

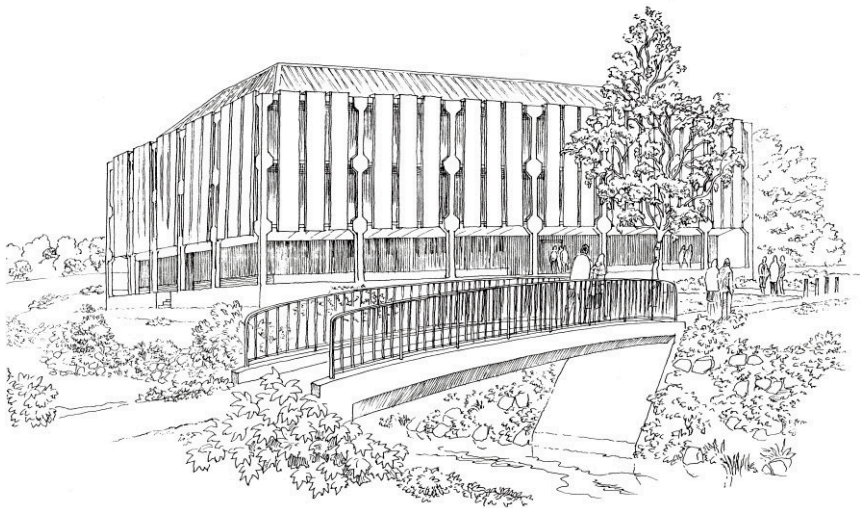
*Chapter VII*

**Certificate and Diploma Course**

**Programmes**

**in the**

**Faculty of Theology**



**Pope John Paul II Library**

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# Higher Diploma in Theological Studies

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*Course Director:* Dr Suzanne Mulligan

This one-year part-time programme aims to give a foundation in Theological Studies to students who hold a primary degree in another discipline. It is recognised by the Department of Education and Skills as entitling teachers holding Department recognised degrees and teacher training qualifications to teach up to 15 hours' Religious Education per week in a secondary school.

## Admission Requirements

A primary degree or its equivalent is required. While the degree or qualification will normally be in a discipline other than Theology, consideration will be given to all applications.

## Programme of Study

### Core Courses:

- *Introduction to Theology*
- *Systematic Theology*, which studies the meaning and implications of the principal faith-affirmations of Christianity concerning God, Jesus, the Church, the human condition.
- *Moral Theology*, which deals with the experience of morality and in particular with the bearing of Christian faith on the moral life. Topics include: conscience, making moral decisions, the Bible and morality, bioethics, justice, morality and law, ethics in public life, peace and war and ecology.
- *Sacred Scripture*, which studies the Bible – its nature and significance, origins, literary forms, interpretation today. It will include a study of particular Old Testament and New Testament books.
- *Foundations of Worship* will ask “Why Liturgy?”
- Philosophy of Religion and Secular belief systems

## Timetable

Monday & Wednesday: 6.30 p.m. – 9.30 p.m.

Six Saturdays throughout the year: 10.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.

- The core courses will be taught on Monday and Wednesday evenings.
- A number of electives will be taught over six weekends throughout the year.

Course Code	Title	Lecturer(s)	Semester	Credits
TH 401	Introduction to Theology	Marmion/O' Gorman	1	7.5
<b>Systematic Theology</b>				
ST 404	God Revealed in Jesus Christ	O'Sullivan	1	5
ST 403	The Church and its Sacraments	Surlis	2	5
<b>Moral Theology</b>				
MR 401	Bioethics	Shortall	1	5
MR 403	Catholic Social Teaching	Corkery	2	5
<b>Sacred Scripture</b>				
SC 400	The Bible and Its Worlds	O'Connell/Macnamara	1	7.5
SC 401	The Old Testament	Corley	1	5
SC 403	The New Testament: Searching for the Fine Pearls	O'Connell/Macnamara	2	5
<b>Liturgy</b>				
LI 400	Foundations of Worship	Tracey	2	2.5
TS 109	Foundations of Religious Education	Sheridan	2	5
<b>Special Topics</b>				
TS 112	Church History	Moffitt	1	2.5
TS 114	Philosophy of Religion and Secular Thought	TBC	2	5
TS 111	Introduction to World Religions	Claffey	2	2.5
ME 400	Major Essay	TBC	2	2.5

# Introduction to Theology

**Module Code:** TH 401  
**Lecturer:** Prof Declan Marmion and Dr Kevin O’Gorman  
**Department:** Systematic/Moral Theology  
**Module Level:** Level 8  
**Credit Rating:** 7.5 ECTS

## **Aims:**

Theology is “faith seeking understanding” (St. Anselm). In this introductory module we will explore this statement by asking such questions as: What is faith? How is the human person a seeker? How are faith and reason (understanding) connected? The etymology of the term “theology” has to do with “theos” (God) and “logos” (discourse). Hence theology is discourse about God. But it is also a discourse about the human person (anthropology) made in the image and likeness of God (“imago Dei”) and his or her call to communion with God (spirituality). Taking the ‘human person and his/her acts adequately considered’ as its cornerstone, the module seeks to develop a ‘Christian ethic within the contours sketched by dogmatic theology’ (G. Meilander and W. Werpehowski). The module, moreover, aims to present theology in an integrated way that reflects on the unity of faith and morality in the life of the Christian in the church. The importance of the Bible as a foundational source for Christian conversion and its connecting the drive to goodness and the call to holiness will also be explored.

## **Indicative Syllabus:**

- Theological Anthropology: The Christian Vision of Humanity
- The Specifically Christian Understanding of God as Triune
- The Doctrines of Creation, Incarnation, and Redemption
- Exploring Revelation and its Transmission in Scripture and Tradition
- Christ, Covenant, Sin and Conversion
- Bible and Morality
- Theology and Church
- Integrating Theology, Morality and Spirituality

## **Bibliography:**

Anne Hession & Patricia Kieran, eds. *Exploring Theology: Making Sense of the Catholic Tradition*. Veritas, 2007.

Stephen Bevans, *An Introduction to Theology in Global Perspective*. Orbis, 2009.

Patricia Lamoureux and Paul J. Waddell, *The Christian Moral Life – Faithful Discipleship for a Global Society*. Maryknoll, N.Y.: Orbis Books, 2010.

William C. Mattison III, *Introducing Moral Theology – True Happiness and the Virtues*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Brazos Books, 2008.

## **Time Allowance for Constituent Elements:**

Lectures: 20 hours                      Assignment: 15 hours                      Private Study: 24 hours

**Elements and Form of Assessment:** Two essays 2500 words each approx. (one extended book review and one essay)

# Systematic Theology

## *God Revealed in Jesus Christ*

<b>Module Code:</b>	ST 404
<b>Module Co-ordinator:</b>	Rev Dr Noel O’Sullivan
<b>Department:</b>	Systematic Theology
<b>Module Level:</b>	Level 8
<b>Credit rating:</b>	5 ECTS

### ***Aims:***

- To introduce students to the theology of divine revelation and faith
- To introduce students to traditional and contemporary issues relating to discourse about God
- To identify key features of revelation in the Old and New Testaments and in the Tradition, culminating in the Vatican II document, *Dei Verbum*
- To tease out the implications of Christ as the fullness of revelation
- To explore the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ as the nucleus of New Testament Christology
- To present the history of Christology through the Councils of the first millennium
- To acquaint students with contemporary issues in Christology

### ***Learning Outcomes:***

At the end of the course, the students will:

- Have an understanding of the human search for meaning and the plurality of responses among those of different belief systems, both religious and non-religious
- Appreciate the historical and contemporary issues that arise in discourse about God
- Understand the relationship between revelation and faith
- Be aware of the centrality of the paschal mystery in understanding the Christian God
- Be familiar with the history of Christology
- Be able to appreciate the significance of the being and action of Christ

### ***Indicative Syllabus:***

Theology of God	The Christian God
Faith and Reason	Divine Revelation
The Mystery of Jesus Christ	The Christological Councils
Current Questions in Christology	

### ***Time Allowance for Constituent Elements:***

Lectures: 20 hours

Assignment: 15 hours

Private study: 60 hours

***Elements and Forms of Assessment:*** Exam

## *The Church and its Sacraments*

**Module Code:** ST 403  
**Lecturer:** Dr Tomás Surlis  
**Department:** Systematic Theology  
**Module Level:** Level 8 (Undergraduate)  
**Credit Rating:** 5 ECTS Credits

### **Aims:**

- To introduce students to the theological understanding of the Church as it emerges in the Scriptures and as it unfolds in history.
- To demonstrate an ability to critically assess the evangelising mission of the Church today with respect to its origins as found in the New Testament Communities.
- To present the ecclesial vision of Vatican II and the work of contemporary theologians, with particular reference to the Ecclesiology of Communion.
- To introduce the students to the sacraments in their ecclesiological context.
- To understand the relations between symbol, sacrament and ritual and how this might help frame contemporary sacramental understanding.
- To explore and assess the impact and importance of Vatican II (and the major theologians of that time) in the development of sacramental theology.

