION:

The courses are four 6 credit postgraduate courses accredited by Saint Mary's University of MN/USA. The courses are registered and transcribed by Saint Mary's University.

TANGAZA ACADEMIC AWARDS

As an affiliate Institute of Tangaza University College, a constituent college of the Catholic University of Eastern Africa, MIAS awards: 1) a joint **Tangaza University College/Saint Mary's University Certificate** for those who complete three courses maintaining a minimum "C+" average, and 2) a **Tangaza University College Diploma** for those who successfully complete five courses, including the courses on "African Culture" and "one of the African Religion courses," while maintaining a minimum "B" average.

COURSE OFFERINGS

The following is the list of courses that have been prepared by various lecturers for the 2011/2012 programs. Sufficient student preregistration determines whether a particular course is taught. This is why applicants are asked to select three courses by priority. A separate booklet (Course Catalogue) is available with the course outlines and descriptions. It will be sent to all applicants.

COURSE OFFERINGS: SEMESTER PROGRAMS

SEPTEMBER 8 – DECEMBER 1, 2017 & JAN 19 - APRIL 13, 2018

Courses listed for MONDAYS 1:30 pm—4:45 pm

- _____ *African Traditional Religion Interprets the Bible*
- _____ *Spirituality, Personhood and Psychotherapy in an African Context*
- _____ *Contemporary Political and Economic Realities in Kenya*
- _____ *Church in Contemporary Africa: Its Political, Social and Economic Situation*

Courses listed for TUESDAYS 1:30 pm—4:45 pm

- _____ *Introduction to Islam in Eastern Africa*
- _____ *Gospel and Culture: The African Experience*
- _____ *African Culture: An Overview*
- _____ *African Feminist/Womanist Theology: A Source for African Christian Theology*

Courses listed for WEDNESDAYS 1:30 pm—4:45 pm

Sociology of Development/Underdevelopment in African Religion

Introduction to East African Art

African Christian Theology: Historical and Systematic Development.

Mission in Africa Today: Methods, Concepts, Practices and Challenges.

Courses listed for THURSDAYS 1:30 pm—4:45 pm

African Traditional Religion: Major Beliefs, Practices and Contemporary Forms.

African Marriage and Family: Challenge and Change.

Introduction to East African Literature: Focus on Religious Conflicts.

Justice and Peace in East Africa

Courses listed for FRIDAYS 1:30 pm—4:45 pm

Ideology and Practice of Health Ministry in Contemporary Africa: Traditional and Western

African Independent Churches: Authentic Integration or Separation from Christianity.

Sage Philosophy: The Root of African Philosophy and Religion.

Moral Teaching and Practices of African Traditional Religion

COURSE OFFERINGS: 2018 IMMERSION PROGRAMS**FIRST SESSION****May 15 to June 6, 2018**

African Cultures: An Overview.*

African Traditional Religion Interprets the Bible.

African Feminist/Womanist Theology: A Source for African Christian Theology.

Contemporary Political and Economic Realities in Kenya

Sociology of Development/Underdevelopment in African Religion

Introduction to East African Art

Towards the Inculturation of Religious Community Life in Africa

African Christian Theology: Historical and Systematic Development.

Spirituality, Personhood and Psychotherapy in an African Context

Gospel and Culture: The African Experience.

SECOND SESSION**June 12 to July 4, 2018**

African Cultures: An Overview.*

African Traditional Religion: Major Beliefs, Practices and Contemporary Forms.

African Marriage and Family: Challenge and Change.

Introduction to East African Literature: Focus on Religious Conflicts

Justice and Peace in East Africa

Church in Contemporary Africa: its political, social and economic situation.

Introduction to Islam in Eastern Africa

African Traditional Religion: Major Beliefs, Practices and Contemporary Forms.

Ideology and Practice of Health Ministry in Contemporary Africa: Traditional and Western.

Sage Philosophy: The Root of African Philosophy and Religion.

Moral Teaching and Practices of African Traditional Religion.

Mission in Africa Today: Methods, Concepts, Practices and Challenges.

