



## MAIN GOAL

To develop and implement a training model that is theologically founded on the Bible and presented in a holistic, integrated, contextual and practical way.

## VISION

The Academi strives to present theologically founded (Bible-based) learning experiences through a holistic process that integrates and contextualises all the spiritual, rational and practical elements that will enable students to live with purpose.

## TRAINING OUTCOMES

- Mosaïek Academi has implemented a holistic approach to training. This means that your theological studies will not only be a cognitive exercise but will also be integrated with spiritual, practical and physical components. It will be a whole-person learning experience.
- **Integration.** The different elements of the training will not take place in isolation. Instead, all facets will be connected in an interdisciplinary way to better understand the bigger picture.
- **Context analysis.** This means that your context is applied to learning methodologies. The training is built on a strong theological foundation that underpins all practical skills development. The objective is not only to gain knowledge but also to equip students with skills that will enable them to apply the Bible and theological knowledge to contemporary situations.
- **Training is practice-driven.** Thus, students are given practical skills that will help them to function more effectively in their particular area of ministry. Distance learning is integrated with regular face-to-face interactive opportunities between students and lecturers that promote exposure to practical theology.
- Mosaïek Academi is **missionally focused**, and therefore each subject area stands in the service of the musicological command to the Church.
- Mosaïek Academi also guides students through a process of **discovering their gifts and ministries**, employing a number of measurement tools to assist students further to reach their full potential in ministry.
- **Technological resources** are utilised to enhance the overall training experience.
- Mosaïek Academi is **ecumenical** in its approach, and therefore students from any church background are welcome to register.

## PRACTICES OF COMMUNITY - MELISSA VAN BILJON

This course meets ten weeks online (which includes required synchronous and/or asynchronous participation in vocation and formation groups) for a total of 40 instructional hours. Students are required to interact with the material, with each other, and with the instructor regularly through online discussions, reading, and other assignments that promote active learning.

- (1) Students will have demonstrated capacities to critically reflect on their current and past experiences of Christian practices of community.
- (2) Students will have demonstrated through participation in local contexts the capacity to engage in activities and exercises related to Christian spiritual disciplines and practices of community.
- (3) Students will have demonstrated capacities to engage scripture, tradition, and contemporary resources to reflect theologically on historic and personal practices of community.
- (4) Students will have articulated how community practices impact their response to the Central Integration Question (CIQ) and will identify exercises, habits, and disciplines to embody these practices within their sociocultural context.

**The course consists of the following:**

Session	Outcomes	Learning Material	Additional Reading
<b>Section one: Introduction to Community practices</b>			
1. Introduction to the module  Class time: 2 hours	Understanding the Biblical practices of community  Community as the Body of Christ  Case study: Practice of Community in the Life of Moses	Learner Guide  Videos  Biblical text  Textbook	Biblical Text [at least 50 pp.]  Banks, Robert. <i>Paul's Idea of Community</i> , revised ed. Baker Academics, 1994. ISBN: 978-0801045547. [160 pp assigned].  Barton, Ruth Haley. <i>Life together in Christ: Experiencing transformation in community</i> .
2. Community Practices  Class time: 4 hours over 2 sessions	A clear understanding of dynamics of community life  Phases of Community  Spiritual formation and practices of community  Studying of various practices of community	Learner Guide  Videos  Textbook	Calhoun, Adele Ahlberg. <i>Spiritual Disciplines Handbook</i> . IVP, 2015. ISBN: 978-0830846054, Pub.  Vanier, Jean. <i>Community and Growth</i> , 2nd rev. ed. Paulist Press, 1989. ISBN: 978-0809131358 [300 pp assigned].

Session	Outcomes	Learning Material	Additional Reading
3. Influence  Class time: 2 hours	A clear understanding of the concept of influence  Insight into the various levels of influence	Learner Guide  Videos  Textbook	Brady, C, Woodward, O. 2005. <b><i>Launching a Leadership Revolution</i></b> . 2nd ed. New York: Business Plus.  Page 170 – 189  Pohl, Christine. <i>Living into Community: Cultivating Practices That Sustain Us</i> . Eerdmans, 2011. ISBN: 978-0802849854.
<b>Section two: Practices of Community</b>			
4. Hospitality  Class time: 2 hours	Defining hospitality  Jesus and hospitality  The Trinity as model of hospitality	Learner Guide  Videos  Textbook	Calhoun, Adele Ahlberg. <b><i>Spiritual Disciplines Handbook</i></b> .  Huckins, Jon. <b><i>Thin Places: Six Postures for Creating and Practicing Missional Community</i></b> .  Pohl, Christine. <b><i>Living into Community</i></b> .  Vanier, Jean. <b><i>Community and Growth</i></b> .
5. Truth-telling & Promise keeping  Class time: 2 hours	Defining truth telling  Developing self-awareness  The role of humility in community	Learner Guide  Videos  Textbook	Calhoun, Adele Ahlberg. <b><i>Spiritual Disciplines Handbook</i></b> .  Pohl, Christine. <b><i>Living into Community</i></b> .  Chinula, <b><i>Building King's Beloved Community</i></b>  Cassian, John. <b><i>The Conferences</i></b> .
6. Forgiveness  Class time: 2 hours	Defining forgiveness  Working towards forgiveness in communities of diversity  Building blocks of reconciliation and forgiveness in community	Learner Guide  Videos  Textbook	Cassian, John. <b><i>The Conferences</i></b> .  Vanier, Jean. <b><i>Community and Growth</i></b> . Chinula, <b><i>Building King's Beloved Community</i></b>
7. Gratitude  Class time: 2 hours	Defining gratitude  Cultivating a grateful life  Practice of reflection	Learner Guide  Videos  Textbook	Calhoun, Adele Ahlberg. <b><i>Spiritual Disciplines Handbook</i></b> . Huckins, Jon. <b><i>Thin Places: Six Postures for Creating and</i></b>