### **Learning Outcomes:** At the end of the course, the students will:

- Demonstrate a critical awareness of the mysterious nature of the Church within the context of its ever-developing self-understanding.
- Recognise the relationship between the Church and the Kingdom of God.
- Appreciate the Church as the universal sacrament of salvation.
- Know the key principles of Catholic sacramental theology.
- Be familiar with the key tenets of the Ecclesiology of Communion.
- Recognise the importance of faith in a fruitful celebration of the sacraments.
- Identify the issues relating to a more effective celebration of the sacraments in the context of the contemporary mission of the Church in Ireland.

### **Indicative Syllabus:**

- The Origin of the Church.
- Church and its relationship to the Kingdom.
- Models of Church.
- Magisterium, leadership and roles in the Church.
- The Marian and Petrine Principles of the Church.
- A developing ecclesiology: the Ecclesiology of Communion.
- The principles of Catholic sacramental theology.
- Rite and ritual: a secular-belief/sociological assessment of the sacraments
- Contemporary issues facing the faith-filled celebration of the sacraments today

### **Elements and Forms of Assessment:** Exam

# Moral Theology

## *Bioethics*

**Module Code:** MR 401  
**Lecturer:** Rev Dr Michael Shortall  
**Department:** Moral Theology  
**Module Level:** Level 8  
**Credit Rating:** 5 ECTS Credits

### ***Aims:***

To introduce students to the discipline of bioethics.

### ***Learning Outcomes:***

At the end of the course, the student will:

- Have a good working knowledge of the central principles of bioethics
- Be aware of the stance and conclusions of the Catholic moral tradition in the area of bioethics

### ***Indicative Syllabus:***

- The fundamental principles of bioethics
- Reproductive technologies
- ‘Ordinary’ and ‘extraordinary’ medical treatments
- Euthanasia and the ‘right to die’
- The production and use of embryonic stem cells
- Bioethics and the civil law

### ***Time Allowance for Constituent Elements:***

Lectures:	15 hours
Assignment:	10 hours
Private study:	24 hours

***Elements and Forms of Assessment:*** Exam

## ***Catholic Social Teaching***

***Module Code:*** MR 403  
***Lecturer:*** Rev Dr Pádraig Corkery  
***Department:*** Moral Theology  
***Module Level:*** Level 8  
***Credit Rating:*** 5 ECTS Credits

### ***Aims:***

To introduce students to key aspects of Catholic Social Teaching with a focus on Justice and Human Rights.

### ***Learning Outcomes:***

At the end of the course, the student will:

- Have a good knowledge of the social teaching of the Church
- Be aware of key historical developments in Catholic Social Teaching
- Be able to apply CST to a number of key justice and human rights issues
- Be familiar with key concepts of CST

### ***Indicative Syllabus:***

- The central principles of Catholic Social Teaching such as justice, common good, preferential option for the poor, subsidiarity
- Key social documents
- Ecology
- The role of women in church and society

### ***Time Allowance for Constituent Elements:***

Lectures:	15 hours
Assignment:	10 hours
Private study:	24 hours

***Elements and Forms of Assessment:*** Exam



# Sacred Scripture

## *The Bible and Its World*

<b>Lecturer:</b>	Prof Seamus O’Connell & Dr Luke Macnamara OSB
<b>Module Code:</b>	SC 400
<b>Department:</b>	Sacred Scripture
<b>Module Level:</b>	Level 8
<b>Credit rating:</b>	7.5 ECTS

### ***Indicative Syllabus:***

- Who’s Who in the Bible: an Introduction to the Key Characters in the Bible
- A World within Worlds: the Bible and its surrounding Cultures
- A Succession of Empires: Geography and History of the Biblical World
- Sacred and Profane: Identity, Worship and Law in the Ancient Near East
- “Why did Sarah laugh? (Gen 18:3): Appreciating Biblical Narrative and its Art
- “Learn then the Parable” (Matt 24:32): the Dynamics and Power of OT and NT Parables
- “Thus says the LORD ...”: Seers and Prophets, Visions and Justice in the Bible
- How the Bible Came to Be: the Biblical Canon and its Importance
- Scripture and Lection: The Proclaimed Bible of the Synagogue and the Churches

### ***Indicative Bibliography:***

Barton, John, *The Bible: The Basics*. London: Routledge, 2010. [Ebook]  
Boadt, L, *Reading the Old Testament*. New York: Paulist, 1984. [220,61 BOA]  
Coogan, Michael, *The Old Testament: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University, 2008. [Ebook]  
Johnson. Luke Timothy, *The Writings of the New Testament: An Introduction*. Rev. Ed. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1999. [225.6 JOH]  
Powell, Mark Allan, *Introducing the New Testament: A Historical, Literary, and Theological Survey*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2009. [220,61 POW]  
Powell, Mark Allan, *What is Narrative Criticism? A New Approach to the Bible*. London: SPCK, 1993. [220.66 POW]

***Elements and Forms of Assessment:*** Essay

## ***The Old Testament***

**Module Code:** SC 401  
**Lecturer:** Rev Dr Jeremy Corley  
**Department:** Sacred Scripture  
**Module Level:** Level 8  
**Credit rating:** 5 ECTS

### ***Indicative Syllabus:***

- The Abraham Story: Call, Covenant and Akedah
- The Moses Story 1: Call, Revelation of the Divine Name and Passover
- The Moses Story 2: Exodus, Decalogue and Covenant
- The David Story: Anointing, Covenant, Sin and Forgiveness
- The Prophetic Legacy 1: Amos and Justice
- The Prophetic Legacy 2: Isaiah and Hopes for the Davidic Line
- The Prophetic Legacy 3: Jeremiah and the Fall of Jerusalem
- The Prophetic Legacy 4: Second-Isaiah and the Figure of the Servant
- Psalms: Original Contexts and Christian Rereading
- The Book of Job: The Problem of Suffering

### ***Indicative Bibliography:***

Boadt, L, *Reading the Old Testament*, New York: Paulist, 1984, [220,61 BOA]

Coogan, Michael, *The Old Testament: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008. [Ebook]

Collins, JJ, *A Short Introduction to the Hebrew Bible*, Minneapolis: Fortress, 1998. [221.6 COL]

***Elements and Forms of Assessment:*** Exam

## *The New Testament: Searching for Fine Pearls*

**Module Code:** SC 403

**Lecturer:** Dr Luke Macnamara OSB

**Department:** Sacred Scripture

**Module Level:** Level 8

**Credit rating:** 5 ECTS

### ***Indicative Syllabus:***

- A new beginning for a Gospel: the infancy narrative
- Matthew's characters: God, Jesus, Disciples and Sinners
- Discourses and Beatitudes
- Miracles in the Gospel of Matthew
- Parables and Riddles of the Kingdom
- The Passion Narrative
- Matthew among the Synoptic Gospels
- Twenty-First Century questions to First Century Gospels

### ***Indicative Bibliography:***

Marohl, Matthew J. *Unexpected New Life. Reading the Gospel of Matthew*. Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2012. [226,2077 MAR]

Pagola, José Antonio. *The Way Opened up by Jesus. A Commentary on the Gospel of Matthew*. Miami, FL: Convivium, 2012. [226,207 PAG]

Powell, Mark Allan. *Introducing the New Testament: A Historical, Literary and Theological Survey*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2009. [220,61 POW]

Witherington, Ben. *An Invitation to the New Testament: First Things*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013. [225,61 WIT]

## ***Foundations of Worship***

**Module Code:** LI 400  
**Lecturer:** Rev Professor Liam Tracey  
**Department:** Liturgy  
**Module Level:** Level 8  
**Credit rating:** 2.5 ECTS

### ***Aims:***

- To provide the student with critical skills in exploring the nature and history of Christian Liturgy
- To foster an understanding of the human need for ritual
- To focus on the nature of particular liturgical celebrations

### ***Learning Outcomes:***

- To reflect critically on liturgical texts
- To give a detailed description of the development, structure and the nature of the celebration of Christian Liturgy
- To introduce the concept of Initiation and how Christians are ‘made’
- To clearly explain the nature of Eucharistic praying
- To present the Christian understanding and celebration of time
- To distinguish historical and theological arguments
- To research and present an assessed project

### ***Indicative Syllabus:***

Beginning with the scriptural foundations of Christian liturgy, the course will explore its historical development and theological grounding. Particular attention will be paid to the Sacraments of Christian Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist; Liturgical Space and the Christian Ordering of Time.

### ***Bibliography:***

Gail Ramshaw, *Christian Worship. 100,000 Sundays of Symbols and Rituals*, (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2009).

