

Chapter IV

Post Graduate Degree Programmes

in the

Faculty of Theology

at the

Pontifical University



Stoyte House, where Saint Patrick's College was founded in 1795

Licentiate in Divinity

Director: Reverend Séamus O’Connell, BSc, SSL, DTheol

To obtain the Licentiate in Divinity (STL), two years' full time specialised study is required. The course and degree are designed for candidates who have attained honours standard in their previous theological studies. Part-time candidates may, with the approval of the Director, take the course over three or four years.

Admission Requirements

- In order to register for courses leading to the degree of Licentiate in Divinity, a candidate must hold at least a Baccalaureate in Divinity, second honours, Grade II (*cum laude*) or what in the judgement of the Faculty is regarded as an equivalent standard of theological study.
- A basic knowledge of Greek and Hebrew is required and an appropriate knowledge of two modern languages.
- Candidates whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirements.

Programme of Study

The programme comprises the following:

Reading Courses

Year 1

Candidates select three reading courses from the list of courses on offer. Candidates must take courses from at least two different theological disciplines.

Year 2

Candidates take two reading courses in the theological discipline of their specialization.

Reading Courses are to convene at least once per month during the academic year (i.e., *at least 7 meetings*). Reading Courses are to be assessed by a variety of means: two end-of-year papers and a formal seminar presentation. Each paper is to be of 5000 words. The formal seminar presentation may form the basis for one of the papers. The STL Programme Director, in consultation with those offering the suite of reading courses, is to ensure variety and balance in the means of assessment.

Seminar Courses

Each candidate is required to take six seminar courses.

Year 1

Full-time candidates usually take four seminar courses

Year 2

Full-time candidates usually take two courses in year two.

The full list of seminar courses is to be found on the following pages. Please note that the courses *Research in Theology: Historical and Methodological Approaches* and *The Soul of Theology* are obligatory.

Part-time candidates agree an initial schedule of seminar courses with the Programme Director.

Seminar courses are normally assessed by assignment(s) of c.7,000 words. Variations may be approved by the Director in consultation with the Postgraduate Board.

Scriptum

Each candidate shall prepare a *scriptum* or dissertation under the direction of a member of the Faculty, on a topic approved by the Faculty. The *scriptum* shall be between 25,000 and 30,000 words in length, inclusive of footnotes but exclusive of bibliography and appendices.

The *scriptum* will be assessed in a 30-minute *viva voce* examination. The examiners shall be the Director of the *scriptum*, an internal reader, and an external reader appointed by the Faculty.

Assessment

The Final Assessment of the STL is based on:

- Reading Course examinations
- Seminar Course assignments
- The *Scriptum* and its *Viva Voce* examination.

For further details contact:



Admissions Office
Pontifical University
Saint Patrick's College
Maynooth
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Web Page: www.maynoothcollege.ie

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Doctoral Degree in Divinity

Admission Requirements

In order to register for courses leading to the Doctoral Degree in Divinity (DD/STD), a candidate must hold at least a Licentiate in Divinity (STL) second class honours, Grade I (*magna cum laude*) or what, in the judgement of the Faculty, is regarded as an equivalent standard of theological study. A basic knowledge of Greek and Hebrew is required, and an appropriate knowledge of two modern languages. Candidates whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirements of the Faculty of Theology.

Programme of Study

- The doctoral dissertation, which forms the basis for granting the degree, must be a substantial and original piece of research in a theological area, offering a notable contribution to the advancement of the theological sciences.
- The dissertation must be prepared under the direction of a member of the Faculty on a topic approved by the Faculty.
- Candidates who have completed the STL programme in the Faculty are not required to take further courses or attend lectures.
- Candidates who have not taken any special courses at the Faculty but have a Licentiate of the required standard must take special courses for one year. These are qualifying only.
- At the end of the first year, doctoral candidates will provide sufficient evidence of progress in the preparation of the dissertation to warrant continuance.
- Dissertations submitted by 30th November are accepted for examination by early spring. Those submitted by 15th May are accepted for examination in early summer. Examination at any other time may be considered only in exceptional circumstances, and by express leave of the Faculty.
- The dissertation shall be presented to the Director of Postgraduate Studies at least two months before the candidate may be admitted to defend it. In exceptional cases the Council of the Faculty may shorten the period required.
- Three copies of the dissertation are to be submitted in the first instance; these may be ring-bound. A hard-bound copy, incorporating any corrections

which the examiners may require, must be submitted to the Library following successful defence of the work.

