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UNIVERSITY OF MYSORE

Manasagangotri, Mysuru-570 006

DEPARTMENT OF STUDIES IN  
CHRISTIANITY



## HISTORY OF DEPARTMENT

The Department of Post Graduate Studies and Research in Christianity was instituted in the University of Mysore in the year 1980. This Post Graduate-level programme has always striven to promote higher studies and research in the Christian thought in a pluralistic, multi-religious and secular context which form the contemporary Indian reality. The principle thrust of this Department is to promote national progress and integration, social and religious harmony, and the enrichment of individual minds. It seeks to bring in an understanding of world religions and cultures through deep research into the Christian values.

The renowned and prestigious University of Mysore took a unique decision to institute the Chair in Christianity, and subsequently a full-fledged independent Post Graduate Department of Studies in Christianity came into being. The Senate, in its meeting on the 23rd September 1978, accepted the proposal of the then Bishop of Mysore, Bishop Mathias Fernandez to institute a Chair in Christianity in the University of Mysore and approve the statutes framed for this purpose. These received the assent of the Hon'ble Chancellor on the 4th January 1979. The overall aim of the Chair is to promote research, teaching, learning and publication of Christianity as an academic discipline.

With all the good work done under the auspices of the Chair in Christianity since its official inauguration in the Crawford Hall on the 2nd July 1979, it has been possible to pave the way for the establishment of an independent, post-graduate Department of Christianity in the University of Mysore today. The Senate of the University took a formal decision on the 4th November 1980 to establish this new Department. It received the formal assent of the Chancellor on 23rd December 1981. From then on, the Department has been conducting full-fledged M.A., M. Phil and Ph.D. courses in Christianity with scientific and comparative religions approaches as major thrust.

## VISION

The Department of Studies in Christianity invites creative and sensitive contributions from its students for their journeys ahead in life. As the experiences of these individuals unfold, they are led toward better self-articulation with an awareness of how globalization, eroding of values and the onslaught of information, has had negative effects on humanity. Learning to create a synergy of thinking and action through faith in their rights, celebrating diversity, and building collective insights of students is the aim of the department. The secular nature of the curriculum helps develop a networking of student community and teaching fraternity of Inter-disciplinary nature. The Department in collaboration with the Chair in Christianity will launch many self-enhancing and meaningful programs for the coming years.

## COURSES OFFERED

**M.A in Christianity** (2 years , 4 Semester- Choice Based Credit System)

**Eligibility** : Degree with Christianity as a major/optional subject or Degree in Christianity or Theology of any other University recognized by the University of Mysore, or any Bachelors Degree of this University or other Universities recognized as equivalent with a minimum of 45% (40%in case of SC/ST/Cat-1)

## FACULTY PROFILE



**Dr. Valindin Rajendra Kumar**  
Assistant Professor

**John Sagaya Pusparaj**  
Guest Faculty

**Dr.Kantharaju M**  
Guest Faculty

### I Semester

Sl. No.	Title of the Paper	Hard Core / Soft-Core / Open Elective	No. of Credits
1	Study of the Old Testament (Pentateuch)	Hard Core	4
2	Gospels of Mathew and Mark	Hard Core	4
3	Comparative study of Religions	Hard Core	4
	<b>Any two Soft Core</b>		
4	Essentials of Indian Christian Theology	Soft Core	4
5	Communication, Spirituality and Theology	Soft Core	4
6	Christian Mysticism in Indian Context	Soft Core	4

### II Semester

Sl.No	Title of the Paper	Hard Core / Soft-Core / Open Elective	No. of Credits
1	Prophetic and Poetical Writings of Old Testament	Hard Core	4
2	Gospels of Luke and John	Hard Core	4
3	Minor Project / Dissertation	Hard Core	4
	<b>Any one Soft Core</b>		
4	Church in the Modern World	Soft Core	4
5	Samskaras and God Experience	Soft Core	4
6	Globalization & Ecosophy	Open Elective	4

### III Semester

Sl.No	Title of the Paper	Hard Core / Soft-Core / Open Elective	No. of Credits
1	Theology of Liberation	Hard Core	4
2	Pauline Theology and Spirituality	Hard Core	4
	<b>Any two Soft Core</b>		
3	Research Methodology	Soft Core	3
4	Communication, Media and Values	Soft Core	3
5	Culture and Christianity	Soft Core	3
6	Study of the Major World Religions	Open Elective	3

### IV Semester

Sl.No	Title of the Paper	Hard Core / Soft-Core / Open Elective	No. of Credits
1	Christianity and Inter-Religious Dialogue in India	Hard Core	4
2	Social Concerns of Christianity	Hard Core	4
3	Major Project	Hard Core	6
	<b>Any Soft Core</b>		
4	Indian Christian Theology	Soft Core	4
5	Enculturation in India	Soft Core	4
6	Feminism and Social Leadership	Open Elective	4

## UNIQUENESS OF THE DEPARTMENT

\* The students are made to engage in a scientific and comparative study of religions with a scriptural approach and provided an awareness in the social, economic and political perspectives of Indian reality.

\* The Department promotes advanced studies and research in Christianity, Christian and Indian spirituality indepth in a secular, multi-religious and interdisciplinary context.

\* The students are enabled to actively contribute to the higher education by inculcating an animated and motivated manner of approaching the issues of liberation and social transformation. The department aims to promote national integration and social harmony by engaging in a dialogue with other cultures, ideologies and religions.

\* The teaching pedagogy adopted to achieve the above goals focuses on intensive training, class room lectures, tutorials, practicals, seminars, group discussions, PPTs, debates, visits to different religious places of worship, satsanghs, inter-religious meetings and inter-faith dialogue.

## ENDOWMENT

Acharya Guru Swami Amalorananda endowment gold medal.

## LIBRARY

Besides the main library of the University, which is one of the biggest in the country with internet facility, there is also the Departmental Library with more than 1315 books.

## GOOD PRACTICES OF THE DEPARTMENT

\* Ashram experience at Anjali Ashram.

\* Christmas get-together: prayer and celebration.

\* Picnics to various places of interest for better team building.

\* Informal get together of Alumni once in five years

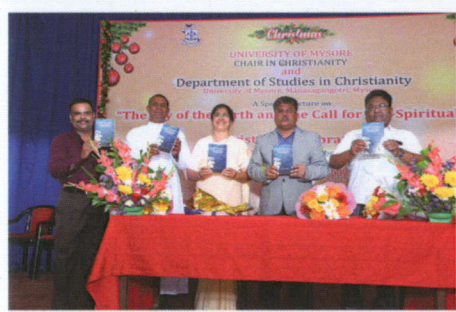
\* Celebration of the World Peace Day every year in collaboration with the Diocese of Mysore.

\* Encouragement for group visits to different religious places of worship and facilitating inter-religious and interdisciplinary studies.

\* Celebration of common feasts along with compassionate activities.

\* Organizes workshops/Seminars/ symposia on comparative religious perspectives, peace and communal harmony, globalization, feminism and Christian perspective on communication. Encourage faculty and students to present papers in the national and international seminars.

Annual informal get-together of all past and present students and faculty members and students of Open Elective departments for an evaluation of the performance of the department and also explore new avenues and ventures of outreach and services.



BOOK LAUNCH



DELEGATES OF THE CONFERENCE



FELICITATION TO ONE OF THE DELEGATES

## CONTACT:

The Chairperson

Department of Studies in Christianity

University of Mysore, Manasagangotri, Mysore – 570 006

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