

THE FACULTY OF FIGHTING WITH THE POOR

The Faculty of Fighting With The Poor is the only one of its kind.

Its 3-year program was launched in 2008 after discussions with His Excellency the President of Mozambique, Armando Guebuza.

Its idea is understand and to act on the issue of poverty by taking as point of the departure the Poor as a human being in real life situation. The training includes studies of statistics, history and global economic reality of poverty and of the actions of governments, private organizations and business to eradicate poverty. It then goes on to take a stand on the side of the Poor not as policy statements activity but in action together with the Poor.

Fighting with The Poor is thus a shoulder-to-shoulder activity, an ethical imperative of ending the suffering of the Poor that compel the university to abandon the ivory tower. As part of their training the teachers and students act personally in a practical manner and in solidarity with The Poor in need of a life in dignity. At the Faculty of Fighting With The Poor the study of poverty and its eradication is not purely an intellectual exercise, it is full of action to better, here and now, the life of The Poor.

About the 3-year program:

Each year has four periods that progressively build the capacity of the student to analyze and understand the world and in particular the world of the Poor and to find and implement solutions to the problems of the Poor while working side by side with the Poor in so doing.

During five specialization periods the student spends part of the time in the field working with the Poor, learning from the Poor, mobilizing the Poor, training the Poor, capacitating the Poor, carrying out actions and fighting shoulder to shoulder with the Poor to solve issues big and small detrimental to the life of the Poor.

These periods of specialization are interrupted by periods of general studies and training relevant to the profession of Fighting With The Poor.

After three years of training the student graduates with a licentiate in Fighting With The Poor and the capacity to establish himself or herself in this new, new profession aimed at fighting old, old problems connected to the persistence of massive poverty in the world today; problems that are listed in government and UN reports on how to achieve millennium goals or other benchmarks.

The profession has as its ultimate goal to eliminate all problems of the Poor such as lack of food, starvation, no access to money for daily needs, no money to invest in agriculture or a small business, lack of infrastructure, lack of government services,

no ownership of property, illiteracy, lack of education for children, few legal and human rights, no job, lack of clean water and sanitation, lack of medicine and medical care, high infant mortality, having started life as child worker and lack of hope. By standing shoulder to shoulder with the Poor, the professional fighting with The Poor solve persistent problems, builds hope in a better future and point to a way forward for a world where The Poor still number in the billions.

OVERVIEW OF PERIODS OF THE LICENTIATE PROGRAM OF FIGHTING WITH THE POOR

Year 1:

- Period 1 – **Foundation studies 1**: two months; main topics: The Poor, Leadership Intelligence, Life Style Skills
- Period 2 – **Specialization 1**: three months, main topic: The Individual Poor
- Period 3 – **Specialization 2**: three months, main topic: The Group of Poor
- Period 4 – **Academic subjects 1**: three months, main topics: Natural and Environmental Science, Health, English

Year 2:

- Period 5 – **Foundation studies 2**: two months, main topic: Partnership in Development
- Period 6 – **Specialization 3**: three months, main topic: The Organization of the Poor
- Period 7 – **Specialization 4**: three months, main topic: The Future Organization of the Poor
- Period 8 – **Academic subjects 2**: three months, main topics: Agriculture, Technology and production, Economy, Expressive Arts

Year 3:

- Period 9 – **Foundation studies 3**: two months, main topics: Leadership Intelligence, Life Style Skills
- Period 10 – **Special subjects**: three months, two special subjects chosen by the student
- Period 11 – **Specialization 5**: three months, main topic: My Test Piece
- Period 12 – **Academic subjects 3**: three months, Thesis and Final Exam