JULIUS AFRICANUS GUILD
PROGRAM OF STUDY

STUDENT MANUAL

Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary-BOSTON
The Center for Urban Ministerial Education (CUME)
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PURPOSE
The Julius Africanus Guild is a doctoral level support and study group that includes mentoring, peer support, advice on developing academic writing skills, dissertations, resources, as well as the practical classroom experience of learning the art of lecture and other class preparations and discovering the rudiments of grading. The Guild will encourage cooperation and not competition, group processing of challenges to evangelical orthodox Christian faith that may arise during doctoral studies, promote encouragement and not present barricades to jump, but rather help students cope with crossing them in their respective programs.

Julius Africanus studied under Heraclas in Alexandria, Egypt between A.D. 228 and 232. He later became bishop of Emmaus, Palestine. Fragments of his writings can be found in the Ante-Nicene Fathers (vols.6, 4) and Eusebius’ History (I). Africanus is a wonderful example of meticulous, detailed scholarship which is historical, biblical, truthful, and devout. Perhaps he is best known for his stand against falsehood: to be a true witness of God and to establish the truth by using the truth (Epistle to Aristides I.1).

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS
The Africanus Guild is a support program set up to assist selective, underrepresented constituencies to pursue research PhDs from accredited institutions. The Guild is especially oriented to the multicultural, multiracial urban scene. Underrepresented constituencies, such as African Americans, Hispanic Americans, racial ethnic minorities, and women preparing to teach Biblical Studies or Theology, are especially encouraged to apply.

Currently, we are working with London School of Theology (LST), Middlesex, Britain www.lst.ac.uk/research and North-West University (Noordwes-Universiteit) (NWU), Potchefstroom, South Africa www.nwu.ac.za. The Africanus Guild itself does not grant degrees, it sponsors a mentoring relationship with members of our faculty here at GCTS. The student ration is limited to two students per faculty member. Under the current agreement, the graduate schools, in consultation with GCTS, assign a reader/mentor from the ir faculty to serve as second reader for the student.

Participants must be Th.M. or D.Min. graduates who have been accepted by LST or NWU to pursue a doctoral program (Ph.D., Th.D. or another teaching degree). On occasion, Guild scholars may be invited to teach a course at CUME. For the Ph.D. program, an M.Div. (or its equivalent) and a Th.M. (or equivalent of 8 courses above the M.Div. or 6 courses and a 75 page thesis) are required. The program is 3 years full-time or 4 ½ years part-time (6 years maximum extension). The candidate must:

1) have a thesis supervisor within our faculty willing to work with the applicant at GCTS;
2) apply to LST or NWU;
3) complete the GCTS application form;
4) be interviewed by the GCTS-Boston Dean of Academics;
5) pay tuition costs of five hundred ($500.00) plus one half (1/2) of a three (3) credit hour course to GCTS-Boston per semester. be willing to travel once per year to LST or NWU; in addition to whatever the degree granting school (LST [subsidized 3d world rate] or NWU) requires (see their websites).
6) participate in the regular Boston Africanus Guild meetings;
7) Pay the tuition fees yearly of LST or NWU.

SUMMARY OF THE PROGRAM
Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary (GCTS) has developed a relationship with London School of Theology/Middlesex University (LST) and North-West University (NWU) for the purpose of providing external supervision of postgraduate students enrolled at LST or at NWU. The Ph.D program is a research degree which emphasizes the writing and successful defense of a dissertation. It typically
includes minimal or no coursework. **Students interested in taking advantage of this option for postgraduate study should contact LST at www.lst.ac.uk/research/ or NWU at www.nwu.ac.za.**

When contacting either one of the schools, and throughout the process of admissions, prospective students should identify their interest in a research program of external supervision, as well as name the GCTS faculty person under whose supervision they wish to conduct research. *(To help you connect with a GCTS faculty mentor, please write a program proposal outlining what you want to accomplish. Address it to the GCTS staff advisor at CUME who will assist you throughout your journey in the program).*

Upon admission, students are responsible to meet all enrollment and tuition obligations at LST or NWU, as well as to enroll as a Visiting Ph.D. Research Student (VPS status) each fall and spring semester at GCTS, until they have successfully defended their dissertation. Students with VPS status are granted full library privileges, research supervision, an e-mail account, a seminary mailbox, assistance in finding adequate housing within metropolitan Boston, and student health insurance, and other benefits consistent with student status at GCTS-Boston.

**WHAT SHOULD YOU KNOW?**

Those entering the Africanus Guild program must complete the GCTS enrollment policies (statement of faith and community life statement). They should be able to demonstrate a good command of the English language and use of the various exegetical, theological, and ministry tools necessary to examine the Scriptures and apply them to life.