***Elements and Forms of Assessment:*** Course Project 100%

## ***Foundations in Religious Education***

**Module Code:** TS 109  
**Lecturer:** Rev Dr John Paul Sheridan  
**Department:** Systematic Theology  
**Module Level:** Level 8  
**Credit Rating:** 5 ECTS Credits

### ***Aims:***

To provide students with an introduction to contemporary understandings of religious studies and catechesis with a particular focus on the programmes for Religious Education at second level schools.

### ***Learning Outcomes:***

At the end of the course, the students will:

- Understand the educational and faith formation aims and objectives of the programmes for Religious Education at second level
- Have obtained an overview of the course content, teaching methodologies and assessment procedures in Religious Education
- Be familiar with the principal resources available to teachers
- Know the core process of catechesis
- Be informed of contemporary approaches to religious education
- Have creatively and critically engaged with the module material so that they are competent to plan effectively for the teaching of Religious Education

### ***Indicative Syllabus:***

- Contemporary approaches to religious education
- The Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate Religious Education programmes
- The nature of catechesis
- Spirituality and the reflective practitioner in the classroom
- Faith development in the secondary school
- The role of the arts in religious education
- *Laudato Si* and religious education for environmental awareness

### ***Time Allowance for Constituent Elements:***

Lectures: 20 hours

Assignment: 15 hours

Private study: 60 hours

### ***Elements and Forms of Assessment:***

Essay/Project Work

# Special Topics

## *Introduction to World Religions*

**Module Code:** TS 111  
**Lecturer:** Dr Patrick Claffey  
**Module Level:** Level 8  
**Credit Rating:** 2.5 ECTS

### ***Aims:***

- To introduce students to a range of world religions
- To equip students with a framework for analyzing other religions
- To examine relationships between world religions
- To provide students with an entry point to further study of world religions

### ***Learning Outcomes:***

At the end of the module, students will:

- Have encountered a broad range of world religions
- Be familiar with the main beliefs and practices of the major religious traditions
- Be able to see connections between various religions and denominations
- Know where to look for further authoritative information

### ***Indicative Syllabus:***

- Defining religion
- *World Religions* – a useful paradigm or not?
- “Abrahamic” Religions: Judaism, Christianity and Islam
- “Dharmic” Religions: Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism and Sikhism
- Religions of East Asia

### ***Time Allowance for Constituent Elements:***

Lectures:	10 hours
Assignment:	10 hours
Private study:	20 hours

***Elements and Forms of Assessment:*** Essay

# ***Church History***

**Module Code:** TS 112  
**Lecturer:** Dr Miriam Moffitt  
**Module Level:** Level 8  
**Credit Rating:** 2.5 ECTS Credits

## ***Aims:***

- To introduce the key features of the early Christian Church
- To introduce the key themes, events, personalities and sources in the early Church
- To introduce the key features of the Early Modern Catholicism in Ireland
- To introduce students to key themes, events and personalities in the Catholic Church in Ireland 1500-1922

## ***Learning Outcomes:***

At the end of the course, the students will:

- Appreciate some of the factors associated early Christianity
- Understand the principal debates regarding the definition of doctrine
- Recognize the dynamics of the Reformation and Counter-Reformation in Ireland
- Understand the delay in translating the reforms of Trent to Ireland
- Analyse the concept of ‘the Devotional Revolution’ of the nineteenth century

## ***Indicative Syllabus:***

- The birth of the ‘Jesus Movement’
- The expansion of Christianity in the early centuries
- The Councils of Jerusalem and Nicaea
- The Reformation and Counter Reformation in Ireland
- Interpretation of the 19<sup>th</sup> century experience of the Catholic Church.

## ***Texts:***

Joseph H. Lynch, *Early Christianity, a brief history* (New York, Oxford, 2009)  
B. Bradshaw and D. Keogh (eds), *Christianity in Ireland* (Dublin, 2000)

## ***Time Allowance for Constituent Elements:***

Lectures:	10 hours
Assignment:	10 hours
Private study:	20 hours

***Elements and Forms of Assessment:*** Essay

## ***Philosophy of Religion and Secular Thought***

**Module Code:** TS 114  
**Lecturer:** TBC  
**Department:** Philosophy/Theology  
**Module Level:** Level 8 (Undergraduate)  
**Credit Rating:** 5 ECTS Credits

### ***Aims:***

This module takes as its starting point the philosophical debate concerning the existence and nature of God. It will also consider the interplay between reason, science and religion. The most common arguments for the existence of God, namely, the cosmological, ontological and teleological arguments will be identified and outlined with a view to assessing their validity.

### ***Indicative Syllabus:***

- The philosophical issues which arise within the contemporary ‘God debate’ in connection with the theory of Evolution and theories concerning the make-up and origins of the universe.
- The philosophical problem of evil will be examined as it presents a major challenge to belief in an all-knowing, all-powerful and all-good God.
- Aspects of secular thought and religion will be outlined.
- Critique of the German philosopher Ludwig Feuerbach (1804-1872)
- Trace secular thinking from the 19<sup>th</sup> century to Post-modernism.
- Philosophical theological responses to secular thinking will be considered.

### ***Indicative Bibliography:***

Brian Davies, *Introduction to the Philosophy of Religion* (Oxford: OUP).  
Martin Henry, *On Not Understanding God* (Dublin: Columba Press, 1997).

***Elements and Forms of Assessment:*** Essay



# *Certificate Module Descriptors*

## *Discipleship, Ministry, & Pastoral Practice*

<b>Module Code:</b>	TS 116
<b>Lecturers:</b>	Aoife McGrath & Donna Linton
<b>Department:</b>	Pastoral Theology
<b>Module Level:</b>	Level 7 Certificate
<b>Credit rating:</b>	5 ECTS

**Aims:** To introduce students to the theological foundations of Christian discipleship and ministry, and explore key features of pastoral practice.

**Learning Outcomes:** By the end of the module, students will:

- Have a good knowledge of the theological foundations of discipleship and ministry (ordained, religious, and lay).
- Be familiar with key teachings of the Second Vatican Council on the baptismal priesthood, the Church's mission in the world, the role of the laity, and the ministry of Bishops/clergy.
- Have an understanding of the different practices of ministry: teaching, preaching, leading worship/prayer, pastoral care, social ministry, and administration.
- Be aware of the mission and context of a parish, the practice of grouping parishes in pastoral areas, and the role of Parish Pastoral Councils.
- Be able to reflect theologically on concrete situations in pastoral ministry.

### **Indicative Syllabus:**

- Communion and Mission.
- Christian Vocation of Discipleship.
- Characteristics of Ministry exemplified in Jesus.
- Parish and the pastoral activity of the Church.
- Leadership in Christian community and the practices of ministry.
- Ministry and Processes of a Parish Pastoral Council.
- Group reflective practice on pastoral situations.

### **Indicative Bibliography:**

Cahalan, Kathleen A. *Introducing the Practice of Ministry*. Collegeville, Minnesota: Liturgical Press, 2010.

Gaillardetz, Richard R. and Catherine E. Clifford. *Keys to the Council: Unlocking the Teaching of Vatican II*. Collegeville, Minnesota: Liturgical Press, 2012.

Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference. Grouping Parishes for Mission: An Exploration of Key Issues. Dublin: Veritas, 2011.

Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference. Living Communion: Vision and Practice for Parish Pastoral Councils in Ireland Today. Dublin: Veritas, 2011.

O'Connell Killen, Patricia and John De Beer. The Art of Theological Reflection. New York: Crossroad Publishing, 2006.

Osborne, Kenan B. Orders and Ministry: Leadership in the World Church. Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books, 2006.

***Time Allowance for Constituent Elements:***

Lectures: 15 hours;            Assignment: 15 Hours;    Private Study: 60 Hours

***Assessment:*** Reflective Learning Journal (30%) and Reflection Paper/Essay (70%).  
Students need to pass all components of assessment in order to pass the module.

## ***Introduction to Spirituality***

<b>Module Code:</b>	TS 115
<b>Lecturer:</b>	Dr Denis Robinson
<b>Department:</b>	Spirituality/Theology
<b>Module Level:</b>	Level 7 Certificate
<b>Credits:</b>	5 ECTS

### ***Aims:***

The scope and sequence of this module aims to provide the student with a broad introduction to spirituality that will serve as a foundational exploration of the biblical, theological, historical, social, and the contemporary practice of Christian spirituality. Consequently, this module provides a wide-ranging base for an introduction to the different aspects of spirituality and how they are interconnected and expressed in the heart and mind, and in the personality and social presence of a person or group. St. Irenaeus said: the glory of God is the person fully alive. So the study of spirituality investigates our growth and development as a human being, and describes the nature of the spiritual life and the process by which people grow in the spiritual life to become a unique reflection of God. This multifaceted approach is essential for an integrated and genuine appreciation of Christian spirituality and how we appropriate and re-appropriate the spiritual heritage of the Christian faith in our lives and for our times.

