Masters in Bible and Contemporary World

Also available as Postgraduate Diploma and as single modules (credit-only)

Programme Requirements

Postgraduate Diploma (part-time distance learning mode) 
(this is also the Taught Element for the MLitt part-time distance learning mode programme):
120 credits: DI5901 - DI5925

MLitt (part-time distance learning mode):
120 credits from the Taught Element plus DI5999

Postgraduate Diploma (local, full-time mode) (this is also the Taught Element for the MLitt local, full-time mode programme):
80 credits: modules DI5901 - DI5925 plus
40 credits: DI5221, DI5431 or DI5441 or any other 5000-level DI module(s) with the agreement of the Head of School.
OR
20 credits: DI5221, DI5431 or DI5441 plus
20 credits: from a language (chosen from French (FR), German (GM), Greek (GK), Italian (IT), Latin (LT), Persian (PR), Spanish (SP) language modules at the level appropriate to the student’s level of proficiency.
OR:
10 credits: DI5080 plus
40 credits: from a language (chosen from French (FR), German (GM), Greek (GK), Italian (IT), Latin (LT), Persian (PR), Spanish (SP) language modules at the level appropriate to the student’s level of proficiency.
Students may substitute up to 30 credits from 3000- or 4000-level DI modules, with the approval of the Course Coordinator, if they are not doing language modules.

MLitt (local, full-time mode):
120 credits from the Taught Element plus DI5099

Compulsory module for the MLitt Local full-time mode:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DI5099 Dissertation for MLitt Programme/s</th>
<th>SCOTCAT Credits:</th>
<th>SCQF Level 11</th>
<th>Semester:</th>
<th>2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Planned timetable:</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Student dissertations will be supervised by members of the teaching staff who will advise on the choice of subject and provide guidance throughout the research process. The completed dissertation of not more than 15,000 (excluding bibliography) words must be submitted by a date specified in August.

Programme module type: Compulsory for MLitt Postgraduate Programmes within the School.
Learning and teaching methods and delivery: Weekly contact: Individual supervision.
Assessment pattern: Coursework (Dissertation) = 100%
Module Co-ordinator: TBC
Compulsory module for the MLitt - Distance Learning mode:

**DIS999 Dissertation (Distance Learning)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCOTCAT Credits:</th>
<th>60</th>
<th>SCQF Level: 11</th>
<th>Semester:</th>
<th>1 &amp; 2 (taught twice)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Planned timetable: At times to be arranged with the supervisor.

In this module students undertake research under individual supervision towards writing a dissertation on a topic agreed in conjunction with their supervisor.

Programme module type: Compulsory for Bible and Contemporary World MLitt Postgraduate Programme.

Learning and teaching methods and delivery: **Weekly contact**: Individual supervision

Assessment pattern: Coursework = 100%

Module Co-ordinator: Dr E Stoddart

**2016/7 modules - Distance learning mode:**

**DIS923 Theological Issues in Medical Ethics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCOTCAT Credits:</th>
<th>40</th>
<th>SCQF Level: 11</th>
<th>Semester:</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Planned timetable: Distance learning

This module will approach such questions through a series of contemporary debates in medical ethics, including euthanasia, abortion, the idea of ‘physician’ as a religious vocation, human enhancement technologies, conscientious objection to performing certain procedures, healthcare policy, and others. Our goal will not be to ‘settle’ these issues, but to better understand why we think about them as we do. Why do people disagree about this in the precise way that they do? What can we learn from church history to help us better understand our views about these today?

Programme module type: Optional for Bible and Contemporary World Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

[Not available to any student not registered for one of these programmes]

Learning and teaching methods and delivery: **Weekly contact**: Online lectures and seminars.

Assessment pattern: Coursework = 100%

Module Co-ordinator: Dr J Perry

Module Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s): Dr J Perry
Believing that the Bible can shape our thinking about issues of contemporary concern is one thing; working out how this is to be done is another. This module explores a variety of hermeneutical approaches that have been proposed to make intelligent connections between the Christian scriptures, events, trends and cultural assumptions. We explore how the Hebrew Bible and New Testament traditions can be interpreted in relation to matters of public interest. An historical perspective to Christians' use of the Bible in this regard is complemented by considering radical hermeneutical methods developed within liberationist, queer and post-colonial perspectives in the twenty-first century.

