

MTH WITH A FOCUS ON GENDER AND HEALTH

The Faculty of Theology, Stellenbosch University, in cooperation with the Church of Sweden is offering a unique opportunity for interested students to complete a Masters in Theology with a focus on gender and health. The masters can be registered in any existing theological disciplines (Old Testament, New Testament, Ecclesiology, Systematic Theology, Missiology & Practical Theology). Students will thus complete a Masters in their chosen discipline by pursuing research within the intersection gender, health and Theology. Themes include physical and mental health, HIV and AIDS, sexuality and sexual orientation, reproductive health, gender-based violence and sustainable livelihood. Ten selected students will be eligible for scholarships in this special focus Master's program for the study period January 2017 to March 2018. A four year theological degree or a Post-Graduate diploma in Theology serves as a prerequisite for application.

This special focus Masters will consist of a core module (gender, health and theology), two additional modules (in the chosen main discipline) and a 120 page thesis. The program will require students to attend a three week course at the beginning of 2017 (core module and research methodology workshop) at the Faculty of Theology, followed by two workshops in the first semester designed to assist students in the research proposal development process. Attendance of the Core Module and workshops are compulsory for all students in the program. Thereafter students will be required to be in a position to have regular access to research resources and contact sessions with lecturers and promoters. Oral exams must be completed by July 2017, and the thesis submitted by 31 November 2017 in order to graduate in March 2018.

Ten scholarships of R75 000 per student are available. Five scholarships are reserved for students enrolling for a gender and health-focused Masters in the disciplines of Old Testament and New Testament. The bursary will be paid out to the successful candidates in four instalments and is subject to satisfactory progress made by the student in the course of the program. The program consists of a series of strict deadlines and implies dedicated commitment due to the high pace.

The program has a dual application system:

- 1. All prospective candidates have to complete the official application in accordance with the procedure and requirements for MTh applications at Stellenbosch University. First time students to Stellenbosch University can apply online at <u>www.sun.ac.za</u>. A full academic transcript will be required of all prospective applicants. Students who are currently enrolled at Stellenbosch University can request the relevant application form for further study from the Faculty Secretary Mr. Shirle Cornelissen at <u>shirle@sun.ac.za</u>.
- 2. Besides the application through official University channels a detailed bursary application should be submitted to Dr. Charlene van der Walt at <u>charlenevanderwalt@sun.ac.za</u> by 1 September 2016. Bursary applications consist of a full CV, academic records/transcript, a letter of motivation (stating research motivation and aims) and a completed additional information form. Please submit all relevant documents in a single PDF document format via e-mail. For further enquiries please contact Dr. Van der Walt via e-mail or at 083 693 8686.

All applicants will be notified as to the success of their bursary application by the end of October 2016. Unsuccessful scholarship candidates, who qualified for acceptance into the Master's program in the selected discipline, will then have a choice to either pursue a discipline specific Masters without the Gender and Heath focus or to retract their application.