- All dissertations shall remain the property of the Pontifical University.

Public Examination

The public examination shall comprise the following elements:

- A lecture by the candidate for half-an-hour on the topic, arguments and conclusions of the dissertation
- A defence of the dissertation for an hour against objections.
- An examination for half-an-hour on nine propositions chosen by the candidate and approved by the Council of the Faculty. Three propositions will be chosen from each subject area, Systematic Theology, Moral Theology and Sacred Scripture.
- At the end of the Defence, the Faculty shall vote firstly on whether the degree of doctor is to be awarded and secondly on what mark shall be given. Separate marks are given for the thesis and the propositions; the minimum mark is 65%. The marks are counted and an aggregate mark is awarded. This is not communicated to the candidate. The number of examiners from the Faculty at the examination shall be at least five.

Publication of Doctoral Dissertation

Before the Doctorate in Divinity can be conferred, the dissertation, or at least a substantial part thereof, must be published. Publication may take any of the following forms:

- Appearance as a book, or as an article in a recognised theological journal.
- Circulation of copies of the dissertation, or of a major excerpt, in printed form, or electronically, to the main ecclesiastical Faculties of Theology.
- Deposition of a copy of the dissertation in the John Paul II Library at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, together with notification of the fact through appropriate means of inter-library exchange.

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theology.office@spcm.ie
Web Page: www.maynoothcollege.ie

Doctoral Degree in Theology

The Doctoral Degree of PhD in Theology is awarded to those who satisfactorily complete the course and research requirements for the Degree.

Admission Requirements

- A Master's Degree in Theology of at least Second Class Honours Grade I or its equivalent.
- The Faculty of Theology may also accept candidates whom it deems to have achieved an equivalent standard.
- A competence in at least two theological languages: Hebrew, Greek or Latin. A candidate who has not already attained an acceptable level of competence in theological languages is required to pass qualifying courses in at least two of the following: Hebrew, Greek, or Latin.
- Candidates whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirements of the Faculty of Theology.

Postgraduate Degree candidates will normally be expected to register year by year on a continuous basis until they have completed their degree. Candidates wishing to suspend registration may do so only on the express permission of the Faculty. Upon registration, PhD candidates will be assigned a staff mentor to assist them in their choice of courses and thesis director.

Progress at doctoral level demands a significant investment of time by the candidate in personal study and research. As such, study and research requires access both to resources that are frequently only available in research libraries, as well as easy access to the candidate's director or mentor, it is strongly recommended that doctoral candidates, *especially at the beginning of their studies*, spend at least *three days per week* on the Maynooth campus, during the semester.

Programme of Study

- Candidates must normally complete at least three years of fulltime study, the first year of which is termed the Doctoral Foundation Year.
- The Doctoral Foundation Year includes four postgraduate seminar courses. Two of these courses will normally be *Research in Theology: Historical and Methodological Approaches* (PG 464) and *The Soul of Theology* (PG 442). Candidates who have recently completed these two courses as part of an STL or Masters in the Pontifical University are exempt.
- In order to be considered for progression to the second year of the doctoral programme, candidates are to achieve an aggregate 2:1 across these four seminar courses. In the Second Semester of the Foundation Year, the

candidate shall, with the guidance of a mentor or director, identify a topic of research interest, and present a brief outline to two nominees of the Postgraduate Board by June 15th. This research topic, is not a doctoral proposal, but rather a research area that creates direction and focus for the doctoral proposal.

- Normally, the doctoral proposal, which forms the basis of the doctoral dissertation, will be presented for approval to the Faculty of Theology during the second year of the doctoral programme.
- The doctoral dissertation, which forms the basis for the award of the degree, must be a substantial and original piece of research, which offers a notable contribution to the advancement of the theological sciences.
- The dissertation must be prepared under the direction of a member of the Faculty of Theology, on a topic approved by the Faculty.
- Candidates must have or must acquire a good reading knowledge of one modern continental European language.

Regulations for the *Viva Voce* Examination

A *viva voce* examination of the dissertation is required for the awarding of the PhD.