Programme module type: Optional for Bible and Contemporary World Postgraduate Taught Programmes. [Not available to any student not registered for one of these programmes]

Learning and teaching methods and delivery: Weekly contact: Online lectures and seminars.

Assessment pattern: Coursework = 100%

Module Co-ordinator: Dr E Stoddart

Module Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s): Dr E Stoddart and tutoring team from the School of Divinity

Optional modules - Local mode:

Above modules plus:

DI5431 Theological Engagements with the Arts: Rationales, Methods and Texts

The arts are central to most human cultures, and are widely valued as an important and enriching part of our existence together as creatures in God's world. Today there is a burgeoning interest in the arts among theologians and biblical scholars across the denominational and theological spectrum. But this takes many different forms and proceeds in some rather divergent directions. This module will investigate some basic questions of definition and rationale pertaining to the conversation between theology and the arts. Students will examine a representative selection of different accounts of and approaches taken to the conversation within this interdisciplinary field, earthing the generalities of theory in continuous attention to particular artistic texts.

Programme module type: Compulsory for Theology, Imagination and the Arts Postgraduate Programme.

Learning and teaching methods and delivery: Weekly contact: 4 hours.

Assessment pattern: 3-hour Written Examination = 40%, Coursework = 60%

Module Co-ordinator: Dr G Hopps

Module Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s): Dr G Hopps
### DI5441 Christian Doctrine and the Arts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCOTCAT Credits:</th>
<th>40</th>
<th>SCQF Level: 11</th>
<th>Semester:</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Availability restrictions:</strong></td>
<td>Not available as an optional module for any other programme, except with the Permission of the Head of School.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Planned timetable:</strong></td>
<td>2.00 pm - 4.00 pm Tue and 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm Fri</td>
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This module will examine how the central articles of the Christian faith, as expressed in the Apostles' Creed, have been engaged by artists throughout the history of Christianity. For each article of the creed, one major artwork – visual, literary or musical – will serve as the locus for discussing changing theological approaches to that doctrine and for examining the artistic methods developed to engage it (often in ways inaccessible to non-artistic forms of expression). Each week, this central discussion will be consolidated by student-led consideration of smaller artworks. By the end of the semester, students will have gained a basic grasp of the historical development both of Christian doctrine and of Western art, and of the distinctive ways in which Christianity and artistic forms have challenged, influenced and enlarged each other, and continue to do so.

**Programme module type:** Compulsory for Theology, Imagination and the Arts Postgraduate Programme.

**Learning and teaching methods and delivery:** Weekly contact: 4 hours.

**Assessment pattern:** 3-hour Written Examination = 40%, Coursework = 60%

**Module Co-ordinator:** Dr J Wolfe

**Module Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):** Dr J Wolfe, Dr O’Hear

### DI5080 Guided Study in Divinity

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<tr>
<th>SCOTCAT Credits:</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>SCQF Level: 11</th>
<th>Semester:</th>
<th>2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Availability restrictions:</strong></td>
<td>Available only to Taught Postgraduate students in combination with an undergraduate module. It may only be taken once.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Planned timetable:</strong></td>
<td>To be arranged.</td>
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The project enables a student to research a special topic of his/her choice (in consultation with staff) and to develop it at length in an essay. The length of the essay should be approximately 3,000 words, and must not in any case exceed 3,500 words (to include text, footnotes and appendices). It must be submitted by the end of the semester. This module is not routinely offered and may only be taken by special arrangement, with the agreement of the Head of School.

**Programme module type:** Optional for Bible and Contemporary World, Biblical Languages and Literature, Scripture and Theology and Systematic and Historical Theology Postgraduate Programmes.

**Co-requisite(s):** One or more language modules

**Learning and teaching methods and delivery:** Weekly contact: To be arranged

**Assessment pattern:** Coursework (Essay) = 100%

**Module Co-ordinator:** TBC in consultation with Director of the programme

**Module Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):** TBC in consultation with Director of the programme