1. Check the LST or NWU website - [www.lst.ac.uk/research](http://www.lst.ac.uk/research). Check link for “prospectus”-PhD research (LST).
2. See the notebook available describing the program at the Boston or Hamilton libraries (and admissions).
3. Begin to think about a potential thesis topic and find a GCTS supervisor. The best plan is to work on aspects of a potential thesis with a potential faculty supervisor while obtaining your Th.M.
4. Determine if you need to learn any additional research languages, such as ancient Hebrew and Greek and modern German and French. If you need to learn any languages, usually it is better to learn them before you begin doctoral work or during the first year.
5. Apply to LST or NWU once you have developed a thesis topic and bibliography and you are ready to devote your time to study. If you are accepted, you will be formally registered as a Masters of Philosophy student with the university but accepted as a PhD student with LST or NWU. After you have a viable PhD thesis (typically around 2 years into the program if you are full time) your student status will be changed to PhD candidate.
7. Attend your preferred school orientation activities. These are highly recommended as a means to (a) meet your supervisor and (b) get orientation on the PhD research program. Contact the school for more information. (If you have selected LST, you will need to reserve a hotel room well in advance.)
8. Each Fall and Spring, attend Africanus Guild sessions when offered.
9. As you proceed in the program, you will need to a) write about 75-100 pages/per year and b) do another interview about 6 months into the program and c) write your dissertation for potential publication.
10. The last year in your program, you will return to LST or NWU for the final oral exam. Your LST or NWU supervisor and an external reader will examine you on your thesis. The GCTS supervisor
can be present (to make sure all is fair) but will not examine you. Nevertheless, you may want to pay for the GCTS supervisor to sit in the oral exam.

APPLICATION ITEMS
Go to www.gordonconwell.edu/boston/future/Apply.cfm and click on the following forms to complete the application package.

- **Application**
- **Recommendation Letter** (Print 3 copies- one of the recommendations must be from a graduate faculty member vouching for your ability to write well in English, think, and command good spoken grammar).
- **Church Endorsement Form**
- **Immunization Form**
- **Immunization Objection Form**
- **Meningococcal Immunization Waiver**
- **A $50.00 application fee**

Applications will be considered for action as soon as possible after all materials and credentials have been received. The completed application file is reviewed by the admission committee of Gordon-Conwell-Boston, who will notify applicants of their decision.

TUITION FEE
In addition to whatever the degree granting school (LST or NWU) requires (see their website), tuition for the program costs is five hundred ($500.00) plus one half (1/2) of a three (3) credit hour course to GCTS-Boston **per semester**; in addition to whatever the degree granting school (LST [subsidized 3d world rate] or NWU) requires (see their websites). This figure does not include any courses recommended by your GCTS supervisor.

FINANCING YOUR DEGREE
Because your church or parachurch ministry will benefit significantly from your studies, begin by seeking funding from that institution. If you wish, Gordon-Conwell will write to your board to propose this. You may want to ask your church or parachurch organization to underwrite all of your tuition costs. If your people understand that this is an investment in their own future, they may be willing to take on this expense. Because not all organizations are able to pick up the total cost of your program, you may want to apply for scholarship help to such organizations as The Fund for Theological Education, your denomination, Hispanic Theological Initiative, etc.