- I. The candidate shall in the first place submit three copies of the dissertation which may be ring-bound.
- II. The examiners shall be the supervisor of the dissertation, an external examiner chosen by the Faculty, and an internal Reader, member of the Faculty appointed by the Faculty.
The Faculty will also appoint a chairperson for the *viva*, and members of the Faculty are invited to attend.
- III. The examiners may accept or reject the dissertation for defence.
- IV. The format of the defence shall be decided by the examiners but shall not exceed one and a half-hour's duration.
- V. The examiners shall make a written recommendation to the Faculty.
- VI. The dissertation may be accepted without change or with some modifications, or it may be rejected on the basis of the *viva voce* examination.
- VII. In the event of a successful *viva* the candidate must submit a hard-bound copy of the dissertation incorporating any changes which the examiners may require. Changes are verified by at least one of the examiners. The degree shall not be conferred until receipt of a duly revised copy has been confirmed by the Director of Postgraduate Studies.
- VIII. A copy of the dissertation will be lodged in the John Paul II Library, and candidates will be invited to complete the following declaration: *I hereby agree that the copy of my dissertation deposited in the Library shall be available for consultation under conditions laid down by the Pontifical University.*
- IX. All dissertations shall remain the property of the University.

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Master's Degree in Theology

Two Year Programme

The programme for degree of Master in Theology (MTh) offers candidates the opportunity to deepen their knowledge of Theology through specialised study, personal work and research.

There are two methods of obtaining this degree.

- Mode A: candidates complete five seminar courses and write a minor dissertation (25,000-30,000 words).
- Mode B: candidates submit a major dissertation (40,000 words) and fulfil the requirements of the *Research in Theology: Historical and Methodological Approaches* seminar course (PG464).

Theological Languages – Mode A and Mode B:

A competence in theological language(s) is a qualifying requirement

- All candidates entering the Faculty of Theology at postgraduate level shall be required to sit a qualifying examination in at least two of the following: Hebrew, Greek, or Latin. A syllabus for this examination is provided on the Faculty website.
- Candidates who do not pass the above qualifying examination, are required to attend and pass qualifying courses in at least two of the following: Hebrew, Greek, or Latin. In certain circumstances an advanced course in one theological language may be accepted in lieu of a second.
- Candidates who have successfully completed a one-year full-time University course in Hebrew, Latin or Greek are exempt, as are candidates who have successfully completed theological language courses in the Pontifical University.
- The language(s) requirement is merely qualifying and does not form part of the final assessment.

This degree qualifies for Higher Education grants.

Admission Requirements: Mode A

The minimum entry requirement is an honours primary degree in which Theology comprises at least an equal joint honours component. Candidates should have obtained at least Second Class Honours, Grade I overall, and Second Class Honours, Grade I in Theology. An interview will be part of the selection procedure.

The Faculty of Theology may also accept applicants whom it deems to have achieved an equivalent standard. Where an applicant's qualifications are insufficient

for admission to the MTh, a Qualifying Programme and Examination may be provided.

Candidates whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirement of Faculty of Theology. Candidates will normally be expected to register year by year on a continuous basis until they have completed their degree. Candidates wishing to suspend registration may do so only on the express permission of the Faculty.

Programme of Study: Mode A

The duration of the programme is two years. The first year is considered a year of full-time study in one of the options below. In the second year the candidate, takes one seminar course in the first semester and completes a thesis. All *Mode A* candidates must successfully complete the *Postgraduate Induction Week* which takes place during September 17–20, 2018.

Course Option I: Systematic Theology

In Year One the candidate takes two seminar courses in Systematic Theology, one seminar course in Moral Theology, in Sacred Scripture, or in Liturgy, as well as the obligatory course:

- *The Soul of Theology*, (PG442) in the second semester.

In Year Two the candidate takes one seminar course in Systematic Theology in the first semester, and completes the dissertation. The dissertation is to be submitted by the 31st July.

Course Option II: Moral Theology

In Year One the candidate takes two seminar courses in Moral Theology, one seminar course in Systematic Theology, in Sacred Scripture, or in Liturgy, as well as the obligatory course:

- *The Soul of Theology*, (PG442) in the second semester.

In Year Two the candidate takes one seminar course in Moral Theology in the first semester, and completes the dissertation. The dissertation is to be submitted by the 31st July.

Course Option III: Biblical Theology

In Year One the candidate takes two seminar courses in Biblical Theology, one seminar course in Systematic Theology, in Moral Theology, or in Liturgy as well as the obligatory course:

- *The Soul of Theology*, (PG442) in the second semester.

In Year Two the candidate takes one seminar course in Biblical Theology in the first semester and completes the dissertation. The dissertation is to be submitted by the 31st July.