### ***Indicative Syllabus:***

- 1) *Human Experience and the Experience of God*
- 2) *Exploring the Biblical Foundations for Spirituality*
- 3) *Jesus and the Trinity*
- 4) *The Centrality of Relationships*
- 5) *Prayer and Sacramental Life*
- 6) *The Quest for Authenticity*
- 7) *Spirituality for Everyday life*
- 8) *Spirituality and its Contribution to Human Development*
- 9) *Towards a Christian Understanding of the Person*
- 10) *Spirituality for a Post Modern World.*

### ***Indicative Bibliography:***

- Bacik, James. *Spirituality in Transition*. USA: Sheed and Ward, 1996.
- Downey, Michael., *Altogether Gift: A Trinitarian Spirituality*. New York: Orbis Books, 2000.
- Lane, Dermot A., *The Experience of God: An Invitation to do Theology*. Dublin: Veritas, 1981.

- Maloney, Edward J. (ed). *Scripture as the Soul of Theology*. London: Michael Glazier, 2005.
- Rohr, Richard. *Immortal Diamond: The Search for our True Self*. London: SPCK, 2013.
- Rolheiser, Ronald., *Seeking Spirituality: Guidelines for a Christian Spirituality for the Twenty-First Century*. London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1998.
- Sheldrake, Phillip F., *A Brief History of Spirituality*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2007.
- Sheldrake, Phillip. *Explorations in Spirituality: History, Theology and Social Practice*. New York: Paulist Press, 2010.
- Smail, Tom. *Like Father, Like Son: The Trinity Imaged in our Humanity*. England: Paternoster Press, 2005.
- Ulanov, Ann & Barry. *Primary Speech: The Psychology of Prayer*. Westminster: John Knox Press, 1988.
- Woods, Richard J. *Christian Spirituality: God's Presence through the Ages*. New York: Orbis books, 2006.

**Assessment:** Reflection Paper

## ***The Embodied Heart: Prayer and Praxis in the East and West***

<b>Module Code:</b>	TS 117
<b>Module Co-ordinator:</b>	Prof Séamus O’Connell
<b>Lecturers:</b>	Prof. Séamus O’Connell, Jane Mellet MTh
<b>Discipline:</b>	Liturgy and Sacred Scripture
<b>Module Level:</b>	Level 7 Certificate
<b>Credits:</b>	2.5 ECTS

### ***Aims:***

At the heart of the Christian mystery is God’s embrace of all humanity in Jesus of Nazareth who dwelt among us (see John 1:14), in order to call us and bring us from darkness into God’s own wonderful light (see 1 Peter 2:9). The saving mission of the Son is not something that happens beyond us, or in spite of us, but deep within us. As the word of God is not a far-off word, but a word that is in our hearts and on our lips. (see Deut 30:11–14 and Rom 10:6–8), to pray is to welcome the mystery of the Son who, in the Spirit, dwells deeply within every human person. To pray is to embrace the One who became human so that every human being might become divine (see St Athanasius, *On the Incarnation*, §54). To pray is to seek the awakening of the heart that can only be achieved by the Word of God. It is in such a perspective that this module offers a theological and practical introduction to Christian prayer in light of the spiritual traditions of the Western and Eastern worlds.

***Learning Outcomes:*** At the end of the course, the student will:

- be familiar with the roots, history and dimensions of Christian prayer;
- be able to recognise the various stages, dynamics and contours of Christian prayer
- be capable critically to explore non-dualistic approaches to the person as embodied reality, and to God as creator and source of all life;
- will be able actively to participate the silent prayer of both Western and Eastern traditions.

### ***Indicative Syllabus:***

- Body and Heart: the Human Person in a biblical perspective;
- The Holy Spirit: the life and the power of all prayer;
- Jesus: a person of prayer and master of prayer;
- The Word of God: approaches and models;
- The Scriptures—a sacrament of the Word of God;
- Prayer—a response to the realities of life: the Psalms as a school of prayer;
- *Istigh linn féin—habitare secum* (dwelling with oneself—St Gregory the Great): prayer and the discovery of our true selves;
- Taking Incarnation Seriously: embodied prayer;

- Beyond Words: Prayer and Silence—meditation, contemplation, and the ‘Language’ of God’
- Prayer—a quest for the living God
- Enduring to the End: the energy and hope to persevere in prayer

***Indicative Bibliography***

Casey, Michael. *Toward God: The Ancient Wisdom of Western Prayer*. Ligouri: Triumph Books, 1996.

———. *Sacred Reading: The Ancient Art of Lectio Divina*. Ligouri: Triumph Books, 1995.

Eaton, John. *The Contemplative Face of Old Testament Religion*. London: SCM, 1989.

Louf, André. *Teach Us to Pray: Learning a Little about God*. London: DLT, 1974.

Ryan, Thomas. *Prayer of Heart and Body: Meditation and Yoga as Christian Spiritual Practice*. New York & Mahwah: Paulist, 1995.

***Assessment:*** Reflective Learning Journal (30%) and Reflection Paper/Essay (70%).

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# Certificates in Catholic Religious Education and Theological Studies

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*Course Director:* Rev. Dr. John-Paul Sheridan

## *Introduction*

The Certificate and Post-Graduate Certificate in Catholic Religious Education and Theological Studies are offered alongside the Bachelor of Education and Professional Masters in Education (Primary Teaching) awarded by Maynooth University (NUIM). It is designed to educate teachers in foundational knowledge and equip them with the pedagogical skills necessary for communicating the Catholic faith in primary schools. Offered in collaboration with the Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education (Maynooth University), it aims to form teachers capable of responding to the many spiritual and religious opportunities and challenges facing pupils.

The Educational Writings of Friedrich Froebel (1782-1852) outline his philosophy on early childhood education, importance of play and activity, and child-centred methodologies. His writings have much in common with the philosophy at the heart of Catholic Education. From the point of view of equipping future teachers for Catholic schools, the following points are of particular relevance.

- The concept of the "unison" between nature and the human person is sprung from one and the same Creator. This is called "inner-connection";
- The recognition of truth begins in the real, visible world in the phenomena of nature, in which the laws of God are to be found, learned, and known as unchangeable;
- In all things, there lives and reigns an eternal law. This law is based on an eternal unity. This unity is God. All things have come from God, and have their origin in the Divine Unity, in God alone.

In line with the prerequisites of the Irish Catholic Bishops Conference, the programme presents the foundational disciplines of Catholic theology and models and practices of religious education that can enable teachers to teach in a child-centred, developmentally appropriate manner, while exploring the teacher's own Catholic identity, while respecting the diverse religious experience of contemporary society. Catholic schools in many jurisdictions, including Northern Ireland, the Great Britain and Australia, require an equivalent of this Certificate.

Rev. Dr. John Paul Sheridan BA, STL, MEd, PhD  
Education Programmes Coordinator  
18 Dunboyne House  
St. Patrick's College, Maynooth  
Office: 01-7083637  
E-Mail: [JohnPaul.Sheridan@spcm.ie](mailto:JohnPaul.Sheridan@spcm.ie)

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# Certificate in Catholic Religious Education and Theological Studies

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The *Certificate in Catholic Religious Education and Theological Studies* is offered alongside the *Bachelor of Education* awarded by National University of Ireland, Maynooth.

It is designed to educate teachers in foundational knowledge and equip them with the pedagogical skills necessary for communicating the Catholic faith in primary schools. Offered in collaboration with the Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education (Maynooth University), it aims to form teachers capable of responding to the many spiritual and religious opportunities and challenges facing pupils.

In line with the prerequisites of the Irish Catholic Bishops Conference, the programme presents the foundational disciplines of Catholic theology and models and practices of religious education that can enable teachers to teach in a child-centred, developmentally appropriate manner, while exploring the teacher's own Catholic identity, while respecting the diverse religious experience of contemporary society. Catholic schools in many jurisdictions, including Northern Ireland, the Great Britain and Australia, require an equivalent of this Certificate.

## **Programme Components**

### *Bachelor of Education*

Within the Bachelor of Education itself, Religious Education has parity of standing and esteem with other core subjects. Acknowledging the central role of Religious Education for the benefit of the child, and in the Irish Curriculum, they consider the underpinnings, philosophies and approaches to Religious Education from different perspectives, including catechetical, pedagogical, programmatic, inter-religious and inter-denominational, and the contemporary debate on Religious Education.

### *Certificate in Religious Education*

(A) Religious Education: The Certificate wishes to concretely equip future teachers for Catholic schools. Further modules in Religious Education are offered within the Certificate in order to deepen the faith-formative requirements of teacher education. The modules are designed to allow students internalise the richness of Catholic traditions and theologies of education, deepen their own vocational identity as Catholic teachers, and equip them to become confident and competent religious educators in Catholic schools and communities. They will directly and comprehensively address the skills, experiences, and resources required to deliver an Irish Catholic Religious Education Programme.



