



## New Program! *the Certificate in Christian Ministry*

Ministry can be tough. The skills needed to lead a local congregation or ministry effectively aren't part of most Christian's development. From understanding family dynamics to understanding congregational dynamics, the unique demands of ministry require certain skills to complement biblical knowledge. That is why NationsUniversity® is excited to announce the Certificate in Christian Ministry (CCM).

The CCM helps Christians prepare to teach and lead in local ministry. Whether you are a Bible class teacher, a deacon, an elder, or a minister, the CCM can help you be a better servant in God's Kingdom.

The CCM is a four-course undergraduate program that follows the Certificate in Biblical Studies or Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies. Students in this program will study Christian ethics, family dynamics, foundations of ministry, and leadership. These four areas of study, when combined with the in-depth study of God's Word experienced in the biblical studies certificates, will help current and potential church leaders grow spiritually and practically.

Best of all, all four courses, along with the hours taken as part of the Certificate in Biblical Studies, can be applied to a bachelor's degree in religious studies!

Participants in the CCM program will first complete either the undergraduate Certificate in Biblical Studies, a seven-course program, or the Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies, which is five courses. After gaining knowledge of biblical facts, theology, and interpretation, the students will then move to the CCM.

The courses in the program will ensure the students have a thorough understanding of the essential aspects of ministry. The program ends with a new course entitled, The Pastoral Ministry, which provides hands-on experience in local work and ministry.

The CCM has been developed in cooperation with the Donald Lawrence Trust of Amarillo, Tx. Dr. Ken Hobby, who administers the trust's funds, wanted to extend the



### Highlights of the CCM

- *Prepares Christians to teach*
- *Prepares Christians to lead*
- *Focuses on Christian ethics, family dynamics, foundations of ministry, and leadership*

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training of Christian leaders into third-world and developing countries. When he was introduced to NationsUniversity by Dr. Herman Alexander, NU's Vice-Chancellor, a match made in heaven came to fruition on earth.

With the financial support of the Lawrence Trust, NationsUniversity is able to offer the CCM around the globe to volunteer and paid church leaders who want to serve God more effectively.

If you or someone you know would be interested in pursuing a Certificate in Christian Ministry, email Mary Virginia Mabery, NationsUniversity's Registrar, at [registrar@nationsu.edu](mailto:registrar@nationsu.edu) to find out more. You may also find more information at [nationsu.edu/certificate-in-christian-ministry](http://nationsu.edu/certificate-in-christian-ministry).

## NU Gear: New Products Available Get Your NationsUniversity Gear Today!

Hey NU Students! In the last newsletter, I happily announced that there is now a University bookstore called NU Gear. Our student body has been requesting this for years, and we are now able to deliver.

The Christmas season is almost upon us. I want to let everyone know there are new products in the store. There are more T-shirts, more hats, and gear to keep you warm this winter. These are great gifts to give out to family and friends.

I am so proud of our alumni. They have made most of the purchases since the store opened.

When you purchase T-shirts and other gear, NationsU creates even more value in the market while raising awareness. We ask that you shop in the store and buy a T-shirt today for yourself or someone you know who will wear the shirt.

*Could you help us raise awareness today? Shop NU Gear!*

Blessings,  
Jon Roy Sloan  
Director of Communications



## NUAA

*The next Ambassadors meeting for 2021 is scheduled for November 9th, 10am CST. Please mark your calendars if you are an Ambassador.*

*If you would like to run for an Ambassador position, there will be spots open for election January 28, 2022.*

*Please let us know if you are interested in running in the next NUAA Ambassador election.*

# Three Online Study Tips for Success

## *Practical Tips for Distance Learners*

For one reason or another, you chose to study online with NationsUniversity. Instead of attending in-person classes and navigating complicated schedules, you take courses online when at your convenience. Online studies make balancing family and work commitments easier and an excellent alternative to a traditional classroom setting.

However, online studies present unique challenges. Often, students come to the online classroom with the wrong mindset. They expect online courses and programs to be easier than classroom courses. Education industry studies show that 40-80% of online students drop out of online courses.

The faculty and staff at NationsU recognize this and recommend these tips for successful program completion. They acknowledge that online programs require far more self-discipline and motivation than traditional classroom programs. If you are a new student, you need to heed these tips. If you are an upperclassman, these tips are helpful reminders.

