



VIDYA DEEP COLLEGE

Higher Institute of Religious Sciences

128/1, Halasuru Road, Bengaluru - 560 042

January 20, 2024

To

The Major Superiors of Religious Congregations of Brothers and Sisters

Warm greetings from Vidya Deep College, CRI Brothers' Institute in Bengaluru!

We are delighted to reach out to you through this letter to share the exciting news that Vidya Deep College, also known as CRI Brothers' Institute, has been elevated to the esteemed position of Higher Institute of Religious Sciences by the Congregation for Catholic Education, Rome, in 2021. This is a remarkable honour and a testament to the 57 years of theological and pastoral contributions that CRI Brothers' Institute has made to the Church in India, as well as its invaluable role in fostering the growth and understanding of Consecrated life within the Church. At Vidya Deep College, we are committed to nurturing theological and philosophical reflections on the pastoral, missiological, and social challenges that the Church in India faces today.

Our Higher Institute of Religious Sciences (HIRS) offers two-degree courses:

- 1. Baccalaureate Degree Course in Religious Sciences (BRS) - Three Years (Combining Philosophy and Theology)**
- 2. Licentiate Degree Course in Religious Sciences (LRS) - Two Years**

The Baccalaureate-BRS degree program effectively covers the B.Th. degree course offered by any Theology Faculty in India. Similarly, our Licentiate degree program is designed to provide a comprehensive education equivalent to any M.Th. degree course. Vidya Deep College stands as the only institute of its kind in India, managed by the Brothers' section of the Conference of Religious, India, offering unique opportunities for men and women in Religious life, as well as the enlightened laity.

In this regard, we are excited to introduce three areas of specialization in our newly launched Licentiate (LRS) program:

- 1. Licentiate in Consecrated Life:** This course aims to provide Consecrated individuals in India, both men and women, with a profound opportunity for serious study, research, and reflection on consecrated life.
- 2. Licentiate in Christian Education:** Given the significant involvement of numerous religious congregations and laity in the field of education in India, this course focuses on creating awareness about the transformative power of Catholic education.

3. **Licentiate in Christian Leadership:** This course offers a unique opportunity for Consecrated individuals and laity in India to specialize in the study of Christian Leadership. We recognize the importance of effective leadership in religious congregations and the wider Church.

When applying for the Licentiate study program, prospective students have the flexibility to choose their area of specialization at the time of admission. These three specializations are carefully designed to align with the unique nature of our Institute and the significance of Consecrated life in the Church. We consider it our responsibility to provide comprehensive avenues for deepening the theology and spirituality of charism, mission, and ministry among Consecrated individuals in India. It is worth mentioning that these three specializations have already received official approval from the Congregation for Catholic Education in Rome.

We humbly invite you to seize this exceptional opportunity and consider it a true blessing for Consecrated life in India. If you believe that someone in your congregation would benefit from specialized education in the fields of Consecrated life, Education, or Christian Leadership, we have enclosed the application form with this letter. Alternatively, the form can be downloaded from our website (www.vidyadeepcollege.in). To ensure timely processing, please ensure that the completed application form reaches our college office no later than May 10, 2024.

Eligibility requirements for the respective degrees are as follows:

1. **For Baccalaureate Degree (BRS): Any Bachelor's degree, ITI, or an equivalent degree.**
2. **For Licentiate Degree (LRS): B.Th. or BRS Degree, or any other equivalent degree.**

For any further details or clarification, please feel free to contact the Director, Dean of Studies, or Administrator using the following emails and phone numbers: E-mails: vidyadeepprincipal@gmail.com, cribrothersinstitute@gmail.com; Phone numbers: 080-25587965, 9442645150, 7094072780, 7440884410.

We express our heartfelt gratitude and extend our best wishes!

Sincerely,



Bro. Manuel SHJ
Director of Studies