The Department was established in the Faculty of Arts in 1969. In its earlier years, the composition of the academic staff was predominantly expatriate, but since the 1980’s, a strong and successful Kenyanization programme was implemented. The Department continued to grow steadily and was split in 1980 into two separate departments: (i) Department of Philosophy and (ii) Department of Religious Studies. In 2005, the two departments were merged with the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies of the College of Education and External Studies based at Kikuyu campus of the University of Nairobi to form a combined Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies. The combined Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies offers Certificate, Diploma, undergraduate, Masters and Doctoral (PhD) programmes in Philosophy, and Religious Studies; and a Master of Arts Degree in Human Rights. In addition, the Department offers services to the College of Education and External Studies (CEES), College of Architecture and Engineering, the School of Economics and School of Mathematics by offering Faculty of Arts approved common undergraduate degree courses in Philosophy and Religious Studies. There are three modes of learning: full-time, module II (day and evening) and distance learning.

The Department has thirty two members of staff who include Professors, Associate Professors, Senior lecturers, Lecturers, Assistant lecturers and Tutorial Fellows. The Department is headed by a Chairman. There are:

1. Two administrative staff: Hannah Kirobi (Secretary) and Peter Mamau (Clerk)

2. Three Examination officers: Philosophy Unit: Dr. Patrick Nyabul; Religious Studies Unit: Mr. Abraham Wambua; Philosophy and Religious Studies Unit (CEES): Mr. Caxton Nyahela.

3. The Coordinator of the Centre for Human Rights and Peace: Dr. J. B. Ndohvu

There are five standing committees each chaired by a member of staff elected by the members of the department:

1. Curriculum and Timetabling committee
2. Seminars and Research Committee
3. Postgraduate Studies Committee
4. Library Committee

5. Welfare Committee

I am proud to report that during the past few years, the department has continued to make progress in all key fronts: in creating and offering new and exciting variety of programmes; in research, publications, workshops, guest lectures, physical and infrastructural development, development of academic programmes and of the required human resource capacity, growth of student enrolment, and networking with its peers nationally and internationally.

Only recently a new unit, the Centre for Human Rights and Peace was established and is housed in the Department. Through the Centre, the Department admitted its first batch of students in the Master of Arts Degree programme in Human Rights in September 2012. The Centre undertakes workshops, links, exchanges, attachments, and collaborative multidisciplinary research in human rights and peace.

Mine is just to welcome you to this Department---your department of choice. Joining the Department gives you the opportunity to study events and ideas of profound significance for human beings. It offers academic programmes which prepare you for opportunities in diverse careers such as researchers, teachers, counselors, and human rights monitors and managers.

Programmes

1. Certificate = 14
2. Diploma=6

A. Undergraduates

   B.A - PHILOSOPHY
   1. Module 1
   2. Module 2
   3. Module 3

   B.A - RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Year 4
1. Module 1
2. Module 2
3. Module 3
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION – ARTS

Year 4
1. Module 1
2. Module 2 Evening
3. Module 2 Outreach

MASTER OF ARTS PHILOSOPHY

Year 1 - SEPTEMBER 2012 INTAKE:
Male: 4 Female: 0

Year 2
Male: 3 Female: 3

MASTER OF ARTS RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Year 1: SEPTEMBER 2012 INTAKE:
Male: 2 Female: 3

Year 2
Male: 6 Female: 2

MASTER OF ARTS HUMAN RIGHTS

Year 1 - SEPTEMBER 2012 INTAKE: 15
Male: 10 Female: 5

PHD PHILOSOPHY
Graduated: 1
Ongoing: 3

PHD – RELIGIOUS STUDIES
Graduated: 1
Ongoing: 3
TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF GRADUANDS IN 2012

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<th>PROGRAMME</th>
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3. STUDENTS ENROLMENT
The Department has 2 students currently have International students linked to it.

