

## FULL TIME STUDY

**FULL TIME STUDENTS** starting their studies in September 2020 study these modules:

SEMESTER 1 (SEPT-DEC)	SEMESTER 2 (JAN-MAY)
Theology and Contemporary Ethics  AND  Theory and its Applications	Method and Hermeneutics in Theology  AND  Communicating Research
MAY – AUGUST  Dissertation	

\*\*ALL MODULES ARE COMPULSORY FOR FULL TIME STUDENTS\*\*  
THE PROGRAMME IS COMPLETED IN ONE YEAR

## PART-TIME STUDY

**PART TIME STUDENTS** starting their studies in September 2020 study these modules:

Year 1	
SEMESTER 1  Theology and Contemporary Ethics	SEMESTER 2  Method and Hermeneutics in Theology
Year 2	
SEMESTER 1  <i>Students may choose between:</i> Constructing Theologies: Past and Future  Or  Theory and its Applications	SEMESTER 2  <i>Students may choose between:</i> Metaphysics and Postmodernity: Belief and the Future  Or  Communicating Research
DISSERTATION  <i>Students may complete this over the summer or study for it over a third year</i>	

## **WHAT SUBJECTS ARE STUDIED IN EACH MODULE?**

### **Method and Hermeneutics in Theology**

This module will help you to engage with issues surrounding theology and the interpretation of key texts. How texts (including the Bible) are interpreted is crucial for understanding how they might be of relevance today, and this module aims to help you get to grips with a wide range of theologians who have put forward theologies of interpretation (such as Thomas Aquinas, Irenaeus and Elizabeth Schüssler-Fiorenza) and with theologies that offer various interpretative perspectives, such as feminist theology, queer theology and black theology. Changing contexts, philosophies and locations will be taken into account in trying to understand the ongoing task and challenge of theological interpretation.

- Two teaching blocks and online interaction throughout the semester
- Two pieces of assessment: one short assignment due mid-semester and a second longer piece due in after the second weekend

### **Constructing Theologies: Past and Future**

How can we do theology today in our 'post-Christian' world? This module will explore this question through examining central theological ideas and doctrines, placing them in historical context and then assessing how they might be applied today. What does it mean to speak of Creation, and Redemption, Trinity and Christology, Church and Eschatology? This module will give you the change to engage critically with the questions posed by post-modernity and globalization and will help you to think about the value and purpose of theology.

- Two teaching blocks and online interaction throughout the semester
- Two pieces of assessment: one short assignment due mid-semester and a second longer piece due in after the second weekend

### **Theology and Contemporary Ethics**

This module will enable you to study some of the most important ethical debates facing us including embryonic stem-cell research, the possibility of human cloning and our use and abuse of the natural world. You will have the opportunity to explore different theological ideas in response to these debates, such as eco-theology, natural law, and contributions from feminist theology.

- Two teaching blocks and online interaction throughout the semester
- Two pieces of assessment: one short assignment due mid-semester and a second longer piece due in after the second weekend

## **Metaphysics and Post-modernity: Belief and the Future**

What is God like? Can science give an adequate answer to the questions 'who are we' and 'how should we live'? Do the arguments of the so-called 'new atheists' like Richard Dawkins mean that arguments for God's existence are redundant? This module will explore contemporary developments in philosophical theology by looking at philosophical and scientific challenges to religious belief.

- Two teaching blocks and online interaction throughout the semester
- Two pieces of assessment: one short assignment due mid-semester and a second longer piece due in after the second weekend

## **Theory and its Applications (shared with MRes programme)**

This module will provide students with the theoretical and philosophical underpinnings to Humanities research to develop the more advanced critical and analytical skills needed for their dissertation. The module introduces students to a range of critical approaches to text, giving them the opportunity to use, discuss, and critique these strategies both verbally and in writing. Students will develop skills in self-reflexivity by being encouraged to understand their own preferences and positions in undertaking Humanities research which inflects their analyses and approaches in developing their research interests, questions and findings. The module will focus on close readings of work that influenced the poststructuralist move and will introduce discussions concerning the impact of this critique of representation on theories of identity, ideology, meaning, and power.

- Attendance typically required at weekly sessions throughout the semester (each session lasts approximately 2 hours).
- One assignment to be completed at the end of the module
- Weekly sessions provide plenty of opportunity for support with your learning

## **Communicating Research (shared with MRes programme)**

Strongly tailored to suit the student's area of interest, this module allows students to reflect on a research project and develop new skills in communicating the central themes of their work. The module provides a space for considering the skills being developed to enable the students to make a transition to work or into further study. Students will explore the development of ideas for future projects and training in how to communicate them to external funders, stakeholders and the wider public.

- Taught typically through tutorials and a small number of class sessions.
- Provides the opportunity to study a chosen research topic in depth
- Acts as excellent preparation for the dissertation

## **Dissertation**

The writing of a 15,000 word dissertation allows a further opportunity to develop personal research and completes the final stage of the MA.

- Taught through tutorials with a designated tutor
- Allows extensive study of an area of particular interest