

Full Names of the Department

Department of Religion and Cultural Studies

Driving Philosophy

Religion and Cultural Studies is a field of study integrating Judeo-Christianity & African Traditional Religion. In keeping with the philosophy of the University of Nigeria, the programme emphasizes the application of religious truth to the cultural environment of Africa. Students are exposed to the basic theological positions of Islam and other world religions with emphasis on Christianity and this enables man to understand his environment and hence able to master his destiny.

The general objectives of the programme are to provide students with adequate knowledge, attitudes, values and skills generic to religion and cultural studies. Specifically the programme is drawn to provide students with basic methods of:

1. Interpreting the Bible and Christian tradition from an African perspective;
2. Explaining ethical relationship in a multi-religious society like Nigeria;
3. Delineating impartial approach towards the handling of religious concepts;
4. Resolving conflict from religious and Afro-cultural standpoints;
5. Handling problems and challenges of religious belief in a science-oriented environment;
6. Explaining the resilience and challenges of African Traditional Religious and Cultural belief in a Christian-dominated environment.

Brief History of the Department

Originally called the Crowther College of Theology, the Department came into existence with the University in 1960, and, in keeping with the philosophy of the University, remains attached to the Faculty of the Social Sciences. This is in itself a notable distinction and the Department has emphasized the application of religious truth to the environment and its place in Nigerian society.

Its philosophy is one with that of the University: to restore the dignity of man. It is concerned with religious aspect of man in society, especially the black man in third world. Religion is studied in its three areas of expression in Nigeria: Judeo-Christian, African and Islamic.

It started with offering a B.A degree with emphasis in any two of the three stress areas. After the civil war it continued offering an initial degree (B.A) and later undergraduate diploma in Religious Studies and Postgraduate degree at Masters and Doctorate levels with emphasis on Christian Religious Studies. It became one of the service units in offering courses for regular and sandwich B.Ed. degree programmes in Education/ Religion. However, in 2005, the Diploma Programme was scrapped off the undertakings of the Department.

The Department has developed considerably over the years in terms of variety and levels of courses and programmes being offered. Some theological institutions are affiliated to the department namely, Trinity College, Umuahia, St. Paul's College Awka; Wesley International Theological Seminary Lagos, and Spiritan Theological Seminary, Attakwu. The quality of teaching staff recruited has also considerably improved to meet the growth of the department, but

the number of teaching staff needs improvement. The Department also offers Combined Honours degree in the following combinations; Religion and Cultural Studies/ Archaeology and Tourism, Religion and Cultural Studies/ English & Literary Studies, Religion and Cultural Studies/ History & International Relations, Religion and Cultural Studies/ Public Administration & Local Government, Religion and Cultural Studies/ Social Work, Religion and Cultural Studies/ Sociology & Anthropology.

Heads of the Department:

1970-1973: Rev. Can E.C.O. Ileogu
 1974-1978: Monsignor S.E. Ezeanya
 1980-1984: Rev. Dr. M.E. Glasswell
 1984-1986: Prof. O.U. Kalu
 1986-1989: Rev. Fr. Dr. J. Ojiako
 1989-1991: Rev. Can, Dr. G.E. Okeke
 1991-1994: Rev. Fr. Dr. E.I.Ifesieh
 1994-1998: Rev. Dr. E.N. Onwu
 1998-2000: Dr. S.O. Onyeidu
 2000-2003: Rev. Fr. Dr. A.N. Ekwunife
 2003-2005: Dr. M.I. Okwueze
 2005-2007: Rev. Dr. A.U. Agha
 2007-2009: Dr. C.O.T. Ugwu
 2009-2011: Rev. Fr. H.C. Achunike
 2011-2013: Rev. Dr. E.A Ituma
 2013-2016: Rev. Fr. Prof. H.C.Achunike
 2016- Prof. C.O.T. Ugwu

Approved Postgraduate Programmes

- MA and Ph.D Old Testament Studies
- MA and Ph.D New Testament Studies
- MA and Ph.D Religion and Society
- MA and Ph.D African Traditional Religion
- MA and Ph.D Church History

Academic Staff

S/N	NAME/RANK	DEGREE AND AWARDING BODY
1	Rev Prof. Emmanuel Nlenanya Chinwokwu Professor	Dip. Th. (London) B.A. (Nigeria), M.Th. (Princeton), Ph.D (Nigeria)
2	Rev Prof. . Agha U. Agha Professor	D. Th. (Nigeria), B.A., Th.M., M.Ph. (New Jersey), Th.D, (Indiana), Ph.D (Madison) Professor
3	Prof. Malachy Ikechukwu Okwueze Professor	B.A, M.A., Ph.D (Nigeria) Professor