*** The course, "African Cultures: An Overview," is repeated in each session as it is a required course for those in the Master programs, and a popular course for students new to Africa.**

Section VII ACADEMIC STRUCTURES

SEMESTER PROGRAMS:

The courses are taught once a week with one required four-hour field research event per course per week.

IMMERSION PROGRAMS:

The courses are taught three days a week with three days a week (Wednesday through Friday), while the following three days (Saturday through Monday) are spent in doing field research.

Four graduate credits are granted for each course. If a student successfully completes three courses during the 2017/2018 programs, he/she is awarded a joint Tangaza University College/Saint Mary's University Certificate in African studies.

FIELD RESEARCH

Field research is facilitated by University students who are hired to guide the students, on a one-to-one basis, into various dimensions of African society. The meetings and trips with the field assistants are organized around the research priorities of each lecturer, so that students experience new realities of the Kenyan society in the Nairobi area at least three times a week. For example, research is done in local markets, University of Nairobi, housing estates, squatters camps, various Christian churches and ministries, diviners and traditional healers, etc.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SEMESTER COURSES

Each course meets one day a week at Tangaza University College from 11:45 am to 4:45 pm according to the schedule, and one day a week (per course) is spent on field research with a personal assistant (the day determined by the student). The field research session for each course is planned in advance with the lecturer.

IMMERSION COURSES

Class days for the two sessions are Wednesday through Friday. The classes are at Tangaza University College from 8:30 am to 12:05 pm. They are followed by a prayer service from 12:15 pm to 12:30 pm. At 12:30 pm, lunch is served in the cafeteria. Afternoons have workshop and seminars scheduled on field research and pastoral reflection. The rest of the week is for field research with a personal field assistant (each week three field research sessions are planned in advance with the lecturers), library research, private study, and writing a fifteen-page research/integration paper. Transportation to and from the school is the responsibility of the students. The program, however, provides transportation from downtown Nairobi (The Stanley Hotel) to Tangaza University College and back on class days.

STUDENT BODY

Three types of students will be attending:

1) **Students resident in Africa**

- a) **African students** in academic programs.
- b) **African personnel** who are engaged in pastoral and developmental work.
- c) **Students of Missionary Institutions** located in Africa, e.g. Maryknoll, Mill Hill, Church Mission Society, Lutheran World Federation, Mennonite Missionaries, Society of African Missions, Comboni, Consolata, Passionists, Sisters of Notre Dame, Assumption Sisters of

Nairobi, etc. These students are given transcripts of their grades so that the credits can be applied towards their degree programs elsewhere.

- d) **Personnel of Missionary Institutions** engaged in cross-cultural ministries and developmental projects who would benefit from the program.
 - e) **NGO personnel** doing developmental, educational and medical work in Africa.
- 2) **Foreign students** (Immersion Programs only unless on sabbatical)
- a) **Students who have been assigned to Africa** for their overseas training program.
 - b) **Students and teachers who wish an introduction into** or an intensification of an existing African experience, whether in an M.Div., M.A., M.T.S., Ph.D. or continuing education programs, provided they are in service occupations.
 - c) **US/European/Latin American/Asian personnel** engaged in cross-cultural ministry who would benefit from an in-depth contact with African culture.
- 3) **University lecturers: Overseas or Africa based**, for systematic introduction and/or updating on African cultures and religion.

REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS:

Postgraduate students:

Mature students of at least twenty-five years of age with a bachelor degree or its equivalent from an approved college, university or seminary.

Undergraduate students:(only mature students, resident in Africa, are accepted)

They must have an "A" level certificate (or its equivalent) or a diploma from an approved school with University entrance level passes, or a fourth year university student. They also must have two letters of **academic** recommendation attesting to one's ability to do postgraduate work.

REQUIRED OF ALL STUDENTS

TRANSCRIPT OF ACADEMIC RECORDS sent to MIAS P.O. Box 15199 Langata, 00509 Kenya.

TWO LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION: one from one's employer, pastor or superior.

FULL PAYMENT OF TUITION FEES before the beginning of each course. (Make Kenya shillings checks payable to **Maryknoll Institute of African Studies**. Other currencies pay to **Michael C. KIRWEN A/C MIAS**)

COMPLETED APPLICATION. The applications forms parts I and II can be filled out on-line through the website www.mias.edu. They may also be obtained from the MIAS Director in Nairobi or downloaded from the website.