**Tip One:** *Developing strong organizational strategies will help you succeed. The course syllabus is your best guide to your schedule. Establishing a consistent place to study with minimal distractions is always best.*

**Tip Two:** *Creating a schedule is essential. Most folks do not like to set goals because they do not want to define failure. However, you schedule time for church, doctor visits, and other important events. Make studying important and schedule two to three hours to log in and complete assignments. It does not matter if it is daily or weekly. Consistency is the key.*

**Tip Three:** *To avoid discouragement, establish a relationship with your advisor. The advisor is there to help you with questions that pertain to procedures, technical problems, and learning outcomes. When communicating with your advisor, always identify yourself by your given name and your Student ID. When asking about a given course, include the course number and the module, be specific and state the issue clearly. Including this information will hasten the response and eliminate confusion.*

If you want to learn more about good online study habits, visit <https://nationsu.edu/online-study-tips/>.



# NationsUniversity Graduates September 2021

## Certificate In Biblical Studies

Olinda Riley, *El Salvador*  
Dylan Johnson, *Honduras*  
Ernest Lydiah, *Kenya*  
Margaret Chemutai, *Kenya*  
Paul Coker, *Nigeria*  
Kgomotso Modiselle, *South Africa*  
David Kakembo, *Uganda*  
Barlon Cammon, *United States*  
Robert Clay III, *United States*  
Noel González, *United States*  
Joshua Harris, *United States*  
Cary Hartman, *United States*  
Keefe Kapela, *United States*  
Christopher Schmeltzer, *United States*  
Jonathan Stiles, *United States*

## Bachelor of Religious Studies

Isaac Poku, *Ghana*  
Mauricio Vanegas, *Nicaragua*  
Alvino Prithilall, *South Africa*  
Eric Morgan, *United States*

## Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies

Yalew Bekele, *Austria*  
Bigda Rufus, *Cameroon*  
Faith Petrov, *Canada*  
Michael Gou, *Ghana*  
Kevin Omondi, *Kenya*  
Daniel Mbajjorgu, *Nigeria*  
Joseph Quao, *South Africa*  
Ronald David, *Trinidad & Tobago*  
Benjamin Brooks, *United States*  
John Hiibel, *United States*  
Matthew Lowry, *United States*  
Robert McCoin, *United States*  
Catherine Moore, *United States*  
Jonathan Paden, *United States*  
Jason Phillips, *United States*  
Innocent Umunna, *United States*  
Winston Chirwa, *Zambia*



## Master of Theological Studies

Abraham Gebrehiwot, *Australia*  
*B.S., University of Western Australia*  
Chase Plante, *China*  
*B.A., Saint Michael's College*  
Isaac Oppong, *Ghana*  
*B.A., University of Ghana*  
Isaiah Kimani, *Kenya*  
*B.Div., Christian Leaders Institute*  
Pureheart Irikefe, *Nigeria*  
*B.Div., Christian Leaders Institute*  
Sixbert Sangwa, *Rwanda*  
*B.S. University of Rwanda*  
Bruce Corrigan, *United States*  
*B.A.C.Min., M.P.A., Troy State University*  
William Myers, *United States*  
*B.S., University of Louisville*

## Master of Divinity

Lukas Woldeyesus, *Ethiopia*  
*B.S., Addis Ababa University, M.R.S. NationsUniversity*

## NU Kenya Trip — 2021

### Promoting NationsUniversity



NationsU Volunteers visit a rural church in Kisumu County and speak to a gathering of local church leaders from various churches in the area.

NationsUniversity has a large footprint in Kenya. More students have graduated with certificates or degrees from Kenya than any other country except the United States. It has always been the desire for NationsU staff to go to foreign countries to present lectures in person. And more importantly, to meet our student body.

The China Corona Virus kept NU faculty and staff from traveling in 2020. The last time someone from NU visited Kenya, or even Nigeria, was in 2019. The virus proved difficult and continued to create disruptions. Two of the universities we planned to visit had virus outbreaks that prevented us from presenting lectures as planned. We were continually adjusting to shifting situations.

I was reminded of the proverb that says, man plans his way, but God determines his footsteps. Places we did get to visit were a YMCA in Nairobi and several churches in Kisumu and Homabay. Our visit renewed old acquaintances, and we had a successful trip at the end.

Jon-Roy Sloan  
Director of Communications

## The Voice of Nations

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