4	Prof. Christopher OkekeTagbo Ugwu Professor	B.A., M.A.,Ph.D.(Nigeria) Head/Professor
5	Rev. Fr Prof. . Hilary C. Achunike Professor (Dean)	B.Phil., B.D. (Rome), M.A., Ph.D. (Nigeria) Professor (Dean)
6	Assoc. Prof. Sanuel O. Onyeidu Reader (Contract)	B.A. (Nigeria), M.Th., M.Litt., Ph.D (Aberdeen) Reader (Contract)
7	Rev. Dr. Ezichi Anya Ituma Senior Lecturer	Senior Lecturer B.A., M.A., Ph.D., DSCA (Nigeria)
8	Venerable Dr. Benjamine C. D. Diara / Senior Lecturer	D. Th., B.A., M.A., Ph.D. (Nigeria) Senior Lecturer
9	Rev. Sr. Dr. Mary Jerome Obiorah Senior Lecturer	B.A. (Italy), LSB (Rome, Italy), Ph.D. (Italy)

10	Dr (Mrs) Anuli Blessing Okoli Lecturer I	B.Ed, M.A., Ph.D. (Nigeria) Lecturer I
11	Dr. (Mrs.) Uzonna Florence Echeta Lecturer I	B.A., M.A., Ph.D, (Nigeria) Lecturer I
12	Rev Dr. . David Chinomnso Ononogbu Lecturer I	B.A., M.A., Ph.D. (Nigeria) Lecturer I
13	Rev. Canon Dr. Collins Ikenna Ugwu Lecturer I	D.Th., B.A., M.A., Ph.D. (Nigeria) Lecturer I
14	Rev Dr. . Omaka Kalu Ngele Lecturer I	B.A., M.A., Ph.D (Nigeria) Lecturer I
15	Dr. (Mrs.) Nkechinyere Gloria Onah Lecturer I	B.A., M.A., Ph.D. (Nigeria) Lecturer I
16	Dr. Fabian U. Nnadi Lecturer I	B.A., M.A. Ph.D (Nigeria) Lecturer I
17	Rev. Canon Stanley Ndubuisi Nweze Lecturer I	B.A., M.A. Ph.D (Nigeria) Lecturer I
18	Rev. Fr. Dr. Emeka Chikezie Ngwoke	BA, B.Th , M.Th , STL Ph.D (U.S)

	Lecturer II	Lecturer II
19	Rev. Fr. Dr. Lawrence Nwachukwu Okwuosa/ Lecturer II	BA , BA , MA , Ph.D (Italy) Lecturer II
20	Rev. Christopher Okwonkwo Okwor Lecturer II	B.A. M.A (Nigeria)

21	Rev Canon. Ekenedirichukwu Eze Lecturer II	B.A. M.A (Nigeria)
22	Onyekachi Gift Chukwuma Lecturer II	B.A. M.A (Nigeria)
23	Precious Chidinma Ukeachusim Lecturer II	B.A. M.A (Nigeria)
24	Nche, George Christian /Lecturer II	B.A. M.A (Nigeria)
25	Kingsley Ikechukwu Uwaegbute Assistant Lecturer	B.A. M.A (Nigeria)
26	Emmanuel Chukwuemeka Anizoba Assistant Lecturer	B.A. M.A (Nigeria)
27	Onyemaechi Damian Odo Assistant Lecturer	B.A. M.A (Nigeria)
28	Onyinyechukwu Joy Ezeugwu Assistant Lecturer	B.A. M.A (Nigeria)
29	Favour Chukwuemeka Uroko Graduate Assistant	B.A. (Nigeria)
30	Rev. Fr. Dr. Madubuko John C. Lecturer II	BA, MA, Ph.D Germany

Post Graduate Experience

- a. **Number of M.Sc. graduated since inception:** 225; Ph.D = 90
- b. **List of Approved Postgraduate Supervisors**

S/N	NAME/RANK	DEGREE AND AWARDING BODY
1	Rev Prof. Emmanuel Nlenanya Chinwokwu Professor	Dip. Th. (London) B.A. (Nigeria), M.Th. (Princeton), Ph.D (Nigeria)
2	Rev Prof. . Agha U. Agha Professor	D. Th. (Nigeria), B.A., Th.M., M.Ph. (New Jersey), Th.D, (Indiana), Ph.D (Madison) Professor
3	Prof. Malachy Ikechukwu Okwueze Professor	B.A, M.A., Ph.D (Nigeria)