LETTER FROM A PHYSICIAN (for those applying from outside Africa), stating that the student is in sufficient good health to follow the program.

ATTN.: THE DEADLINES FOR FORMAL APPLICATION:

August 15, 2017 for September 8 - December 1, 2017 **Semester program**

December 15, 2017 for January 19 - April 13, 2018 **Semester program**

May 1, 2018 for May 15 - June 6, 2018 **Immersion program**

June 1, 2018 for June 12 - July 4, 2018 **Immersion program**

August 15, 2018 for September 7 - November 30, 2018 **Semester program**

ADMISSIONS

Admissions will be processed by the program director in consultation with the MIAS staff. Replies will be by return mail.

REFLECTION/DISCUSSION GROUPS

Twice during the **Immersion** programs, the students meet together with the professors and field assistants for pastoral reflection on their African studies and experiences and three times during the **Semester** programs.

LITURGIES

Liturgy is another area that will call for care and consideration on the part of all. Praying together is a natural part of the MIAS experience. In the **Immersion** programs preparation of the prayer service each day is rotated among the classes. The scheduling and format of the liturgical celebrations are worked out together with the Executive Assistant.

FORMAT OF RESEARCH PAPER

The programs require a fifteen-page research/integration paper for each course. It is to be typed, double spaced with a table of contents, endnotes and a bibliography. The paper is divided as follows:

Introduction (two pages): orientation of the reader to the topic (or issue) under discussion.

Section I (five pages): presentation of the topic as understood through the field research. In this section it is proper to quote one's field research notes and data referring to the annotated listing of the research events in an Appendix.

Section II (five pages): presentation of the topic as understood through the lectures and bibliographical material. The material is to be properly cited following the American Psychological Association (APA) style.

Conclusion (three pages): interrelation of the ideas about the topic gleaned from the field research with the lecture and bibliographical materials showing similarities, differences and points of conflict.

Appendix: annotated listing of field research events.

Bibliography: works cited in text.

The research/integration paper is the major criterion for evaluating a student's performance. What is looked at carefully is whether the student is able to connect and interrelate the field data with the lectures and written materials in a creative and systematic way. The paper also facilitates, in a formal way, the organization of the experiences and discussions engendered by a course so that the student can begin to understand and articulate the structures underlying the issues being discussed and researched. This kind of mental organization of the course material is the first step in preparing a student to teach the material afterwards.

Note: The maximum number of pages allowed per paper is TWENTY.

LUNCH

During class days in the **Immersion** program, an African-style lunch is available together with tea during the morning class break. Students are requested to make a contribution for cafeteria expenses if they can afford it. Otherwise the tea and lunch are furnished free of charge. **It is required that all students attend lunch**, as it is a special time to meet lecturers, students and field assistants in an informal setting.

POUCH FOR PASSPORT AND MONEY

A small cloth pouch large enough to carry one's passport and money that can be suspended around the neck and hidden inside one's shirt or blouse is recommended for use when traveling.

ADDENDUM I**CHECKLIST**

Before closing your suitcase, you might check to see if you have included the following items:

_____shirts/blouses	_____handkerchiefs
_____camera & film supply	_____umbrella
_____underwear	_____hat for sun
_____toilet articles	_____suit/sport coat
_____trousers/slacks/skirts	_____insect repellent
_____stationary, notebooks, diary	_____recommended textbooks
_____warm sweaters	_____ (cf p. 8)
_____sewing kit, scissors	_____bandages
_____lined windbreaker or jacket	_____cold remedy, aspirin etc.
_____flashlight	_____shoulder bag for field trips
_____socks	_____extra passport photos
_____thongs for shower	_____cassette tape recorder/tapes
_____walking shoes	_____International driver's license
_____medication & prescriptions	_____warm knee socks for women
_____dress shoes	_____New Testament, Bible
_____sun glasses (dark)	_____ticket and passport
_____fall-weight skirts/dresses	_____travelers checks
_____pouch to wear around the neck for passport/money	_____ laptop computer (Recommended)

Above all: don't forget your passport, airline ticket, money!