Session	Outcomes	Learning Material	Additional Reading
	and journaling in community life		<b><i>Practicing Missional Community.</i></b> Pohl, Christine. <b><i>Living into Community.</i></b> Vanier, Jean. <b><i>Community and Growth.</i></b>
8. Testimony Class time 2 hours	Facilitating the SHARING of stories in group life and the MAKING of new stories- especially stories of God in our lives.	Personal reflection Brainstorming Work in Pairs Input Handouts	Vanier, Jean. <b><i>Community and Growth.</i></b> Calhoun, Adele Ahlberg. <b><i>Spiritual Disciplines Handbook.</i></b> Huckins, Jon. <b><i>Thin Places: Six Postures for Creating and Practicing Missional Community.</i></b> Chinula, <b><i>Building King's Beloved Community</i></b>
9. Group Spiritual Direction Class time 2 hours	Defining spiritual direction  Spiritual direction in circles of trust  Community spaces and spiritual growth	Personal reflection Brainstorming Work in Small group Input Handouts	Cassian, John. <b><i>The Conferences.</i></b> Calhoun, Adele Ahlberg. <b><i>Spiritual Disciplines Handbook.</i></b> Huckins, Jon. <b><i>Thin Places: Six Postures for Creating and Practicing Missional Community.</i></b>
<b>Total required reading is 1242 pp.</b>			

**Reading:**

1. 1242 pp. of required reading and/or the equivalent time in viewing.
2. Biblical Text [at least 50 pp.]
3. Banks, Robert. *Paul's Idea of Community*, revised ed. Baker Academics, 1994. ISBN: 978-0801045547. [160 pp assigned].
4. Barton, Ruth Haley. *Life together in Christ: Experiencing transformation in community.* InterVarsity Press, 2014. [392pp. assigned]
5. Cassian, John. *The Conferences.* Paulist Press, 1997. ISBN: 978-0809104840, Pub. [selected sections ~160pp] available free online at <http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/3508.htm>
6. Calhoun, Adele Ahlberg. *Spiritual Disciplines Handbook.* IVP, 2015. ISBN: 978-0830846054.
7. Chinula, Donald M. *Building King's Beloved Community: Foundations for Pastoral Care and Counseling with the Oppressed.* Wipf & Stock, 2009. ISBN: 978-1608991433. [70 pp assigned].
8. Huckins, Jon. *Thin Places: Six Postures for Creating and Practicing Missional Community.* The House Studio, 2012. ISBN: 978-0834128873. [132 pp assigned].
9. Pohl, Christine. *Living into Community: Cultivating Practices That Sustain Us.* Eerdmans, 2011. ISBN: 978-0802849854. [178 pp. assigned].
10. Vanier, Jean. *Community and Growth*, 2nd rev. ed. Paulist Press, 1989. ISBN: 978-0809131358. [300 pp assigned].

## Evaluation

- There will be three assignments and one exam paper for this course. The assignments and exam will focus on knowledge, insight and the application of the study material. All content of the prescribed material must be studied.
- Semester work: 50% of final mark
- 1050 pages reading and videos, including at least 50 pages of biblical text [This assignment is related to learning outcome #3].
- The minimum requirements for the semester mark in order to be allowed to write exams, is 40%.
- Exam mark: 50% of final mark
- Please note that the minimum requirement in your final mark, in order to pass the subject is 50%.

### Assignment 1

For each practice, post a 250+ word reflection on how this practice forms part of your ministry/life. Use at least one Biblical reference and one textbook reference.

Total: 100 marks (6 practices of 250 words each)

### Assignment 2

Autobiography related to practices of community.

- Write your life story integrating the 3 main practices of community that has formed part of your narrative.
- Reflect on how your ideas and views were shaped by practices of community.
- Practically illustrate how practices of community has formed part of your life/ministry.

Total: 100 marks (5000 words)

### Assignments 3

Integration paper that reflects theologically on the practices of this course and their implications for the student's response to the exercises, habits, and disciplines in a developing Rule of Life.

Total: 100 marks (6000 words)

## Examination

There will be one exam paper of 3 hours.

### Scope for the Exam:

All prescribed work.

## Credits

Type of learning activity	Hours	% of learning time
Lectures (face-to-face contact, limited interaction or technologically mediated)	30	10%
Tutorials: Individual or small groups of 30 or less Groups of more than 30	10	3.4%
Practical academic sessions (e.g. laboratory sessions)	10	3.4%
Practical workplace experience (e.g. experiential learning and workplace-based projects)	5	1.6%
Independent self-study of standard texts and references (e.g. study-guides, books, journal articles)	160	53.3%

## MOSAIEK STUDY LETTER SUMMARY

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There will also be 12 case studies with each session that will take students 5 hours to work through and prepare for the next session.		
Independent self-study of specially prepared materials (print-outs, multi-media, etc.)	60	20%
Peer interaction	25	8.4%
<b>TOTAL:</b>	300	100%