IS THE JULIUS AFRICANUS GUILD FOR YOU?
1. Are you ready to: a) work alone with minimal supervision, or do you prefer b) a full classroom experience with plenty of structure? The Africanus Guild is for you if you answered (a). We offer a combined PhD research degree from London School of Theology (LST) or North-West University (NWU) with a Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary (GCTS) supervisor/mentor.
2. Are you highly motivated to: a) write a 100,000 word thesis, or b) do you need someone gently to push you along? The Africanus Guild is for you if you answered (a).
3. Do you have for your study: a) at least 20-25 hours of uninterrupted time each week for 3-5 years or b) an hour here and there you can allot? The Africanus Guild is for you if you answered (a). LST or NWU gives you only 3-4 1/2 years to complete your work, expecting you to spend 20-50 hours of study each week.
4. Are you: a) free to travel anywhere in order to get your doctorate, or b) are you limited to being in the Boston area (at least once / month)? The Africanus Guild is for you if you answered (b). The program was established for students who would meet monthly in Boston with their supervisor and other PhD candidates.
5. Do you have: a) a Th.M, or an equivalent of four years of theological master’s study, or (b) an M.Div degree and are willing to get a Th.M or c) a D.Min? The Africanus Guild is for you if you answered “yes” to at least one.
6. When you take your Th.M (or D.Min.) degree, a) are you willing to find a GCTS supervisor before you start so that you can plan on beginning preparation early for the Ph.D research, or b) do you simply want to pick all your Th.M courses yourself? If you answered (a), it will prepare you best. The goal of the Th.M. is to develop and test an appropriate dissertation topic and to fill any areas needed for your discipline of study. Preferably, the Th.M thesis will become part of the Ph.D. thesis.
7. Are you a) part of an underrepresented constituency – a racial or ethnic minority or a woman or part of a culture/ethnic group that needs academically trained teachers or a white male with an urban interest, or b) an overrepresented constituency such as a white male who likes to hang around with other suburban white males? The program is intended for you if you answered (a), but all may apply.
8. Were your grades: a) excellent at the master level, especially in the field you plan to study, or b) average but you think you could do better? The Africanus Guild is for you if you answered (a). You need to prove you can handle graduate level work before you apply to the Africanus Guild.
9. Are you a) a competent writer in English, or b) do have difficulty being clear and grammatically correct? The Africanus Guild is for you if you answered (a). Your English grammar and organizational skills in writing and research need to be excellent.
10. Are you a) able to pay around 4,000.00 lbs plus five hundred ($500.00), plus one half (1/2) of a three (3) credit hour course to GCTS-Boston per semester; in addition to whatever the degree granting school (LST [subsidized 3d world rate] or NWU) requires (see their websites), or b) able to find scholarships for the amount each year, or c) pay barely for your current debts? The Africanus Guild is for you if you answered (a) or (b).
11. Do you a) want to work with a supervisor who is an experienced researcher, loves the Lord and treats the Bible as without error or b) who challenges your view of the Lord and / or the Bible? The Africanus Guild is for you if you answered (a). The Africanus Guild was created to encourage scholars pursuing the evangelical orthodox Christian faith.
12. Do you see yourself primarily as a) a teacher, or b) a pastor? The Africanus Guild is for you if you answered (a).
13. Is your interest in a) the practical ministry division, or b) in Bible and in Christian Thought? This program is designed for (b). The Gordon Guild is for you if you want to specialize in homiletics.
14. Having worked through these questions, if you are still interested in the Africanus Guild (the program of study between the LST or the NWU and GCTS), please contact us.

CONTACT US
Call Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary-Boston, The Center for Urban Ministerial Education (CUME) at 617-427-7293 or email: at cumeinfo@gcts.edu. You may also visit us at http://www.gordonconwell.edu/boston.
HISTORY
In the middle of World War Two, a group of ministers, missionaries and business people came together with a vision for an interdenominational, evangelical college that would counter the rising tide of liberal scholarship in Western universities and prepare Christians to interact with post-war world.

Based in central London, the college originally offered only correspondence courses and evening classes. By 1944, over 300 students were enrolled, and two years later the number was up to 1,400, and London Bible College (LBC) evening classes were being taught all over the UK. In autumn 1946, the first full-time students started their studies.

In 1970, LBC moved to Northwood and onto the campus previously occupied by London College of Divinity, an Anglican training college. The 1990s saw the opening of a dedicated postgraduate centre (Guthrie Centre), which also houses the Centre for Islamic Studies.

In 2004, LBC became London School of Theology (LST), a new name but with the same aim.

LST continues to be known throughout the world as a place where intellectual thoroughness and rigor go hand in hand with a passion to see students grow personally and spiritually.

MISSION STATEMENT
LST’s mission is to provide world-class education in theology and related disciplines to equip people to have a strategic influence for Christ.

We aim to work out this mission in four areas: through the Church, in the world of education, across cultures and in the public square.

Angus Macmillan taught one of the early classes at LBC in Marylebone Road, London.

Who is LST for?
Committed evangelical Christians from various church backgrounds, from the UK, the rest of Europe and from around the world.
How do we equip students?
By developing biblical and theological thinking to high levels, nurturing spiritual gifts and skills, and by encouraging personal spiritual growth.

How do we do this?
Through academic programs, practical training, worship, community life, pastoral care and through service, scholarship, writing, speaking and personal example.

DOCTRINAL BASIS
The London School of Theology accepts and proclaims the historic truths of Christian faith and conduct, including the following:

a) God and the human race
We believe that the Lord our God is eternally one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and that he fulfils the sovereign purposes of his providence
- In creation, revelation, redemption, judgment, and the coming of his kingdom
- Calling out from the world a people, united to himself and to each other in love.

We acknowledge that though God made humanity in his own likeness and image, conferring on us dignity and worth and enabling us to respond to himself, we are now members of a fallen race, who have sinned and come short of his glory.