Those who have contact lenses may find it wise to also bring along a pair of regular eye glasses; some have found the dust an irritant in areas outside of the city and preferred to wear eye glasses at those times. Those with glasses may want to bring an extra pair and a copy of their prescription.

CURRENCY AND CURRENCY REGULATIONS

Kenya currency is based on the decimal system. The unit of currency is the shilling, divided into 100 cents.

Prices in the market places and in the small stores are usually negotiable. If you don't bargain and haggle, it's your fault. Visitors are advised to check currency rates regularly. (As of July 2011 one U.S. dollar was worth Ninety Kenya shillings).

Visitors are strongly advised to avoid street dealers when exchanging money, and to transact all currency dealings through official FOREX bureaus. This avoids the possibility of counterfeit money and being shortchanged.

TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM THE AIRPORT

Upon arrival, the most convenient way to get to your place of residence is to take a TAXI. MIAS has an arrangement with **NEW JAMBO TAXIS** at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, Telephone No: (020) 822-011 or (020) 822-114. As you pass thorough the glass doors after leaving customs, the New Jambo Taxis booth is to the right across the hall. Its sign is clearly visible. Their rates as of March 2017 are US\$25 or 2500/KShs to many destinations within Nairobi.

If you are arriving late at night, be sure you notify the place where you are to stay so that they are prepared to receive you. If you need someone to meet your flight, MIAS can arrange it with New Jambo Taxi. They wait outside of customs carrying a sign with your name on it. Be sure you contact the Director giving flight details if you wish to be met.

ADDENDUM II

A TASTE OF THE LANGUAGE

Almost any village or shop in Kenya will have someone who speaks English, but you will endear yourself to the local people and get a better taste of the culture if you make even a token effort to speak Kiswahili, at least the greetings.

The following are a few helpful phrases in Kiswahili you should know:

General:

Habari gani?	What is the news?
Nzuri!	Good!
Si nzuri	(Things are) not good.
Habari za asubuhi	News of the morning
Habari za mchana	News of the afternoon
Habari za jioni	News of the evening
Habari njema	The news is fine
Sina	I don't have (it)
Sina pesa	I do not have money
Hapana	No!
Ndiyo	Yes
Sisemi Kiswahili	I do not speak Kiswahili
Pole	Take it easy
Unataka . . ?	Do you want . . ?
Unataka chai?	Do you want tea?
Mwislamu	Moslem
Mkristu	Christian
Mwafrica	African
Moja	One
Mbili	Two
Tatu	Three
Nne	four
Tano	Five
Sita	Six
Saba	Seven
Nane	Eight
Tisa	Nine
Kumi	Ten
Tafadhal	Please
Samahani	Excuse me
Asante	Thank you
Karibu	Welcome
Mzee	Elder/gentleman
Mama	Mother
Msichana	Girl
Ndugu	Brother/friend
Bwana	Mr/Sir
Bibi	Mrs/Madame
Ngoja kidogo	Wait a minute
Jina lako ni nani?	What is your name
Ninakwenda	I am going
Nyumba	House
Ninakwenda nyumbani	I am going home
Toka	Get away! Go!

Around Nairobi:

Wapi	where (is . .)
Posta	post office
Posta iko wapi?	Where is the post office?
soko	market
mtaa	street
barabara	road
njia	path
mbele	ahead
kulia	to the right
Kushoto	to the left
Kanisa	Church
cinema	movie house
basi	bus
matatu	minibus
Duka	small store
kituo cha basi	bus stop

In a restaurant:

hoteli	hotel/restaurant
nataka	I want
nataka chakula	I want food
pombe	beer
maziwa	milk
chai	tea
kahawa	coffee
sukari	sugar
mkate	bread
mchuzi	soup/gravy
samaki	fish
kuku	chicken
salad	salad
nyama	meat
mayai	eggs

Time:

saa ngapi	What time is it?
saa (tatu)	9:00 a.m.(third hour)
saa sita	noon
asubuhi	morning
jioni	evening
usiku	night
leo	today
kesho	tomorrow
jana	yesterday
juma pili	Sunday (2 nd day)
juma mosi	Saturday(1 st day)
basi	enough! stop it!
kwaheri	goodbye