

THE INSTITUTE OF ECUMENICAL STUDIES
at the
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

WELCOMES YOU TO
The World's First

DISTANCE LEARNING
MASTER'S PROGRAM



in
ECUMENICAL STUDIES

2008 - 2009

www.iesdistance.org.ua
OFFERED IN ENGLISH

Institute of Ecumenical Studies at the Ukrainian Catholic University





Dear Prospective Student,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Ukrainian Catholic University through the distance learning opportunity created by the Institute of Ecumenical Studies.

The DLPES today is a cooperation between the committed and creative staff of the Institute of Ecumenical Studies; an accomplished multi-confessional and international faculty; and the dynamic spirit of the Ukrainian Catholic University. I have no doubt that being part of this exciting cooperation will be an academically productive and spiritually enlightening experience for students and other participants in the world and in the church.

I give wholeheartedly my blessing to the Distance Learning Program in Ecumenical Studies, its students, faculty, and staff, and look forward to seeing the fruits of this new, borderless, and truly ecumenical education.



**Father Borys Gudziak, Ph.D.
Rector, Ukrainian Catholic
University**



Dear Prospective Student,

I am very proud to present to you our new, first-ever distance learning Master's program in Ecumenical Studies. This program is the fruit of several years' reflection and preparation, and I believe that today we are ready to offer you a truly uncommon and worthwhile experience in distance learning.

The inspiration to create a distance learning program in ecumenism comes, in a sense, from the nature of the field itself. Ecumenism and the ecumenical movement are driven by a desire to gather the dispersed people of God. Distance learning gives us indeed the opportunity to gather from around the world those who are deeply concerned by the disunity of the Body of Christ, creating an on-line community that, in being educated together, engages critical questions and seeks possibilities for healing.

The inspiration comes also from the unique nature of the Institute of Ecumenical Studies. We are located in the city of Lviv, in Western Ukraine - an ancient meeting place of East and West, of Roman Catholic, Greek Catholic, Orthodox, and Protestant traditions. Over the last three years, our Institute has organized ecumenical conferences and retreats all over Europe, with the participation of clergy and laymen from many branches of Christianity. Today, I am eager to share with you the resources that we have both discovered and created so far in our quest to increase dialogue among the churches of God, and to welcome your own contribution.

Our goal in creating this program is to build an inter-national, inter-confessional, and academical as well as practical approach to ecumenical learning. Our goal is neither to promote confessionalism, nor to reduce the differences among



Christians, and between Christians and non-Christians, to matters either of prejudice or of mere 'culture.' Various Christian approaches, or denominations, will receive faithful and unembarrassed, yet ecumenical, representation from their adherents among our faculty ? and our students ? in the hope of generating genuine, genuinely educational dialogue.

I have no doubt that you will enjoy and benefit from the many excellent qualities of our Master's program - our carefully selected reading materials, our accomplished and ecumenically committed teachers, the flexibility of the program, and the ability to participate, though at a distance, in the ecumenical community which we already are and which we are continuing to create.

We look forward to learning and teaching with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Antoine Arjakovsky', written over a horizontal line.

Antoine Arjakovsky
Director, Institute of
Ecumenical Studies





WHAT'S THIS PROGRAM?

The Distance Learning Program in Ecumenical Studies (DLPES), a Master's program of the Ukrainian Catholic University, offers students a solid ecumenical formation through comprehensive courses in reading and writing, guided by notable figures in the world of ecumenism. It is ideal for the independent, motivated student who wants an opportunity to read, think, and write about ecumenism; to learn from and share his writing with faculty involved in the practice of ecumenism; and to take part in discussions with peers through on-line facilities.

In the first two semesters of study, Master's students take five courses a semester on theology in the main current Christian traditions and on basic ecumenical issues and approaches. Students choose five elective courses according to their interests in the third semester, and devote the fourth semester to completing their Master's thesis under supervision from a member of the DLPES faculty. In addition to the coursework, students of the program report on visits to churches of confessions other than their own.

WHAT WILL I STUDY, AND WHO WILL TEACH ME?