Course Option IV: Pastoral Liturgy

In Year One the candidate takes four seminar courses in Liturgical Theology – two in each semester, as well as auditing certain elements of the *Higher Diploma in Pastoral Liturgy* conducted by the *National Centre for Liturgy* (see Chapter VI).

In Year Two the candidate takes one further seminar course in Liturgical Theology during the first semester, and completes the minor dissertation, of 25,000—30,000 words. The minor dissertation will be on an approved topic and submitted within two years of completion of the courses. The dissertation is pursued under the direction of a member of the Faculty of Theology. While completing the dissertation, the candidate is not required to be in full-time attendance.

Admission Requirements: Mode B

To qualify for admission to a Masters in Theology by dissertation only, candidates shall have Second Class Honours, Grade I in the theological component of their honours degree. The Faculty of Theology may also accept applicants whom it deems to have achieved an equivalent standard. Masters Mode B is recommended only for candidates who have a clear research focus and a proven ability to work on their own.

Candidates whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirements of the Faculty of Theology. Candidates will normally be expected to register year by year on a continuous basis until they have completed their degree. Candidates wishing to suspend registration may do so only on the express permission of the Faculty.

Programme of Study: Mode B

- Candidates must fulfil the requirements of *Research in Theology: Historical and Methodological Approaches* (PG464), and work for at least three semesters under the direction of a permanent member of the Faculty of Theology.
- The subject of the dissertation requires the approval of the relevant Head of Department.
- The length of the dissertation shall be approximately 40,000 words, exclusive of footnotes and bibliography.

- Candidates shall be required to submit their dissertations within three years. Extensions will be granted only in exceptional circumstances.
- The dissertation shall be examined by the dissertation supervisor and an external examiner chosen by the Faculty.
- Candidates may be examined on the subject matter of the dissertation if the above examiners so decide.

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Master's Degree in Theology

Specialisation: Christianity, Human Rights and Society

Two years Part-time

Course Director: Dr Suzanne Mulligan

The course will consist of six taught modules (10 credits each) delivered over two years, and the submission of a thesis of 15,000 words. Modules will be delivered on Wednesday afternoons and evenings. Assessment of modules is by essay (c. 7,000 words).

Admission Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is an honours primary degree in which Theology comprises at least an equal joint honours component. Candidates should have obtained at least Second Class Honours, Grade I overall, and Second Class Honours, Grade I in Theology. An interview will be part of the selection process. The Faculty of Theology may also accept applicants whom it deems to have achieved an equivalent standard. Candidates whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirement.

Programme of Study

In addition to the following programme of study, candidates must successfully complete the *Postgraduate Induction Week* on September 17–20, 2018.

Year 1:

- **PG 465** Human Rights and Globalisation
- **PG 522** Virtue, Spirituality and Discipleship
- **PG 302** History of Christian Thought

Year 2:

- **PG 428** Social Ethics and the Common Good
- **PG 704** Healthcare Ethics and the Catholic Moral tradition
- **PG 709** Re-Sourcing: Theology and Renewal in 20th Century

- **Thesis** (*to be submitted by end of August in Year 2*).

Note: progression to the PhD from this programme requires the successful completion of a doctoral qualifying year, the parameters of which are established by the Faculty of Theology.

Master's Degree in Theology

Specialisation: The Bible as Scripture

Two Years Part-time

Course Director: Dr Jessie Rogers

Admission Requirements

The minimum entry requirement is a primary degree in which Theology comprises at least an equal joint honours component. Candidates should have obtained at least Second Class Honours, Grade I overall, and Second Class Honours, Grade I in Theology. An interview will be part of the admission process.

The Faculty of Theology may also accept applicants whom it deems to have achieved an equivalent standard. Applicants whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirements.

Programme Rationale

The study of the Scriptures is the 'soul of theology' (Second Vatican Council, *Dei Verbum* §24). The *Masters in the Bible as Scripture* is founded upon the experience that the most fruitful approach to the Bible begins with a deep and prolonged engagement with the biblical text—the approach of the New Testament writers, the Church Fathers, the medieval theologians, the Reformers, and of the mystical tradition. Founded upon critical biblical scholarship, this Masters values the faith dimension of engaging the Bible as Scripture—the Church's book, a revelatory text. It therefore privileges literary, narrative, symbolic and theological approaches to the Bible, which enable candidates to acquire:

- the ability to negotiate biblical texts as literary and linguistic entities;
- a hermeneutical framework that permits the theological import of the Bible to emerge;
- a developed sense of the potential and power of the Scriptures—their challenge, call and spirituality.