We believe that the Father’s holy love is shown supremely in that he gave Jesus Christ, his only Son, for us when, through our sinfulness and guilt, we were subject to his wrath and condemnation; and that his grace is shown supremely by his putting sinners right with himself when they place their trust in his Son.

We confess Jesus Christ as Lord and God, the eternal Son of the Father; as truly human, born of the virgin Mary; as Servant, sinless, full of grace and truth; as the only Mediator and Savior of the whole world, dying on the cross in our place, representing us to God, redeeming us from the grip, guilt and punishment of sin; as the Second Adam, the head of a new humanity, living a life of perfect obedience, overcoming death and decay, rising from the dead with a glorious body, being taken up to be with the Father, one day returning personally in glory and judgment to bring eternal life to the redeemed and eternal death to the lost to establish a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness, where there will be no more evil, suffering or death, as Victor over Satan and all his forces, rescuing us from the dominion of darkness, and bringing us into his own kingdom; as the Word who makes God known.

We believe in the Holy Spirit who with the Father and the Son is worthy of our worship, who convicts the world of guilt in regard to sin, righteousness and judgment, who makes the death of Christ effective to sinners, enabling them to turn to God in repentance and directing their trust towards the Lord Jesus Christ; who through the new birth unites us with Christ, who is present within all believers; and makes us partake in Christ’s risen life, pointing us to Jesus, freeing us from slavery to sin, producing in us his fruit, granting to us his gifts, and empowering us for service in the world.

b) The Scriptures
We believe that the Old and New Testament Scriptures are God-breathed since their writers spoke from God as they were moved by the Holy Spirit; hence, they are fully trustworthy in all that they affirm; and as the written Word of God they are our supreme authority for faith and conduct.

We acknowledge the need for the Scriptures to be rightly interpreted under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and using the gifts of understanding and scholarship that God has given to his people.

c) The Church and its Mission
We recognize the Church as the body of Christ, of which he is the head, held together and growing up in him through the one Spirit; both as a total fellowship throughout the world, and as local congregations in which believers gather to worship God, growing in grace through Word, prayer and sacrament.

We acknowledge the commission of Christ to proclaim the Good News to all people, making them disciples, baptizing them, and teaching them to obey him.

We acknowledge the command of Christ to love our neighbors, resulting in service to the Church and to society, in seeking reconciliation for all with God and their fellows, in proclaiming liberty from every kind of oppression; and in spreading Christ’s justice in an unjust world … until he comes again.

RESEARCH DEGREES
Possible areas of research are Old Testament, New Testament, Church History, Historical Theology, Systematic Theology, Ethics, Philosophy of Religion, Linguistics, Practical Theology, Missiology, Judaism, or Islam. (See catalogue for more details)

The PhD full-time is 3 years, Part-time is 4-6 years. The thesis is up to 100,000 words.

FACTS & FIGURES
London School of Theology is an international community of over approximately 350 students, male and female, ranging in age from 18 to 70. Within the community, 22 nationalities are represented and 13 different denominations including many different expressions of Church within this.

Current undergraduate statistics:
24% from overseas
23% part-time
47% female
29% married

Undergraduate degree results:
2009: 75% 2:1 or above

Current postgraduate statistics:
68% from overseas
46% over 40 years old
67% part-time
27% female
71% married
As the largest and oldest NWU campus, with a history going back 141 years, the Potchefstroom Campus has a longstanding track record in delivering high-quality graduates and conducting pioneering research.

**WHO WE ARE**

A university that inspires innovation through diversity.

The NWU came into being on 1 January 2004 through the merger of two universities with very different histories, personalities and cultures: the Potchefstroom University for Christian Higher Education and the University of the North-West. The staff and students of the Sebokeng Campus of Vista University were also incorporated, adding further to the richness of our heritage.

Today, five years after the merger, the NWU is recognized as one of the best-managed and most innovative universities in South Africa. We continue to celebrate and encourage multiculturalism, multilingualism and multi-nationalism.

The Campus, situated in the historical university town of Potchefstroom, traditionally drew its students from the Afrikaans-speaking community but today embraces a multilingual, multicultural working and teaching environment. For the benefit of non-Afrikaans students, for example, real-time classroom interpreting services are used in academic programs regarded as key to the development of the South African economy. This has contributed to the ongoing growth of the Potchefstroom Campus, which had 35,174 students in 2008, including 18,800 students enrolled for distance programs.