		Professor
4	Prof. Christopher OkekeTagbo Ugwu Professor	B.A., M.A., Ph.D.(Nigeria) Head/Professor
5	Rev. Fr Prof. . Hilary C. Achunike Professor (Dean)	B.Phil., B.D. (Rome), M.A., Ph.D. (Nigeria) Professor (Dean)
6	Assoc. Prof. Sanuel O. Onyeidu Reader (Contract)	B.A. (Nigeria), M.Th., M.Litt., Ph.D (Aberdeen) Reader (Contract)
7	Rev. Dr. Ezichi Anya Ituma Senior Lecturer	Senior Lecturer B.A., M.A., Ph.D., DSCA (Nigeria)
8	Venerable Dr. Benjamine C. D. Diara / Senior Lecturer	D. Th., B.A., M.A., Ph.D. (Nigeria) Senior Lecturer
9	Rev. Sr. Dr. Mary Jerome Obiorah Senior Lecturer	B.A. (Italy), LSB (Rome, Italy), Ph.D. (Italy)

10	Dr (Mrs) Anuli Blessing Okoli Lecturer I	B.Ed, M.A., Ph.D. (Nigeria) Lecturer I
11	Dr. (Mrs.) Uzonna Florence Echeta Lecturer I	B.A., M.A., Ph.D, (Nigeria) Lecturer I
12	Rev Dr. . David Chinomnso Ononogbu Lecturer I	B.A., M.A., Ph.D. (Nigeria) Lecturer I
13	Rev. Canon Dr. Collins Ikenna Ugwu Lecturer I	D.Th., B.A., M.A., Ph.D. (Nigeria) Lecturer I
14	Rev Dr. . Omaka Kalu Ngele Lecturer I	B.A., M.A., Ph.D (Nigeria) Lecturer I
15	Dr. (Mrs.) Nkechinyere Gloria Onah	B.A., M.A., Ph.D. (Nigeria)

	Lecturer I	Lecturer I
16	Dr. Fabian U. Nnadi Lecturer I	B.A., M.A. Ph.D (Nigeria) Lecturer I
17	Rev. Canon Stanley Ndubuisi Nweze Lecturer I	B.A., M.A. Ph.D (Nigeria) Lecturer I

Statement of Competencies/Skills acquirable at the end of Postgraduate Studies in the Department

Graduates of this Department have opportunities to undertake advance studies in disciplines associated with religious and socio-cultural studies. Consultancy and employment opportunities abound in Bible translation agencies locally and internationally for graduates of Religious and Cultural Studies. Graduates of this programme are also trained to work in corporate bodies, companies and institutions as Public Relations Personnel and other related opportunities which require high ethical principles, as well as in conflict resolution related outfits. With a degree in Religious and Cultural Studies, students gain analytical skills and ability to formulate and defend positions. Thus they are ideal candidates for pursuing a carrier in business and administration. Jobs more closely related to religious and cultural studies is Lay Minister/ Pastoral Caregiver, Counsellor, Community Advisor, Management Trainer, Customer Services Representative, Community Project Coordinator, Aid Organisation administrator, Government/ Institution Policy Analyst, Peace Corps Officer, Ministry of Arts and Culture. They can also engage in self-employment as consultants.

Some Pictures of Activities undertaken by the Department



Distinguished Grand Alumni of the Department

Mr. Sunday Onyebuchi
Rev. Prof. C.I. Ejizu
Ven. Prof Udobata Onunwa
Ven. Prof Edmond Ilogu
Prof Andrew Walls
Rev. Prof. E. Chinwokwu
Rev. Prof. Agha U. Agha
Rev. Fr. Prof. Ekwunife
Prof. M.I. Okwueze
Prof. C.O.T Ugwu
Bishop Chikwendu Igwe
Dr. S.O. Onyeidu
Prof. H. Anyanwu
Most Rev. Dr. Ikechi N. Nwosu
Right Rev. Dr. Samuel C. Ezeofor
Right Rev. David F.A. Obiosa
Most Rev. Dr. U.U. Ezuoke
Right Rev. Owen C. Nwokolo
Right Rev. Prpf. Godwin I. Okpala
Right Rev. David O.C. Onuoha
Right Rev. Benson C.B. Onyeibor
Rev. Prof. Paul Emeka
Right Rev. Aloysius Agbo
Rev. S.E. Ngwu
Rev. Fr. Prof Boniface Obiefune