Programme of Study

The course runs over a two year cycle and consists of six taught modules delivered over four semesters, three modules per year; and a minor dissertation of 15,000 words. Classes will be on Wednesdays. In addition to the following programme of study, which is to be agreed with the Course Director, candidates must successfully complete the *Postgraduate Induction Week* on September 17–20, 2018.

Semester 1:

- **PG 302** History of Christian Thought (core module)
- **PG 489** Literary and Theological Readings of the Book of Job

In consultation with the Course Director, **PG 489** may be replaced by the blended learning module, **PG 495 Exploring Biblical Narratives**, which has an online component through the semester and requires attendance on January 14-18, 2019.

Semester 2:

One of the following:

- **PG 486** Word and Lection: Scripture Heard and Proclaimed
- **PG 481** Liberation and Law: Approaches to the book of Exodus
- **PG 518** The Gospel Parables: Narrative and Theology

Minor Dissertation (15,000 words)

The dissertation is to be written under the direction of a member of the Faculty of Theology, and submitted by candidates in their second year by July 31, 2020 by 3.00pm.

Note: progression to the PhD from this programme requires the successful completion of a doctoral qualifying year, the parameters of which are established by the Faculty of Theology.

Master's Degree in Theology

Specialisation: History of Christianity

Two Years Part-time

Course Director: Dr Salvador Ryan
(in collaboration with the Department of Early Irish, Maynooth University, and the John Paul II and Russell Libraries).

This course consists of eight modules delivered over four semesters (two academic years) and the submission of a thesis of 15,000 words on an agreed topic. Modules are delivered on Wednesday evenings. In the first year, candidates take the following modules: History of Christian Thought (10 credits); Research Methodologies & Reading and Interpreting Primary Source Texts I (5 credits); “Isle of Saints and Scholars”? The Literary Culture of Early Medieval Ireland (10 credits); and History of Christian Practice: Medieval to Modern (5 credits).

In the second year candidates take: Theology and Renewal in the Twentieth Century (10 credits); Research Methodologies & Reading and Interpreting Primary Source Texts II (5 credits); The Writing of Church History from the Reformation to the 20th century (10 credits); and History of Christian Practice: Medieval Ireland (5 credits).

Admission Requirements

Applicants should normally possess a recognised primary degree in Theology or a related discipline (for example, History) and have obtained at least a Second Class Honours, Grade I. In exceptional cases, applicants who can satisfactorily demonstrate a long-standing interest in the subject, coupled with proven relevant experience, will also be considered. An interview will form part of the selection procedure. Candidates whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the relevant English language requirements.

Programme of Study

Semester 1:

- **PG 305** Research Methodologies & Reading and Interpreting Primary Source Texts I (Wednesday evenings, 6pm-7pm)
- **PG 302** History of Christian Thought (Wednesday evenings, 7pm-9pm)

Semester 2:

- **PG 473** ‘Isle of Saints and Scholars?’ The Literary Culture of Medieval Ireland (Wednesday evenings, 6pm-8pm).
- **PG 303** History of Christian Practice: Medieval to Modern (Wednesday evenings, 8pm-9pm)

Master's Degree in Theology

Specialisation: General Theology

One Year Full-time

Course Director: Rev Professor Liam Tracey

Admission Requirements

The minimum entry requirement is a primary degree in which Theology comprises at least an equal joint honours component. Candidates should have obtained at least Second Class Honours, Grade I overall, and Second Class Honours, Grade I in Theology. An interview will be part of the admission process.

The Faculty of Theology may also accept applicants whom it deems to have achieved an equivalent standard. Applicants whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirements.

Programme Rationale

This one-year Taught Masters programme is offered for candidates who wish to spend one year in deepening their theological expertise and skill in a number of areas in which the Faculty of Theology has particular expertise. With the guidance of a mentor, candidates choose from the palette of modules on offer across various theological disciplines in any particular year.

Programme of Study

The course runs over one academic year and consists of six taught modules delivered over two semesters, three modules per semester; and a minor dissertation of 15,000 words. Lectures are delivered from Monday to Thursday. A programme of study, from the seminar courses indicated below, is agreed with the Course Director. Candidates must further successfully complete the *Postgraduate Induction Week* on September 17–20, 2018.