(B) Theology: An additional distinctive element of the Certificate is that it draws on the experience, expertise and resources of the Faculty of Theology, St. Patrick’s College, Maynooth. Design of the theological components took into account the programme learning outcomes, the requirements of the Irish Episcopal Conference, the structure of the Bachelor of Education, the Primary School Religious Education Curriculum and the integrity of the tapestry of theology itself.

<b>Certificate in Catholic Religious Education and Theological Studies</b>				
<b>Module</b>			<b>Hours</b>	<b>Year</b>
RE101	Christian Belief: Faith, Creed and Trinity		20	1
RE102	Sacred Scripture I (New Testament)		10	2
RE103	Sacred Scripture II (The Old Testament)		10	3
RE104	Christian Morality I: Foundations		10	3
RE105	Christian Morality II: Living in Right Relationships		10	4
RE106	The Church at Prayer		20	4
RE107	Introduction to Religious Education and Catechesis		12	1
RE108	Religious Education Applied – Junior Classes		10	2
RE109	Religious Education Applied – Senior Classes		10	3
RE110	Educational Foundations of RE I – Methodologies	EDF 135	20	1
RE111	Educational Foundations of RE II – World Religions, Ecumenism, and Inter-Faith Dialogue	EDF 236	20	2

### **Admission Requirements**

Applicants must be undertaking or have undertaken a *Bachelor of Education* or its equivalent.

## **Programme of Study**

On successful completion of the programme, a graduate should be able to:

<i>Knowledge</i>	Demonstrate relevant knowledge of Catholic theology and practice Exhibit an awareness of the theological and pedagogical foundations of Religious Education at primary level Recognise important issues in relation to contemporary education in the Catholic school sector Demonstrate an awareness of the religious experience in the church community and wider culture.
<i>Skill</i>	Explore relevant insights of Catholic theology, practice and religious education Develop lesson plans appropriate to the developmental level of children and in line with the proposed curriculum Compose ritual and prayer-service for the classroom and the school community, consistent with the Catholic tradition Employ practices that develop personal and professional development.
<i>Competence</i>	Capable of grasping the unity Catholic theology, practice and religious education Apply the knowledge and skills necessary to deliver a religious education curriculum Evaluate, promote, and challenge if necessary, pedagogical and school practices, from the perspective of the Catholic tradition Act as a self-motivated and reflective practitioner.

## **Module Descriptors**

### **Christian Belief: Faith, Creed and Trinity**

To introduce students to foundational themes in theology and their connections. Themes include: anthropology and Christology, revelation and faith, Scripture and Tradition, and the significance of a Trinitarian understanding of God.

### **Sacred Scripture (I)**

Through extended engagement with the Gospel of Luke, this module will permit the student to come to a first-hand knowledge of New Testament and its core texts, motifs and contexts. This first-hand knowledge will, in turn, provide the foundation for an active engagement with key gospel passages which lie at teacher's handing on of the faith.

### **Sacred Scripture (II)**

Building upon the foundation of the New Testament module, this module will introduce key characters in and for the journey of faith, with a particular focus on key

foundational narratives—the creation of humanity, the call of Abraham, the exodus from Egypt, and the anointing of David.

### **Christian Morality (I)**

To introduce students to dynamic of Christian moral reflection and action. It aims to facilitate students explore the specific features of Christian morality, identify the primary principles moving moral discourse, and employ a Christian perspective in deliberation towards action. By relating morality to the mature integration of the person, the course will draw out specific connections to the moral and spiritual development of the child.

### **Christian Morality (II)**

The Christian life has often been described as a call to live in right relationships – with self, others and creation. This module will explore this aspect of Christian discipleship with particular reference to issues of justice [interpersonal and societal], human stewardship and Christian witness in society.

### **The Church at Prayer**

The aim of this module is to introduce the participants to an understanding of the role, meaning and function of sacramental and liturgical celebrations in Christianity and especially in the Catholic Church. Beginning with the core theological category of the worshipping community as the Church, the module will explore how the Church is made manifest in its liturgical activity.

### **Introduction to Religious Education and Catechesis**

This module is in three parts: To introduce the student to the foundation and aims of religious education in the Catholic Church as prescribed in the *General Directory for Catechesis*, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, *Catechesi Tradendae* and other pertinent documents of the Catholic Church, both universal and local. To introduce the student to an understanding of catechesis, as it is found in Church documents and as it is understood in the Catholic Church.

### **Religious Education (Applied) Junior Classes**

The emphasis of the module is a practical introduction to the programme, with an emphasis on theory application and skills training. This module will prepare the student to teach Religious Education and Catechesis in a Catholic primary school. It will introduce the students to the *Grow in Love* programme as taught in the first four years of primary school. This module will introduce the overriding themes of the programme and examine the methodologies used to teach the programme. It will introduce the student to the preparation for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

### **Religious Education (Applied) Senior Classes**

The emphasis of the module is a practical introduction to the programme, with an emphasis on theory application and skills training. This module will prepare the student to teach Religious Education and Catechesis in a Catholic primary school. The module will introduce the students to the *Alive-O* and *Grow in Love* programmes as taught in the 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> classes in primary school. . The module will examine the methodologies used to teach the programme, with particular emphasis on how it differs to the earlier years. It will introduce the student to the preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

### **Educational Foundations of Religious Education – Methodologies**

See *Maynooth University Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education*

### **Diversity and Dialogue in Religious Education – World Religions, Ecumenism, and Inter-Faith dialogue**

See *Maynooth University Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education*

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## **Post-Graduate Certificate in Catholic Religious Education and Theological Studies**

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The *Post-Graduate Certificate in Catholic Religious Education and Theological Studies* is offered alongside the *Professional Masters in Education (Primary)* awarded by National University of Ireland, Maynooth.

It is designed to inform student teachers of foundational knowledge and furnish them with the pedagogical skills necessary for transmitting the Catholic tradition in primary schools of a Catholic Ethos. Offered in collaboration with the Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education (National University of Ireland, Maynooth), it aims to form teachers capable of responding to the many spiritual and religious opportunities and challenges facing pupils.

The programme meets the prerequisites of the Irish Catholic Bishops Conference in offering foundational disciplines of Catholic theology and models and practices of religious education. It is devised to enable teachers to teach in a child-centred, developmentally appropriate manner, while exploring the teacher's own Catholic identity and the diverse contemporary religious experience. Catholic schools in many jurisdictions, including Northern Ireland, Great Britain and Australia, require an equivalent of this Certificate.

## Programme Components

### *Professional Masters of Education*

Within the Professional Masters of Education itself, Religious Education has parity of standing and esteem with other core subjects. Acknowledging the central role of Religious Education for the benefit of the child, and in the Irish Curriculum, they consider the underpinnings, philosophies and approaches to Religious Education from different perspectives, including catechetical, pedagogical, programmatic, inter-religious and inter-denominational, and the contemporary debate on Religious Education.

### *Certificate in Religious Education*

(A) Religious Education: The Certificate wishes to concretely equip future teachers for Catholic schools. Further modules in Religious Education are offered within the Certificate in order to deepen the faith-formative requirements of teacher education. The modules are designed to allow students internalise the richness of Catholic traditions and theologies of education, deepen their own vocational identity as Catholic teachers, and equip them to become confident and competent religious educators in Catholic schools and communities. They will directly and comprehensively address the skills, experiences, and resources required to deliver an Irish Catholic Religious Education Programme.

(B) Theology: An additional distinctive element of the Certificate is that it draws on the experience, expertise and resources of the Faculty of Theology, St. Patrick's College, Maynooth. Design of the theological components took into account the programme learning outcomes, the requirements of the Irish Episcopal Conference, the structure of the Masters in Education, the Primary School Religious Education Curriculum and the integrity of the tapestry of theology itself.

The grid below summarises the course in terms of the module titles, the required assessment, the contact hours, credits awarded for each module and the year within which the students will be required to undertake the modules.

