Master of Arts – Intercultural Studies
Stanley John, Ph.D., Director

Intercultural Studies leading to a 54-credit Master of Arts degree. Students participate in immersion experiences in New York City, peer mentoring groups, a cross-cultural ministry, and leadership development retreats. In addition to course study, students must demonstrate a competent grasp of the field through a summative experience. Students should consult the Alliance Theological Seminary Intercultural Studies M.A Handbook for important procedures and guidelines.

Purpose
The purpose of the Intercultural Studies M.A. degree program is to prepare students for leadership in cross-cultural Christian service and ministries related to the global expansion of the church in urban, international and intercultural contexts.

Goals
- The student will understand and be able to identify the missional themes in the Bible and trace their theological importance to the task of world evangelization.
- The student will understand, experience and gain skill through the practice of cross-cultural communication.
- The student will understand the social, cultural and theological factors involved in ministry to people from the major world religions (including animism).
- The student will gain an appreciation for people from other ethnic and cultural backgrounds and for the unique way God incarnates His message among the diverse people groups of our world.
- The student will understand the history of the expansion of the Christian church and the important factors that enabled this expansion.
- The student will understand the dynamics of some aspects of mission strategy such as spiritual warfare, urban ministry, evangelistic methods and partnering in missions.
- The student will know how to evaluate and continue in his or her own path of spiritual transformation (Rom. 8:1-2) and be able to elicit spiritual transformation in the lives of others.

Program Assessment Plan:
The following assessments are used to assess program effectiveness.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Context</th>
<th>Location in Program</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Immersion Group Written Report &amp; Oral Presentation</td>
<td>IC 602 Cultural Immersion &amp; Social Analysis</td>
<td>First Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Research Paper</td>
<td>IC 603 Doing Theology in Context</td>
<td>2nd Year</td>
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<td>3. Spiritual Growth Covenant</td>
<td>SF 703 Spiritual Formation Capstone</td>
<td>2nd Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Comprehensive Examination or Second Continent Experience: Summative Project &amp; Exit Interview</td>
<td>IC 799 Comprehensive Examination or Second Continent Experience</td>
<td>Final semester</td>
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Degree Requirements
1. Satisfactory completion of 54 credit hours for the designated program
2. A final grade point average of 2.5 is required.
3. Transfer students must take the last 30 credits at ATS.
4. Successful completion of the comprehensive examination or an approved Second Continent Writing Project. Students should obtain questions and study guides for Comprehensive Exams from their advisor no later than the semester preceding the intended semester of graduation. Due dates for the first draft are October 31 and April 1.
5. Complete payment of all financial obligations with ATS.
6. All credits applied must have been earned within 10 years of awarding the degree.
Intercultural Studies

**First Year**
- CS 501  People as Social & Cultural Beings ........................................... 3
- IC 604  Christian Encounter with World Religions ........................................... 3
- OT 503  Reading the Old Testament** ......................................................... 3
- SF 503  Initiation in Spiritual Formation ...................................................... 3
- SF 505  Pers/Prof/Theol Foundations for Ministry ........................................... 3
- IC 602  Cultural Immersion & Social Analysis ............................................... 3
- IC 720  Theology of Power Encounter .......................................................... 3
- NT 503  Reading the New Testament** .......................................................... 3
- Mission / Urban / Religion Elective ............................................................... 3

**Second Year**
- CD 601  Proclamation & Communication ..................................................... 3
- IC 601  Global Expansion of the Church ....................................................... 3
- TH 501  Biblical Theology .................................................................................. 3
- TH 502  Theology in the Global Context .......................................................... 3
- IC 603  Doing Theology in Context ................................................................. 3
- SF 703  Spiritual Formation Capstone *(Pre-Req SF503)* .................................. 3
- IC 606  Field Project in Christian Witness ...................................................... 3
- IC 799  2nd Continent Experience or Comprehensive Exam ........................... 3
- Mission / Urban / Religion Elective ............................................................... 3

**Substitutions may be permitted for those with documented coursework in the respective subject at the undergraduate level. With advanced approval for each, OT504 may be substituted for OT503; NT504 may be substituted for NT503.**

Intercultural Studies with TESOL Concentration

**First Year**
- CS 501  People as Social & Cultural Beings ............................................. 3
- IC 604  Christian Encounter with World Religions ........................................ 3
- OT 503  Reading the Old Testament** .......................................................... 3
- SF 503  Initiation in Spiritual Formation ....................................................... 3
- SF 505  Pers/Prof/Theol Foundations for Ministry ......................................... 3
- IC 602  Cultural Immersion & Social Analysis ............................................. 3
- IC 720  Theology of Power Encounter .......................................................... 3
- NT 503  Reading the New Testament** .......................................................... 3
- EDG 670  TESOL Methods & Materials ......................................................... 3

**Second Year**
- LIN 653  Grammar & Phonology ................................................................. 3
- EDG 671  TESOL Methods & Language Arts ............................................... 3
- TH 501  Biblical Theology ............................................................................. 3
- TH 502  Theology in the Global Context ........................................................ 3
- IC 603  Doing Theology in Context ............................................................. 3
- SF 703  Spiritual Formation Capstone *(Pre-Req SF503)* ............................. 3
- IC 606  Field Project in Christian Witness .................................................. 3
- IC 799  Capstone Project *(incl TESOL Pract; see EDG 620)* ..................... 3
- LIN 654  Second Language Acquisition ...................................................... 3

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