Semester 1:

- **PG 302** History of Christian Thought (core module)

and two** of the following:

- **PG 521** Then who can be saved"? Genre and Context in Soteriology
- **PG 465** Human Rights and Globalisation
- **PG 495** Exploring Biblical Narratives
- **PG 489** Literary and Theological Readings of the Book of Job
- **PG 484** Liturgy: Ritual, Theological and Historical Approaches

Semester 2:

and three** of the following:

- **PG 491** Contemporary Trinitarian Theologies
- **PG 522** Virtue, Spirituality and Discipleship
- **PG 486** Word and Lection: Scripture Heard and Proclaimed
- **PG 481** Liberation and Law: Approaches to the book of Exodus
- **PG 487** Sacramental Theology
- **PG 518** The Gospel Parables: Narrative and Theology

**The choice of modules may be restricted due to timetabling constraints.

Minor Dissertation (15,000 words)

The dissertation is to be written under the direction of a member of the Faculty of Theology, and submitted by candidates by July 31, 2019 by 3.00pm.

Note: progression to the PhD from this programme requires the successful completion of a doctoral qualifying year, the parameters of which are established by the Faculty of Theology.

Master's Degree in Liturgical Music

Two Year Programme

Course Directors: Rev Professor Liam Tracey, Dr John O'Keeffe

The Master's Degree in Liturgical Music is a joint academic and practice-based programme which will qualify holders to undertake posts as organists, cantors, or directors of music at parish or diocesan level. Each year of the programme will consist of theological and theoretical study of the Church's liturgy, with specific attention to the area of liturgical music. This academic component will be balanced by an intensive course of supervised practical training in a number of core liturgical music disciplines.

Admission Requirements

The course is especially suited to applicants who have studied Theology and Music to honours degree level. Candidates should normally have obtained at least a Second Class Honours, Grade I overall. The Faculty of Theology may also accept candidates whom it deems to have an equivalent standard. An interview will be part of the selection process. As this Masters programme contains a significant practical component, prospective candidates will need, on application, to furnish evidence of proficiency in at least one of the following three areas: (a) Cantor, (b) Organ, (c) Liturgical Composition. Candidates whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirements

Course Aims:

- To provide an academic framework appropriate to the study of Theology at Masters level.
- To provide candidates with an in-depth theological and theoretical formation in the Church's liturgy.
- To form candidates in the historical, textual, doctrinal and technical aspects of liturgical music.
- To enhance candidates' critical awareness of music composed for and performed in the liturgy.
- To significantly enhance course participants' competency and confidence in selected practical disciplines.

Programme of Study

Year One of the programme consists of six core and two elective academic modules, together with at least two practical modules. Year Two, divided equally between academic and practical elements, focuses on the writing of a dissertation on a topic

related to the area of liturgical music, and a major practicum in at least one (maximum two) of the musical disciplines listed below.

Year One

Postgraduate Induction and Orientation

Candidates for the Masters in Liturgical Music must successfully complete the *Postgraduate Induction Week* which takes place on the week before the commencement of lectures.

Core Academic Modules:

- Introduction to Liturgy and Christian Initiation
- The Eucharist
- Liturgical Time
- Music in Christian Worship
- Aspects of Liturgical music

Elective Academic Modules:

Candidates will take their elective modules from a range of options offered by the National Centre for Liturgy.

Practical Modules:

- Liturgical Composition
- Organ Skills I
- Cantor Skills I

* In Year One, candidates will take Liturgical Composition, together with at least one of the remaining practical modules.

Year Two

- Methodology in Research
- Guided Thesis Research
- *Practicum*

Assessment:

Academic modules are assessed by class attendance, presentations and written assignments. Practical modules are assessed in exam-style presentations and, in the case of liturgical composition, the presentation of a portfolio of work.

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Master's Degree in Theology

(Specialisation: Pastoral Theology)

Two years full time or three years part time

Director of Pastoral Theology: Rev Pdraig Corkery (Acting)

This level 9 programme forms part of a minister's continuing journey of growth and development, strengthening capacity for ministry leadership in the Church, which includes taking significant responsibility for the work of individuals and groups, and for leading and initiating mission-focused activity in a wide (and sometimes unpredictable) variety of professional levels and contexts. Candidates develop new skills to a high level, including novel and emerging approaches in professional ministry, especially within the areas of leadership in public prayer, pastoral care and spiritual accompaniment, and building and strengthening community. They learn advanced skills to teach in diverse settings, provide effective catechetical and faith formation, and exercise responsible stewardship of parish personnel and resources.