First Semester

Survey of the Eastern Christian Tradition

Dr. Tamara Grzelidze, World Council of Churches (Switzerland)

Survey of Catholic Ecclesiology

Dr. Peter De Mey, Catholic University at Leuven (Switzerland)

Survey of the Protestant Tradition

TBA

Survey of Contemporary Contextual Theology

Dr. Jacques Haers, SJ, Catholic University at Leuven
(Switzerland)

Ecumenical Theology

Reverend Dagmar Heller, Ph.D., Ecumenical Institute at Bossey
(Switzerland)



Second Semester

Christian History - an Ecumenical Perspective

Dr. Antoine Arjakovsky, Institute of Ecumenical Studies (Ukraine)

Introduction to Ecumenical Christian Ethics

Reverend Konrad Raiser, Ph.D., retired (Germany)

Orthodox and Catholic Opposition to Ecumenism

Father Michael Plekon, Ph.D., Baruch College (New York, USA)

Ecumenical Ecclesiology

Father Emmanuel Clapsis, Ph.D., Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Seminary (Massachusetts, USA)

History of the Ecumenical Movement

Dr. Erich Geldbach (Germany)

*Third Semester - Electives**

Liturgy and Sacraments

Father Thaddee Barnas, Chevetogne Monastery (Belgium)

Bilateral and Multilateral Dialogues

Father Thomas Baima, Ph.D., Mundelein Seminary (Illinois, USA)

Reverend Heleen Zorgdrager, Ph.D., Kerkinactie (Netherlands)

The Orthodox Church in the Ecumenical Movement

Father Sergey Hovorun, Ph.D., Kyiv Spiritual Academy (Ukraine)

Chalcedonians and Non-Chalcedonians in Dialogue

Father Heikki Huttunen, Ecumenical Council of Finland, World Council of Churches (Finland)

Eastern Catholic Churches in Ecumenism

Father Iwan Dacko, Ph.D., Institute of Ecumenical Studies (Ukraine)

Ecumenical Hagiology

Deacon Didier Rance (France)

Ecumenical Perspectives on Bioethics

Drs. Grigoriy Dovgiallo and Svetlana Karasyova, Minsk Spiritual Academy (Belarus)

**Please note that third semester courses will be offered for the first time in Fall 2009*



WHAT'S A COURSE, ANYWAY?

Every distance learning student wants to be able to work at his or her own pace, yet benefits from the motivation provided by a clear structure and deadlines. DLPES courses strike a balance between flexibility and structure.

Each DLPES course consists of a bibliography, introduced by the course professor and divided into seven two-week sections, each of which is also introduced thematically by the professor. At the end of each section, students communicate with their peers and their professor by posting a question to the course forum, submitting a short response paper to the course professor, and receiving the professor's comments. At the end of the semester, students complete final papers for all courses. Each course includes 14 consecutive weeks of coursework and 4 weeks of independent work on the final paper.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?

The Master's program is designed to be completed in two years. However, students wishing to study on a part-time basis may take up to six years to finish their degree.

WHAT IF I JUST WANT TO TAKE ONE COURSE?

Students can register for individual classes of the program, without seeking the Master's degree.

HOW WILL THIS PROGRAM BE USEFUL FOR MY FUTURE?

This program is intended primarily as an introductory or supplementary education for individuals working in other academic and non-academic disciplines, particularly in ministry. It can be particularly important for those interested in working in an ecumenical field, or continuing on to a Ph.D. program in that field.

However, **we do not seek to educate professionals only.**



DLPES, or individual classes within the program, is strongly recommended for **all those have an interest in matters of Christian unity**. The flexible, distance-learning format of this program enables anyone, regardless of primary occupation, to learn and participate in our ecumenical community.

HOW MUCH CONTACT WILL I HAVE WITH THE STAFF, FACULTY, AND OTHER STUDENTS?

To ensure a measure of direct contact within the program, DLPES will arrange semesterly telephone conferences between students and faculty, as well as video contact during the period of a student's defense of his or her Master's thesis.

The administration will also make a focused effort to facilitate physical encounters, to the extent possible, between students and faculty, and to welcome students who wish to visit Lviv. Students will have access to a web forum and a blog, to which staff, students, and faculty will be able to contribute. The DLPES website, in addition to course materials, includes links to items of interest to the ecumenical community.

Students, faculty, and staff are appraised on a regular bases of developments and news at the Institute of Ecumenical Studies and in the professional lives of DLPES faculty.

WHAT ELSE DO I NEED TO KNOW?

The credit assignments and the grading system of DLPES are compatible with the European Credit Transfer System.

Each course in the DLPES carries 6 credits.

WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE, AND HOW DO I APPLY?

Please visit our website for more information and for the application form! We look forward to seeing you at...

www.iesdistance.org.ua