4. RESEARCH, INTERNATIONAL LINKS AND COLLABORATIONS
Dr. J. B. Ndohvu

2. Poverty as a Human Rights Violation, in collaboration with the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights

5. CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS
(i) Dr. Akaranga Stephen

1. 6th to 9th December, 2012-Conference on Roho Christianity: Pentecostalism in a Globalized African Public Space, Hosted by KENYATTA UNIVERSITY
   Paper presented
   • COME, SEE, PAY AND RECEIVE YOUR MIRACLES AND HEALING: NEW PENTECOSTALISM IN KENYAN URBAN CENTRES

2. 3rd to 4th December, 2012-National OSSREA Kenya Chapter Workshop, Hosted at Moi University, Kenya.
   Paper presented
• MOMBASA REPUBLICAN COUNCIL: A SOCIO-POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CHALLENGE TO KENYAN GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

3. 1st to 5th August, 2012 – The First Kenyatta University Conference on Gender Based Violence- Hosted at Kenyatta University Nairobi.
   Paper presented
   • AFRICAN TRADITIONAL CULTURAL CONUNDRUMS WHICH MAKE WOMEN PRONE TO HIV/ AIDS INFECTIONS: A CASE OF THE MAASAI OF KENYA

4. 26th-30th June 2012- First Interdisciplinary Conference- 50 years of Academic Excellence, Hosted at Catholic University, Nairobi.
   Papers presented
   • WORK ETHICS FOR LECTURERS: AN EXAMPLE OF NAIROBI AND KENYATTA UNIVERSITIES
   • THE PHENOMENON OF EXAMINATION MALPRACTICES: AN EXAMPLE OF NAIROBI AND KENYATTA UNIVERSITIES

5. 24th to 26th April 2012 - Religious Mobility in East Africa – The Catholic University of East Africa, Nairobi - RELIGIOUS MOBILITY IN EAST AFRICA, NAIROBI.
   Papers presented
   • THE DYNAMICS OF RELIGIOSITY AND SPIRITUALITY IN KENYAN PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES
   • THE PHENOMENON OF RELIGIOUS SWITCHING AMONG UNIVERSITY STUDENTS: THE CASE OF NAIROBI AND KENYATTA UNIVERSITIES, KENYA

(ii) Dr. Abdulkarim Hashim
2nd Jan-22nd Nov. 2012 Advocates Training Programme, Kenya School of Law.

(iii) Dr. Patrick O. Nyabul
5th November-9th November, 2012: Joint Writers Workshop for the School of Business and Faculty of Arts attended at KWSTI, Naivasha.

(iv) Dr. Oriare Nyarwath
4-9 November, 2012: I attended a Writers Workshop at KWTI in Naivasha organized by ODL, University of Nairobi.

BOOKS/THESIS
Dr. R.M.J. Oduor

JOURNAL ARTICLES
Dr. R.M.J. Oduor

Dr. Oriare Nyarwath

“The Luo Care for Widows (Lako) and Contemporary Challenges” in Thought and Practice: A Journal of the Philosophical Association of Kenya (PAK), New Series, Vol. 4 No 1, June 2012, pp. 91-110; http://ajol.info/index.php/tp/index


November 2012: “Social Freedom and Humanism in Odera Oruka’s Philosophy”, an article submitted to the philosophical journal Thought and Practice, yet to be published.

6. PUBLIC/GUEST LECTURES
7/6/2012 Sadhu Prof. Rangarajan –Sri Bhavatamara, Bangalore
17/7/2012 Prof. Abdulkadir Tayub –University of Cape Town
10th June 2012 Professor Baard andreassen of the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights
27/7/2012 Prof. D. Masolo- University of Louisville
18th December 2012, Dr. Bill Schulz, President and CEO Unitarian Universalist Service Committee
14/11/2012 Prof. Malik Ndiate – UCAD Dakar

7. VISITORS TO THE DEPARTMENT
8. ACHIEVEMENTS/CHALLENGES AND FUTURE PROJECTIONS
The Department is in the process of seeking to create links with Saudi Arabian Embassy during the course of 2013.