

About the Programme

Zomba Theological University is proud to introduce a Master's program as part of the Council for World Mission's "Theology of Life" initiative. Originating from a 2012 ecumenical conference in Sao Paulo, Brazil, the initiative responds to concerns about the exploitative nature of current economic systems.

Following the conference, a global panel of experts devised an action plan, highlighting the need for critical education within churches. In response, CWM engaged its member churches worldwide in an educational process titled "New International Financial and Economic Architecture (NIFEA)" from 2015 to 2019. This was followed by the development of a new curriculum, "Theological Education for the Economy of Life" (TEEL).

The TEEL curriculum proposes three units of study:

- 1) Discerning the Signs of the Times and Analyzing the Current System;
- 2) Exploring and Engaging Alternatives to the Economy of Death;
- 3) Rising to Life: Living out the New Heaven and New Earth.

It is implemented through a participatory learning process, aiming to produce critical thinkers and activists.

Contact Us

For more information, contact programme coordinator:

Professor Kenneth R. Ross PhD,
kross@zombatheological.org

For application forms, contact the University Registrar: Rev Brian Theu,
registrar@zombatheological.org

ZTU runs a competitive admissions process. Successful applicants are offered a CWM scholarship to help meet the costs entailed in their studies. Application forms are available on request.



ZOMBA THEOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

Master of Theology in Contextual Theology (Faith and Political Renewal)

About Zomba Theological University

The origins of the University trace back to the Presbyterian Missions, which played a key role in the early development of the theological education in Malawi. During the 1960s, theological education concentrated at Nkhoma, later relocating to Zomba in 1977 to foster academic collaboration with kindred institutions. This granted students and faculty easy access to the National Archives of Malawi, the Malawi Collection at the University of Malawi Library and the theological library at St Peter's Major Seminary.

Accreditation

Owned by the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian, the University maintains a particular focus on Reformed theological focus. At the same time, it is an ecumenical school with students coming from a wide variety of Christian traditions. In its research work, it works collaboratively with the Theological Society of Malawi and the Association of Theological Institutions in Southern and Central Africa, as well as with longstanding international partners.

The university is accredited by the National Council for Higher Education, which ensures that its degrees and certificates are well recognised in Malawi and beyond.

Programme Requirements

- Attend a series of online seminars which introduce students to the guiding ideas of the Theology of Life.
- Identify a research topic which they will work on the preparation of a Research Proposal, in consultation with their supervisor.
- Present their Research Proposal for the approval of the Postgraduate Studies Committee.

Award of the degree depends on successful examination of the dissertation.



This MTh is a research degree and is conducted on a fully online basis, with no residential requirements. Students are expected to carry out their own independent research and present the results in the form of a dissertation of approximately 40,000 words. In order to achieve this goal, students form a close working relationship with their supervisor(s).

What the Programme Offers



The program delves into the role of politics as a primary force shaping a nation's socio-economic landscape. It seeks to provide alternative forms of theological reflection, focusing on global systems that perpetuate political, economic, and ecological injustices. Additionally, it aims to foster a faith-inspired renewal of political life at the global, national, and local levels. Special attention is given to the African context, with a particular focus on Malawi. Through this program, students acquire skills to organize movements and challenge dominant and destructive forces.