



MA Theology, Leadership and Ministry - Module Descriptions

The MA is a one-year full-time programme or 2-3 year part-time programme, consisting of 180 credits at Level 7. There are six 20-credit taught modules and a 15,000 words dissertation (60 credits). Five of the taught modules are compulsory and two are elective options. The modules are described below:

Christian Leadership in the 21st Century (Core module, 20 credits)

This module critically examines theoretical frameworks, concepts and arguments that inform contemporary understandings of leadership in the 21st Century. The module places emphasis on the development of Christian leadership and in so doing draws considerably from secular leadership theory to place discussion of Christian leadership in the context of a wider review of the literature.

Pentecostal and Charismatic Theology (Core module, 20 credits)

The module critically examines historical and contemporary developments in Pentecostal and Charismatic theology, with a focus on central theological ideas that have developed in these overlapping strands of theological enquiry and scholarship in both Africa and the West. Students will be given opportunities to engage with the central theological constructs and ideas within Pentecostal and Charismatic Theology through a close reading of key texts. The changing contexts for the church, both in Africa and the West, will be critically explored and the challenges and implications of such changes will be carefully examined.

Cross-Cultural Mission (Core module, 20 credits)

This module explores and critically evaluates concepts of mission that are cross-cultural and multi-directional, with particular emphasis on non-Western Christian migration to the West. The exploration of missiological theory will be considered in the contemporary context of globalisation, post-Christendom, post-modernism and the technological advances of recent years, with particular emphasis on communication and the rise of social media. Changing geopolitical and cultural realities will also be critically examined and their implications for cross-cultural mission evaluated.

Advanced Theological Reflection (Core module, 20 credits)

This module engages with important developments within pastoral and practical theology and their implications for theological reflection. Various models of 'the pastoral cycle' will be critically explored and theoretical frameworks and concepts applied to contemporary leadership and practical ministry issues and challenges. Consideration will be given to approaches to theological reflection from other Christian traditions and the potential uses of these explored in the contexts in which students are currently practising ministry.

Research Methods (Core module, 20 credits)

This module explores potential research questions and objectives and examines the use of a range of quantitative and qualitative research methodologies to address them. Consideration is given to the applications, strengths, and major criticisms of each research method. The module explores the principal stages of developing and undertaking postgraduate research projects in theology and provides students with the foundation from which to pursue their own research project at the dissertation stage of the programme.

Church-Planting and Multiplication: Theory and Methods (Elective module, 20 credits)

This module aims to explore contemporary theories, methods and approaches related to church-planting and multiplication. Consideration will be given to critical insights developed through cross-cultural, missional approaches and the practice of cultural contextualisation critically explored. Students will therefore be enabled to apply missiological theories and ideas and develop missional practices that are appropriate to their local and/or cultural context, as well as to the development of strategic church-planting planning processes and church multiplication movements.

Independent Study Module (Elective module, 20 credits)

This module provides students with the option of developing an independent learning project on a topic, issue, or ministerial area relevant to the study of the theory and practice of theology, leadership and ministry. It is intended that such a topic would not have already been covered in other taught modules or at least not in significant depth. Students are provided with personal tutorial support to guide the development of their independent study project and as part of the project present their research findings to their peers and others.

Research Project: Dissertation (60 credits)

The dissertation module comprises an extensive review of relevant literature and an original field research project, including a critical review of research methods, collection of data, analysis, conclusions and recommendations for further research and practical application. The length of the dissertation is 15,000 words. The scope of the dissertation project will normally relate to content from taught modules undertaken earlier in the programme.