<b>Post-Graduate Certificate in Catholic Religious Education and Theological Studies</b>			
<b>Module</b>		<b>Hours</b>	<b>Year</b>
RE 401	Introduction to Religious Education, Catechesis and Liturgy	20	1
RE 402	Christian Belief	10	1
RE 403	Christian Scripture/Morality	20	2

RE 404	Foundations of Religious Education	EDF 607	20	1
RE 405	Religious Education - World Religions, Ecumenism, and Inter-Faith Dialogue	EDF 626	20	2

### **Admission Requirements**

Applicants must be undertaking or have undertaken a *Professional Masters in Education (Primary)*

### **Programme of Study**

On successful completion of the programme, a graduate should be able to:

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <i>Knowledge</i>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relate relevant knowledge of Catholic theology and practice</li> <li>Recognise the theological and pedagogical foundations of RE at primary level</li> <li>Identify significant issues in the Catholic school sector, with regard to education</li> <li>Exhibit an awareness of the religious experiences of an ecclesial community and wider culture.</li> </ul>                              |
| <i>Skill</i>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore the insights of Catholic theology and practice.</li> <li>Compile lesson plans appropriate to the developmental level of children and in line with the proposed curriculum</li> <li>Construct classroom and school community rituals and prayer-service, consistent with the Catholic tradition</li> <li>Apply practices required for personal and professional development.</li> </ul> |
| <i>Competence</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capable of synthesising Catholic theology and religious education</li> <li>Employ the knowledge and skills necessary to deliver a religious education curriculum</li> <li>Consider, and critique if necessary, pedagogical and school practices, from the perspective of the Catholic tradition</li> <li>Act as a self-motivated and reflective practitioner.</li> </ul>                       |

## **Module Descriptors**

### **Christian Belief**

To introduce students to foundational themes in theology and their connections. Themes include: anthropology and Christology, revelation and faith, Scripture and Tradition, and the significance of a Trinitarian understanding of God.

### **Introduction to Religious Education, Catechesis and Liturgy**

#### **Module Overview:**

To introduce the students to the philosophy, aims and objectives of the Catholic school and to the foundation and aims of religious education and catechesis as it is understood in the Catholic Church, based on the Conciliar and post-Conciliar documents. To introduce the students to the philosophy, aims, methodologies and content of the Irish Catechetical Programmes. To introduce the students to an understanding of Sacramentality and liturgy, and in particular the place of liturgy and ritual in religious education and catechesis. To acquaint the students with the sacramental preparation of pupils for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation.

### **And God saw that it was very good! *Introduction to Sacred Scripture and Christian Ethics***

This module sets out to explore the Christian vision of the human person and how a person (one) might read, interpret, and receive the Word of the Living God, within themselves, within the world and within the Bible. Therefore, it seeks to integrate a contemporary view of the human person and a contemporary narrative critical approach to the interpretation of the Bible. To achieve this, the module will explore, from within the Catholic tradition, the Christian vision of the human person, of human life and of the Bible, as the concrete expression of the Word of God.

### **Educational Foundations of Religious Education**

*See Maynooth University Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education*

### **Religious Education - World Religions, Ecumenism, and Inter-Faith Dialogue**

*See Maynooth University Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education*

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# Diploma in Catholic Education

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*Course Director:* Rev. Dr. John-Paul Sheridan

*Chaplain:* Rev. Dr. Michael Shortall

The *Diploma in Catholic Education* (DCE) is a programme devised to enhance the participant's formation as teachers. Awarded and provided by St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, it is sustained by a partnership with It aims to prepare students for a professional role (development of knowledge, skills and abilities/competencies) in service of a school-community ethos and sustained by a reflective spirituality.

Therefore, it supplements the necessary prerequisite of undertaking or completing teacher education and qualification. The programme is designed to:

- a) Provide students with the knowledge and formation to enable them to become teachers, or develop their capacity and competence as teachers, capable of contributing positively to the ethos of a Catholic school and nourishing themselves as reflective practitioners;
- b) Supply the school community with knowledgeable and professional teachers able to sustain a school's ethos, while having the flexibility to respond to the changing environment of the school system;
- c) Contribute to the on-going development of the vocation of a Catholic teacher and the Catholic school sector by way of critically engaged and reflective practitioners.

Drawing inspiration from the suite of programmes offered by the University of Notre Dame's *Alliance for Catholic Education* (ACE), the Diploma in Catholic Education is based on three pillars: professionalism, spirituality and community.

## **Professionalism**

Participants undertake classes during the year aimed at enhancing the student's development as Catholic schoolteachers. As a capstone experience to the Diploma in Catholic Education, students will spend one week in June/July in a summer school participating in both academic and retreat experiences.

## **Spirituality**

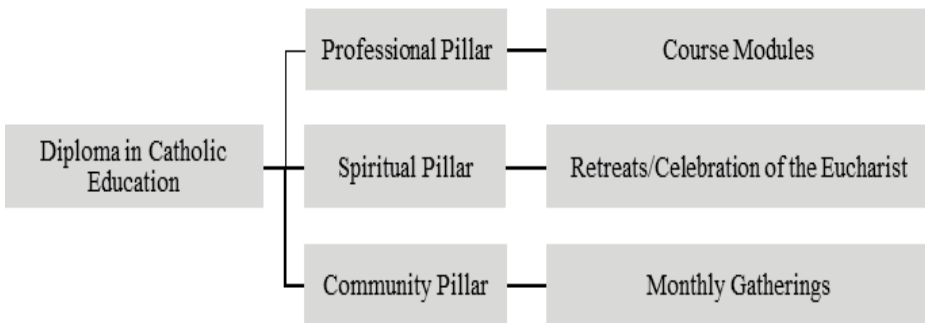
Participants in the programme will be encouraged to develop spiritually in the context of community. This will be achieved through:

- Three retreat experiences
  - Opening retreat in October
  - Lenten retreat
  - Closing retreat in June/July
- Monthly opportunities for celebration of the Eucharist



## Community

The participants in the Diploma in Catholic Education will be asked to form a community outside the academic component of the programme. Students will be required to meet monthly to celebrate Mass and dinner with the Chaplain. Once each semester, students will also be asked to attend or host a wider community gathering of those involved in Catholic Education.



## Admission Requirements

Applicants must be undertaking or have undertaken a *Bachelor of Education/ Professional Masters in Education* or its equivalent.

## Application Procedure

Potential participants are required to complete the necessary documentation. Application forms are available from the Admissions Office. Final admission after a short interview

## Assessment

Each module will be assessed by way of an essay or its equivalent. In addition, an integrative journal will be required, with the aim of articulating the appropriation of the experience and knowledge of the course.

## Programme of Study

On successful completion of the programme, the graduate should be able to:

**Knowledge** Identify relevant knowledge and insights of Catholic theology, spirituality and tradition, as they relate to education  
Recognise important issues in relation to contemporary education in the Catholic school sector  
Demonstrate an awareness of Catholicism as a wider culture and community.

- Skill**                Discuss important insights of Catholic theology, spirituality and tradition  
 Examine education issues from the perspective of the Catholic tradition  
 Contribute effectively to the ethos of a school community  
 Employ practices that develop personal and professional development.
- Competence**      To demonstrate a grasp of Catholic theology, spirituality and tradition  
 Appreciate a school ethos and engage positively and professionally with it.  
 Evaluate, promote, and challenge if necessary, pedagogical and school practices, from the perspective of the Catholic tradition

### **Module Descriptors**

A comprehensive description of each module, detailing aims and objectives, indicative syllabus, and a select bibliography is available on request.

#### **Catholic Education: Roots, History and Content**

The module is designed to introduce students to important foundational aspects of Catholic education and to explore related contemporary concerns.

#### **Faith Seeking Understanding: An Introduction to Theology**

This module aims to introduce students to the discipline of theology, focusing on the notions of experience, revelation and faith.

#### **Forged in the Crucible: Spirituality of the Catholic Teacher**

This course aims to facilitate students in establishing connections between their experiences of spirituality and their role as educators in Catholic schools.

#### **Learning from Jesus the Teacher**

To introduce students to the major developments in Catholic Biblical scholarship by studying how Jesus is presented as teacher by the authors of the four Gospels and the implications of this for Catholic education

#### **Purposeful Leadership: Catholic Social Teaching and Educational Leadership**

To explore the commitments of responsible leadership by way of an engagement with Catholic Social Teaching, models of educational leadership and the experience of teaching.

#### **From Ideal to Action: Developing a Distinctly Catholic School Culture**

For students to discover the unique elements of a distinctly Catholic school culture and to consider strategies to impact the Catholicity of their classrooms and school.

## Reflective Journal

To provide the students with an opportunity identify key learning events in the course of the academic year, on which they might then reflect. This reflection on the experience of learning might be analysed both in terms of professional development and with regard to spiritual growth.

For further information, contact:

Admissions Office, Pontifical University, Saint Patrick's College, Maynooth

For further information contact:



Admissions Office  
Pontifical University  
Saint Patrick's College  
Maynooth, County Kildare  
IRELAND

[www.MaynoothCollege.ie](http://www.MaynoothCollege.ie)

Email: [admissions@spcm.ie](mailto:admissions@spcm.ie) / [Theology.office@spcm.ie](mailto:Theology.office@spcm.ie)

Telephone: Ireland: 01-708-4772 / 708-3600

International: +353-1-708-4772/ +353-1-708-3600

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# Certificate in Theology

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*Course Director:* Dr Suzanne Mulligan

This one-year course aims to provide a dynamic learning environment for those seeking a comprehensive foundation in Catholic theology or for those who wish to develop and broaden their theological knowledge.

