

REPORT FROM THE INSTITUTE OF CATECHETICS AND PASTORAL MINISTRY IN CHEMCHEMI
NAIROBI - 2012

INTRODUCTION

The catechetical course was started in 1986 and it was aimed at forming agents of evangelization in order to answer to the call to the Catholic Church. Since then, we have formed more than 200 catechists. (For further details refer to the table in our academic Book on Pg. 1). Our catechetical centre was affiliated to the Catholic University of Eastern Africa (CUEA) in 2001. CUEA has been very instrumental in the improvement of our academic standards.

1. COURSE DURATION

The duration of study is two years for students intending to obtain a Diploma and one year for Certificate. Those who come from other catechetical centres (Upgraders), are expected to do the course for one year. The students from the three groups are expected to do teaching practice for six weeks.

2. CREDIT SYSTEM

The Institute uses the credit system. A credit is defined as one contact hour per week. A unit may be taught either in one, two or three credits (hours per week). There are core units and elective units offered. Core Units are those which must be taken by every student to qualify for the Award of Diploma. Elective Units are those chosen by students to cater for their different needs and interests. Each student takes a maximum of 7 units per semester; that is, six Core Units and one Elective Unit. All registered units for are examinable and the student is expected to pass.

The Institute does not accept transfer of credits from other institutes. The teaching mentioned above is a prerequisite together with a project paper, whereby both of them carries two credits.

The total number of credits to be done in two academic years must be a minimum of eighty four (84) for regular students and fifty (50) for those who upgrade.

3. QUALITY EDUCATION ASSURANCE

A) We have an Academic Board which does the following:

- (i) moderation of semester exam questions and results.
- (ii) revision of the Program of Study

- (iii) academic evaluations and performances
- (iv) upgrading of program for quality service
- (v) students welfare - ensuring that they get the best
- (vi) giving seminars /workshops to the lecturers.

B) Our Library which used to operate with the old system of Dewey Decimal Classification Scheme (DDCS) has been updated to the Automated Library of Congress Classification Scheme System (LCCS), which is recommended by the University Library Act. It is updated every year and we have qualified librarians who foresee the update of books and relevant articles.

C) Teachers are evaluated twice in a semester, so that subjects are taught not only well, but also ensure that the syllabus is well covered.

4. THE MULTICULTUARAL ASPECT

We admit students from all over the world. The following countries have been represented in our institute, Italia, Madagascar, Zambia, Uganda, Tanzania, South Africa Zimbabwe, Malawi, Sudan, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Burudi, India, just to mention a few, which bring a lot of richness in our centre. Meeting people from different cultures and backgrounds has given us the opportunity to learn to embrace others in their richness and differences. Students who leave the institute have expressed their gratitude and have been our ambassadors to the outer world.

5. FUTURE PLANS AND CHANGES

We intend to offer a B.A. program in Catechetics and Pastoral Ministry. Preparations are underway and we hope that, this will have materialized by 2014.

CONCLUSION

As a catechetical institute, we have the mandate of ensuring that the teachings offered are in line with the teachings the Catholic Church. We intend to carry out this noble task with dedication and hard work, so that God can be glorified through the sound teaching of the Catholic Church doctrines. We try as much as we can to create a friendly atmosphere of learning so that students may obtain the best knowledge as far as the catechetical field is concerned.

Compiled By:

CHRISTINE MASYA
ICAPAMI DIRECTOR