The Potchefstroom Campus has eight academic faculties:

- Arts
- Natural Sciences
- Theology
- Education Sciences
- Economic and Management Sciences
- Law
- Engineering
- Health Sciences

In addition, it has 20 research entities, numerous centres and institutes and 102 researchers with ratings from the National Research Foundation. The latter include a physicist with an A1 rating, which is the highest possible accreditation.
Not surprisingly, innovativeness is a prominent attribute of the Campus, whose staff and students have generated many patentable or marketable inventions. These include a revolutionary glider (the JS1 Revelation Glider) that is being exported abroad, a continuous spark ignition system, ozone generators and electronic spelling checkers for African languages.

The Campus is also a sought-after partner in various national and international academic and research consortia. Among others, its Institute for Industrial Pharmacy is part of a 15-organisation consortium appointed by the American Department of Health to distribute anti-retroviral and other preventive medicines in developing countries. In the sphere of space physics, a group of researchers from the Campus was part of the transnational High-Energy Stereoscopic System (HESS) that won the Descartes Prize for 2006. Most recently, South Africa’s Department of Science and Technology chose the Campus to co-host a Hydrogen Infrastructure Centre of Competence.

Yet core strength is nuclear engineering. Through the Potchefstroom Campus, the NWU was the first university in South Africa to offer not one but two approved master’s qualifications in this discipline, the M Eng and the MSc in Nuclear Engineering. The Campus is also a key partner in the technology development of South Africa’s Pebble Bed Modular Reactor project.

In addition to its impressive academic and research credentials, the Potchefstroom Campus is well known for its sporting prowess and facilities. These include the FNB High Performance Institute, where several Olympic athletics teams trained in preparation for the 2008 Olympic Games. The HPI has also been chosen as the Africa Sports Development Centre by the International Cycling Union and the International Triathlon Federation.

WHERE WE ARE
A presence in two provinces
The NWU is a multi-campus university with a footprint across two provinces. The Mafikeng and Potchefstroom Campuses are situated in the North-West Province and the Vaal Triangle Campus is in Gauteng. The head office, known as the Institutional Office, is in Potchefstroom, situated near the Potchefstroom Campus.

CORPORATE PROFILE
One word that captures the spirit of the North-West University is “innovative”. This characteristic runs across all our activities and operations, from the research we conduct to our academic offerings, management model, campus structure, student body, community engagement and sports achievements.

THE NWU BRAND
Diverse, innovative and globally recognized
- The NWU has a powerful brand that proudly projects our personality and aspirations to the world. The essence of this brand is that we are a leading and sustainable teaching-learning and research university that harnesses diversity and pursues innovation to make a meaningful difference to South Africa and the world.

Our logo: The chain of three inter-locking links symbolizes the unity of the University and visually expresses the resolve and sense of partnership within it. The three colors symbolize the diversity of the three campuses and the NWU’s use of diverse education and institutional offerings to contribute to improving the human condition and human relationships.
The NWU offers students an exceptionally rich range of study choices at undergraduate and postgraduate level. Our offerings span the spectrum of academic disciplines, from agriculture and the arts through to commerce, engineering, education, health, law, the natural sciences and theology.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING
Academically, every NWU campus has something special to offer. For example, the Mafikeng Campus is unrivalled in its approach to animal health and agricultural sciences, while the Potchefstroom Campus has unique nuclear engineering strengths and the Vaal Triangle Campus specializes in economic sciences and information technology.

RESEARCH
Supplying innovative solutions through high-quality, relevant, focused research
The NWU has a clear vision for research and innovation. This is to move from being a tuition-based university that does focused research towards a balanced teaching-learning and research university. As the following statistics show, the NWU is making rapid progress towards this vision:

- Currently, the NWU ranks among the top seven universities in South Africa for research and among the top two for innovation.
- In 2008, out of all South African universities, the NWU earned the most income from the Technology and Human Resources Program (THRIP), underlining the innovative and relevant research being done in close association with industry.
- The NWU has 103 researchers with ratings from the National Research Foundation (NRF). This means that more than 10% of all our academic members of staff are NRF-rated researchers.
- The doctoral graduation rate at the NWU is the fourth best in South Africa and the Master’s graduation rate is the third best.
- The University’s researchers have won numerous national and international awards for their work. In just one example, a group of NWU researchers was part of an international team that won the European Union Descartes Science Prize for 2006.

The following 11 research units exist at the NWU:
- Unit for Business Mathematics and Informatics
- Unit for Development in the South African Constitutional state
- Unit for Drug research and development
- Unit for Environmental sciences and management
- Unit for Languages and Literature in the South African context
- Africa Unit for Transdisciplinary Health Research (AUTHeR)
- Unit for Energy systems
- Unit for Reformed Theology and the development of the South African society
- Unit for Space Physics
- Workwell: Research unit for People, Policy and Performance
- Thinkwell: Economic value of wellness research