## Programme of Study

- *Systematic Theology*, which studies the meaning and implications of the principal faith-affirmations of Christianity concerning God, Jesus, the Church, the human condition.
- *Moral Theology*, which deals with the experience of morality and in particular with the bearing of Christian faith on the moral life. Topics include: conscience, making moral decisions, the Bible and morality, bioethics, ethics and communications, ethics of gender and sexuality, justice, morality and law, ethics in public life, peace and war.
- *Sacred Scripture*, which studies the Bible – its nature and significance, origins, literary forms, interpretation today. It will include a study of particular Old Testament and New Testament books.
- *Foundations of Worship* will ask “Why Liturgy?”
- *Introduction to Christian Spirituality*
- *Discipleship, Ministry and Pastoral Practice*
- *Lectio Divina*

## Timetable

Monday & Wednesday: 6.30 p.m. – 9.30 p.m.  
Two Saturdays in Semester Two: 10.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.

Course Code	Title	Lecturer(s)	Semester	Credits
TH 401	Introduction to Theology	Marmion/ O’Gorman	1	5
<b>Systematic Theology</b>				
ST 404	God Revealed in Jesus Christ	O’Sullivan	1	5
ST 403	The Church and its Sacraments	Surlis	2	5
<b>Moral Theology</b>				
MR 401	Bioethics	Shortall	1	5
MR 403	Catholic Social Teaching	Corkery	2	5
<b>Sacred Scripture</b>				
SC 400	The Bible and Its Worlds	O’Connell/ Macnamara	1	5
SC 401	The Old Testament	Corley	1	5
SC 403	The New Testament: Searching for the Fine Pearls	O’Connell/ Macnamara	2	5
<b>Liturgy</b>				
LI 400	Foundations of Worship	Tracey	2	5
TS 115	Introduction to Christian Spirituality	Robinson	2	5
TS 116	Discipleship, Ministry, and Pastoral Practice	McGrath/ Linton	2	5
<b>Electives*</b>				
TS 112	Church History	Moffitt	1	2.5
TS 117	Embodied Heart	O’Connell/ Mellett	2	2.5
TS 111	Introduction to World Religions	Claffey	1	2.5
ME 400	Major Essay	TBC	2	2.5

### *Modules Descriptors on Pages 286- 304*

(\* Please choose from the 4 options outlined, to comprise a total of 5 credits)

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# Diploma in Theology

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The *Diploma in Theology* is awarded on the successful completion of a three-year course of theological studies.

## Admission Requirements

Satisfactory completion of one of the following or its equivalent is required.

- The *Seminarist Course in Philosophy and Arts*
- An acceptable two-year programme in Philosophy.

Those who have an interest in Theology, but do not hold a primary degree or equivalent qualification may be considered for entry to the *Diploma in Theology*.

## Programme of Study

The following subjects will be studied:

- Obligatory Subjects:
  - Systematic Theology
  - Moral Theology
  - New Testament
  - Old Testament
  - Ecclesiastical History
  - Liturgy (year I)
  - Canon Law (years II & III)
  - Mission Studies.
- Qualifying Subjects:
  - Patrology
  - Homiletics
  - Catechetics
- Elective Subjects: Any two of the elective subjects approved by the Faculty.

The programme is outlined in full in the *Baccalaureate of Divinity* programme. Candidates are given exemption from studying the theological languages of Latin, Hebrew and Greek.

Students holding a *Diploma in Theology* may be admitted to the BTh or BD programmes in *Add-On* mode. Applicants for the BD *Add-On* mode programme must have at least five years professional experience and satisfy the Pontifical University matriculation criteria.

Course content will be based on the syllabus for BD and BTh programmes, which are described in detail in Chapters III and IV of this publication. The specific courses to be undertaken in the major and in the minor subjects must be agreed in advance on an individual basis with the Dean and the Registrar. The minimum duration of these programmes will be one academic year, and must be full-time in the case of the BD *Add-On* mode. Permission to extend the duration of studies must be sought expressly from the Faculty of Theology. Assessment will be by examination and course work.

## Application Procedure

All applications should be made directly to the Admissions Office and will be examined on an individual basis by the Dean of the Faculty and the Registrar.

For further information contact:



Admissions Office  
Pontifical University  
Saint Patrick's College  
Maynooth  
County Kildare  
IRELAND

Web Page: [www.maynoothcollege.ie](http://www.maynoothcollege.ie)

E-mail: [admissions@spcm.ie](mailto:admissions@spcm.ie) / [theology.office@spcm.ie](mailto:theology.office@spcm.ie)

Telephone:

Ireland: 01-708-4772 / 708-3600

International: +353-1-708-4772

Fax:

Ireland: 01-708-3441

International: +353-1-708-3441

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# Diploma in Mission Studies

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All students of Theology of the Pontifical University may study for a Diploma in Mission Studies. Seminarians study the course over three years. However, the course of study is designed so that it can be completed in one year to facilitate clerical and lay missionaries, be they from Ireland or overseas, and should they be returning from the missions or preparing to go on the missions for the first time.

Missionary priests sisters or laity may attend the One-Year Course in Mission Studies without seeking a Diploma or doing the required examination.

## Three Year Programme of Study

Over three years the student must take courses in Mission Studies taught in First, Second and Third Divinity, one class per week. In addition, a student must present a substantial essay project after completion of the course. The professor or lecturer in Mission Studies must approve the topic of the project.

## One Year Programme of Study

In one year the student must cover the courses in Mission Studies taught in First, Second and Third Divinity, and present a substantial essay project. The student must also attend at least one module (2 classes per week) in Systematic Theology, Moral Theology and Sacred Scripture as an occasional student but is not required to do examinations in these subjects.

For further details contact:



Admissions Office  
Pontifical University  
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Ireland: 01-708-4772 / 708-3600

International: +353-1-708-4772

Fax:

Ireland: 01-708-3441

International: +353-1-708-3441



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# Diploma in Religious Studies

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The Diploma in Religious Studies is a one-year full-time programme in Religious Studies. Its principal purpose is to provide a theological exposition of the Christian life. It does this by imparting such information that its students will understand the authentic teaching of the Church, and recognise its relevance to themselves and to the secularised world of today. The programme is ideal for priests, religious and lay people, particularly those involved in education.

## Admission Requirements

A student must have attained the standard required for matriculation in an Irish University or equivalent institution. Mature students may be accepted, if in the judgement of the Registrar they have attained an adequate educational standard.

## Programme of Study

The programme is tailored to the needs and interests of the student. From the BD programme a student is required to take four lectures per week in Systematic Theology and Moral Theology, and two in both Old and New Testament. In consultation with the programme Director, the students can pick the courses best suited to them. In addition they also take two elective subjects of their choice from the programme.

## Assessment

The award of the Diploma in Religious Studies will be based on the assessment of written examinations, essays and other work throughout the year.



Admissions Office  
Pontifical University  
Saint Patrick's College  
Maynooth  
County Kildare  
IRELAND

Web Page: [www.maynoothcollege.ie](http://www.maynoothcollege.ie)

E-mail: [admissions@spcm.ie](mailto:admissions@spcm.ie) / [theology.office@spcm.ie](mailto:theology.office@spcm.ie)

Telephone:

Fax:

Ireland: 01-708-4772 / 708-3600

Ireland: 01-708-3441

International: +353-1-708-4772

International: +353-1-708-3441

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# Higher Diploma in Pastoral Theology *and* Diploma in Pastoral Theology

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*Director of Pastoral Theology: Rev Pdraig Corkery (Acting)*

Through participation, reflection and practical experience, the programmes aim to prepare students for the various aspects of pastoral ministry. Both diplomas follow the same academic and placement programmes, and are awarded on the successful completion of one year's full-time engagement.

## **Admission Requirements**

### **HIGHER DIPLOMA IN PASTORAL THEOLOGY**

Candidates are required to have a recognised degree qualification where theology is at least a minor component. Students with other degrees may be admitted if they have experience in pastoral ministry. They may be required to take courses in theology to qualify for admission.

### **DIPLOMA IN PASTORAL THEOLOGY**

Candidates who have experience in parish-based or other pastoral ministry but do not hold a primary degree may be considered for entry. They may be required to take courses in theology to qualify for admission.

### **For both Higher Diploma and Diploma courses in Pastoral Theology:**

- Students whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirement.
- A successful interview is an essential part of the selection process.