This level allows candidates to develop a critical awareness of current issues of pastoral concern informed by scholarship from the forefront of pertinent fields of theological learning, and a systematic understanding of theological knowledge as it relates to his/her experiences in life and ministry practice. Each student completes an MTh dissertation that presents a rigorous, in-depth, and critical examination of a particular pastoral area or issue situated at the interface of academic theology and contemporary ministry. In doing so, the student acquires a mastery in specialised techniques of reflection and enquiry, and methods of research, forming an ability to scrutinise and reflect on the changing ministerial landscape, articulate an informed pastoral response, while seeking to contribute to transforming ministerial practice leading to growth or change.

This MTh programme further enables candidates to:

- examine existing procedural approaches and exercise appropriate judgment in complex planning, leading groups, and managing resources;
- learn to self-evaluate and take responsibility for forming a habit of reflective practice for ministry and for continuing academic and professional development;
- express a comprehensive, internalised, personal worldview, achieving self-awareness and critical reflection as these relate to pastoral ministry;
- engage in critical dialogue and face the demands of making collaborative ministry work;
- exercise initiative and independent thought, to interact intelligently, empathically, ethically, and professionally within their ministerial context;

- differentiate appropriate ministerial approaches to formulate pastoral responses to complex situations in pastoral contexts, and act to change them.

Admission Requirements

The minimum entry requirement for the programme is a primary degree in which Theology comprises at least an equal joint component. Candidates should normally have obtained at least a Second Class Honours, Grade I overall, and Second Class Honours, Grade I in Theology. Candidates should also have significant experience in ministry practice. The Faculty of Theology may also accept applicants whom it deems to have achieved an equivalent standard. They may be required to take additional courses in Theology to qualify for admission.

Candidates whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirement.

Successful individual and group interviews are an essential part of the selection process.

Programme of Study

In addition to the following programme of study, candidates must successfully complete the *Postgraduate Induction Week*, September 17-20, 2018.

The Master's Degree in Pastoral Theology is a two-year course. The first year is a taught and practical programme consisting of five core modules, which follow the same academic and placement schedules as the Diploma and Higher Diploma in Pastoral Theology. Two further taught MTh modules are mandatory, and candidates have an option of undertaking these modules in either Year One or Two. The first is a required Pastoral Theology module. For the second, the candidates chooses one module from among the Postgraduate Seminar courses available in the particular academic year. Ideally, candidates should choose a topic that is relevant to their (future) professional ministerial needs, and/or that is pertinent to their thesis research topic. Candidates complete a minor thesis or dissertation of 15,000-20,000 words on a particular pastoral area or issue situated at the interface of academic theology and contemporary ministry.

Year One

The core modules in Year One of the programme are:

PT430	Pastoral Practice	30 Credits
PT431	Prayer Leadership	10 Credits
PT432	Caring and Spiritual Accompaniment in Community	10 Credits
PT433	Generating and Leading a Faith Community	10 Credits
PT434	Theology and Pastoral Ministry	10 Credits

Year One or Year Two

Taught modules in Year One or Year Two are:

PG 523 ‘Emancipating’ Practical Theology: Experience, Hermeneutics, and
Interdisciplinary Dialogue
10 Credits

An elective module chosen from a range of Postgraduate Seminar options
10 Credits

Year Two Minor Dissertation (15,000-20,000 words)
30 Credits

This dissertation is written under the direction of a member of the Faculty of Theology.

The course places a strong emphasis on participative learning. At a personal level, the course addresses the integration of academic and practice-based learning, with a focus on growth in self-understanding as well as personal, relational, and spiritual development. Course work includes group sessions, lectures, presentations, and interactive seminars. While core classes are normally on Thursday and Friday of each week, candidates may be required to attend talks and seminars that are only available outside these times (such as the Postgraduate Seminars that usually take place on Wednesdays, on a fortnightly basis). This course can also be taken over three years part-time.

Note: Progression to Year Two of the programme requires successful completion of the core modules in Year One. Candidates will normally be expected to register year by year on a continuous basis until they have completed their degree. Candidates wishing to suspend registration may do so only on the express permission of the Faculty.

Pastoral Practice Stream

Candidates commit to a placement education experience in a ‘Teaching Parish’, or equivalent context, from September to April. The basic areas of ministerial practice within the placement site are typically primary-level catechesis, second-level chaplaincy and/or catechesis, and parish/community based ministry. Placement usually takes place between Sunday and Wednesday of each week, for an average of ten to twelve hours per week, with classes in Maynooth on Thursday and Friday. Candidates may also be required to participate in a number of block placements in their placement sites, with an extended contact time of sixteen to eighteen hours per week.