### **Programme of Study**

The course places a strong emphasis on participative learning. At a personal level the course addresses the integration of academic and pastoral theology 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 classes are normally on Monday and Tuesday of each week, students may be required to attend courses and seminars that are only available outside these times. The core modules in the programme include:

- Theology for Ministry
- Liturgy and Pastoral Ministry
- Ethics for Ministry
- The Kiss of Christ: Introduction to *Lectio Divina*
- Church at the Service of God

- Introduction to Pastoral Counselling
- School Catechesis and Chaplaincy
- Ministry in Context: Bringing Faith to Life
- Parish Ministry
- Theological Reflection

### **Pastoral Placement Education Module**

Students commit to a pastoral placement for ten to twelve hours per week. While placement usually takes place between Wednesday and Sunday of each week, students may also be required to participate in week long block placements. Placement is arranged by the student with the support of the placement coordinator. This module also includes a taught portion. Participation in theological reflection groups and supervision are central to the placement experience. The Theological Reflection module is a co-requisite with this module.

### **Clinical Pastoral Education**

Students 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 students apply for independently and take at the completion of courses and parish placement. Clinical Pastoral Education is a qualifying course for the completion of this degree.

### **Assessment**

Each module will be assessed by class attendance, participation, presentations and a written assignment as outlined within the module. The two primary processes of assessment for the pastoral placement will be: placement supervised visits (two in total) and a student placement portfolio. Students need to pass all components of assessment in order to pass the module

For further information contact:



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Pontifical University  
Saint Patrick's College  
Maynooth  
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IRELAND

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International: +353-1-708-4772

Fax:

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# Diploma in Diaconate Studies

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*National Director:* Rev Dr Michael Duignan, DD

The Diploma in Diaconate Studies is a professional award of the Pontifical University designed to provide for the education and formation of candidates for the Permanent Diaconate in accordance with the Norms of the Holy See and the Irish Episcopal Conference.

The three-year programme may be delivered at locations outside of the college pending a decision of the Faculty of Theology in consultation with local dioceses.

The programme seeks to answer the needs of the Church by ensuring a comprehensive preparation for orders and ministry as a Permanent Deacon, one who sacramentalises the service of Christ. While candidates are already active members in their own ecclesial settings, the Diploma in Diaconate Studies will aim to broaden, deepen and enhance this aspect of their lives as well as ensuring training for the possibility of being ordained for service as a deacon. The Diploma in Diaconate Studies seeks always to integrate in a harmonious manner the four principal areas of formation – human, spiritual, academic, and pastoral.

## Admission Requirements

Admission to the course is confined to those who have been selected by their Local Ordinaries as candidates for the Permanent Diaconate. Where students are in possession of a degree in theology they may be considered to take this course at Higher Diploma level.

## Programme of Study

The course is a taught programme through lectures, workshops and practical sessions. Tutorial assistance is available to students and this can enable them to concentrate on particular aspects of the course. Reading courses will also be prescribed.

The main areas of study include:

- Fundamental and Systematic Theology
- Moral Theology
- Sacred Scripture
- Liturgy
- Canon Law
- Ecclesiastical History
- Spirituality
- Pastoral Theology

Each student following the Diploma in Diaconate Studies will also pursue a programme of pastoral formation decided upon by his sponsoring diocese.

## **Assessment**

Students may be assessed through written work, class participation, and / or examination. On completion of the programme a comprehensive exam will take place.

For further information contact:



Permanent Diaconate  
Columba Centre  
Saint Patrick's College  
Maynooth  
County Kildare  
IRELAND

E-mail: [Diaconate@iecon.ie](mailto:Diaconate@iecon.ie)

Telephone:

Ireland: 01-505-3028

International: +353-1-505-3028

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# Higher Diploma in Pastoral Liturgy

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*Course Director:* Reverend Daniel Murphy, BA, BD, MA (SJU)

The one-year course, conducted by the National Centre for Liturgy, offers candidates the opportunity to study the worship of the Church, its tradition and its place in the Church today. It aims to provide training in liturgy to enable the student to take a leadership role in pastoral work, specialising in liturgy, at diocesan and parish level.

## Admission Requirements

Students are required to have a primary degree where theology is at least a major component. Students with other degrees, or with a professional diploma or equivalent qualification, may be admitted if they have experience in parish or liturgical ministry. They may be required to take extra courses in theology, and to take an oral examination while studying for the Higher Diploma in Pastoral Liturgy.

## Programme of Study

Students must take the basic course work for the Diploma in Pastoral Liturgy. In addition, they take guided reading courses in the main courses: theology and practice of liturgy, Eucharist, sacraments, liturgy and time, prayer and liturgical spirituality, human communication in liturgy, music. They are required to take part in two seminars on pastoral liturgy and liturgical theology.

## Assessment

Students will be assessed through written work on the various courses in 7 - 8 semester essays, and through an oral examination on completion of the programme. In addition, a major written work of c. 15,000 words, must be submitted.



For further information contact  
Course Director  
National Centre for Liturgy  
Saint Patrick's College  
Maynooth  
County Kildare

Tel: 01-708-3478

Fax: 01-708-3477

E-mail: [Liturgy@spcm.ie](mailto:Liturgy@spcm.ie)

Web Page: [www.MaynoothCollege.ie](http://www.MaynoothCollege.ie)

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# Diploma in Pastoral Liturgy

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*Course Director:* Reverend Daniel Murphy, BA, BD, MA (SJU)

The one-year programme in liturgy, conducted by the National Centre for Liturgy, offers candidates the opportunity to study liturgy under its theological, historical, spiritual and pastoral aspects. It is planned to meet the needs of people for their future or continued work in liturgy at parish, community or diocesan level.

## Admission Requirements

Admission to the course is normally confined to those who have a basic academic qualification at second level and have completed two years of third level professional studies or two years of pastoral experience.

## Programme of Study

The course is a taught programme through lectures, workshops and practical sessions. Tutorial assistance is available to students and this can enable them to concentrate on particular aspects of liturgy.

The main areas of study include: theology and practice of liturgy, Eucharist, sacraments, liturgy and time, prayer and liturgical spirituality, human communication in liturgy, music. Complementary courses include: the bible in worship, early Christian worship, Eastern rites, Church art and architecture, ministry, liturgy and culture, liturgy and pastoral care.

## Assessment

Students will be assessed through written work in semester essays and through an oral examination on completion of the programme. In addition, a major written work of c.10,000 words, must be submitted.



For further information contact  
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National Centre for Liturgy  
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# Affiliated Programmes

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*Director of Affiliated Programmes:* Rev. Dr Michael Shortall, MA (UCD), STD (Greg)

The following programmes are affiliated to the Pontifical University. For further information, please apply to the appropriate programme provider at the address indicated.

**1. Higher Diploma in Counselling (Marriage & Relationships)**

ACCORD Central Office,  
Columba Centre,  
Maynooth, Co Kildare  
TEL: 01-5053112  
Website: [www.accord.ie](http://www.accord.ie)

**2. Certificate in Person Centred Counselling (Marriage & Relationships)**

ACCORD Central Office,  
Columba Centre,  
Maynooth, Co Kildare  
TEL: 01-5053112  
Website: [www.accord.ie](http://www.accord.ie)

**3. Certificate in Christian Studies**

Diocese of Cashel and Ossory (Church of Ireland)  
The Very Rev Tom Gordon, Dean of Leighlin & Director of Adult Education

Email: [co.diocese.education@gmail.com](mailto:co.diocese.education@gmail.com)  
Phone: 087 2767562

**4. Certificate in Theological Studies**

Diocese of Ossory (Roman Catholic)  
Mr Declan Murphy M.A. (Course Director)  
Email: [declanmurphy@ossory.ie](mailto:declanmurphy@ossory.ie)  
Telephone 056-7721086

**5. Diploma in Spirituality**

Manresa Jesuit Centre of Spirituality  
Avril O'Regan  
426 Clontarf Road, Dollymount,  
Dublin 3.  
Website: [www.manresa.ie](http://www.manresa.ie)  
Tel: +353 1 8331352



**6. Diploma / Certificate in Spirituality (Youth Retreat Facilitation)**

Shekinah

Sr Jennifer Perkins (Course Director)

Website: <http://www.shekinah.ie>

**7. Certificate / Diploma / Degree in Theology (Adult Education and Pastoral Ministry)**

Armagh Diocesan Pastoral Centre

The Magnet

Dundalk

Co. Louth

Tel: 00353 429336649

email: [parishandfamily@gmail.com](mailto:parishandfamily@gmail.com)

**8. Carmelite Studies (Suite of Awards)**

Carmelite Institute of Britain and Ireland

Website: <http://www.cibi.ie>

**9. Diploma in Pastoral Studies**

Drumalis Retreat and Conference Centre

47 Glenarm Road

Larne, County Antrim

Northern Ireland

BT40 1DT

+44 (028) 28272196 or +44 (028) 28276455

(048) 28272196 or (048) 28276455 (from Republic of Ireland)

Website: <http://www.drumalis.co.uk>

**10. Diploma in Diaconate Studies (Several Centres)**

Please contact the local Roman Catholic Diocese.