Placement education sites, or ‘Teaching Parishes’, are arranged by the candidates in collaboration with the Parish Placement Coordinator. The Pastoral Practice Stream includes the following: mentoring support with an on-site Placement Contact Person,

or his/her Designated Alternate; one-to-one consultation with staff members in the Pastoral Theology Department; two visits by an assigned Placement Supervisor; participation in weekly small-group, peer-support, theological reflection sessions; and, an end-of-year integration day. The placement education experience is a central context for learning and growth, and is fundamental for the overall pastoral formation of the candidates.

Clinical Pastoral Education

Candidates will undertake a second placement through one unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) or its equivalent (12 weeks). CPE is a professional education for ministry conducted in the hospital setting. The course includes development of self-understanding and the foundation for the practice of pastoral care. CPE is a supervised twelve-week full time course, which candidates apply for independently and take at the completion of core modules and parish placement. CPE is a qualifying course for the completion of the Pastoral Practice Stream, and the CPE placement site is arranged in collaboration with the Assistant Director of Pastoral Theology.

Assessment

Each module will be assessed by class attendance, participation, presentations, and written assignments, or as outlined within the module descriptors. The two primary processes of assessment for the placement education will be as follows: placement supervised visits (two in total) and a student placement portfolio. Candidates need to pass all components of assessments in order to pass the respective module.

For further information contact:



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Overview of Postgraduate Courses in the Academic Year 2018-2019

Code	Lecturer(s)	Title	Semester
PG 464	Conway	Research in Theology ^{a,b}	1
PG 302	Ryan	History of Christian Thought	1
PG 442	Rogers & Macnamara	The Soul of Theology	2
<i>Fundamental Theology • Systematic Theology • Faith & Culture</i>			
PG 521	Meszaros	“Then who can be saved”? Genre and Context in Soteriology	1
PG 700	Conway	Paul Ricoeur: Emergent Sources for Theology I ^b	1
PG 702	Conway	Paul Ricoeur: Emergent Sources for Theology II ^b	2
PG 491	Marmion	Contemporary Trinitarian Theologies ^b	2
RC 506	O’Sullivan	Critical Reading of the Works of Henri de Lubac	Yearlong
<i>Moral Theology • Canon Law • Pastoral Theology</i>			
PG 465	Shortall	Human Rights & Globalisation	1
PG 523	McGrath	‘Emancipating’ Practical Theology	2
PG 522	O’Gorman	Virtue, Spirituality and Discipleship	2
RC 509	Corkery	<i>Amoris Laetitia</i> : A Point of No Return?	Yearlong
RC 516	Shortall	Searching for a Universal Ethic	Yearlong
<i>Liturgy • Scripture • Ecclesiastical History</i>			
PG 485	Bergin, McCann	Dimensions of Christian Worship ^c	1
PG 489	Rogers	Literary and Theological Readings of the Book of Job	1
PG 495	Macnamara	Exploring Biblical Narratives ^f	1 ^f

PG 484	Tracey	Liturgy: Ritual, Theological and Historical Approaches	1
PG 305	Moffitt	Research Methodologies I ^e	1
PG 303	Ryan	History or Christian Practice: Medieval to Modern	2
PG 473	Boyle	Isle of Saints & Scholars	2
PG 481	Corley	Liberation and Law: Approaches to the Book of Exodus	2
PG 486	O'Connell	Word and Lection ^d	2
PG 487	Whelan	Sacramental Theology	2
PG 518	O'Connell	The Gospel Parables: Narrative and Theology	2
RC 510	Macnamara	Births and Rebirths	Yearlong
RC 511	Tracey	The Eucharist: the Sacrament of the Sacrifice of Christ	Yearlong

NOTES and OBSERVATIONS

- a. For PhD, STL, Masters (Mode B) only;
- b. 12-hour module;
- c. MTh (Pastoral Liturgy) candidates only.
- d. Taught in conjunction with PT 431, which forms its foundation.
- e. MTh (History of Christianity) candidates only
- f. Blended Learning: four online assignments between October and December, and five three-hour seminars during the week of January 14–18, 2019.

Descriptors for each of the above modules can be found on our website:

<http://maynoothcollege.ie/postgraduate-modules>