



Higher Diploma in Theological Studies

Programme Director: Fr. [Neil Xavier O'Donoghue](#), Ph.D.

This one-year, evening/weekend, Level 8, 65 ECTS credits programme gives a foundation in Theological Studies to students who hold a primary degree in another discipline. This Higher Diploma meets all the Teaching Council of Ireland's [Requirements](#) for the teaching of Religious Studies at post-primary level. It entitles teachers holding Department-recognised degrees and teacher training qualifications to teach up to 15 hours' Religious Education per week in a secondary school.

The Higher Diploma in Theological Studies from St. Patrick's College Maynooth attests to the completion of a substantial and coherent programme of learning. The Higher Diploma allows students to finish an accredited introductory programme in theology and to obtain a credential for it. Other students may use the programme as a gateway to applying to a Master's programme in Theology or Pastoral Ministry either here in Maynooth or elsewhere (students interested in entering a Master's programme are advised to speak with the [Admissions Office](#) prior to starting the HDip for further details). Others may be interested in the programme simply as a structured way to approach the big questions in life, giving their personal inquiry a theological shape in the Catholic tradition. St. Patrick's College Maynooth is proud to have the largest faculty of Catholic theology in Great Britain and Ireland.

A full range of theological and religious studies courses are studied in the programme, including:

- A general introduction to theology, giving students the necessary foundations for an academic treatment of theology in accordance with St. Anselm's maxim of "faith seeking understanding."
- 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.
- The History of Christianity including its origins and contemporary experience.
- World Religions, including the major world religions and their relationship to Christianity. Human dignity and religious freedom are also included in the course.
- Secular belief systems and how Christianity engages with their challenges and legitimate questions.
- 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.



- Systematic Theology, which studies the meaning and implications of the principal faith-affirmations of Christianity concerning God, Jesus, the Church, the human condition.
- Foundations of Worship, which provide the student with critical skills in exploring the nature and history of Christian Liturgy
- Foundations in Religious Education, which provides students with an introduction to the meaning, tradition and contemporary practice of religious education with a particular focus both on the teaching of Religious Education at post-primary level, with particular but not exclusive reference to Catholic Education
- The Philosophy of Religion which studies the philosophical debate concerning the existence and nature of God. It also considers the interplay between reason, science and religion.

Admission Requirements

- A primary degree or its equivalent is required. consideration will be given to all applications;
- University issued or certified copies of official transcripts of results for qualifications must be included with the application. These copies are kept by the University. Copies can be certified/stamped by the relevant institution or by a member of an Garda Síochána, as a true copy of the original: Members of the police, a Medical doctor, A member of the clergy, a Lawyer/Solicitor, a School principal/vice principal. Just as long as they're not related to the applicant.
- all credentials in languages other than English must be accompanied by certified English translations;
- completed application forms;
- Applicants whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirements. See here for more information: <https://maynoothcollege.ie/english-language-requirements>;
- Students must provide a digital passport style photograph that will be used in the College's computer system to identify the student to lecturers and other students;
- As this course is delivered in a hybrid manner with much of the content being given on-line, students are required to have basic academic computer skills and have access to a computer and the internet.

Timetable

Students are expected to be available on every Wednesday evening during term time from 6.30 p.m. – 9.30 p.m. On Wednesday evenings content will be delivered “live” on an on-line teaching platform. Students can participate from home.

Another 3 hours of self-directed learning will be provided for each week in term time, that can be done whenever in the week it suits the students.



Please note that students will be expected to devote additional time to study and working on assignments every week.

6 weekend residentials (Friday/Saturday), three each term. This is when the face to face classes will take place and when students have a chance to meet their lecturers and each other. Additionally, it is a good time to take advantage of the many resources that the historic campus offers (and the amenities of Ireland's only university town). Students are not obliged to stay on campus but as part of the programme you can avail of the very competitive discounted room rates provided by the Conference and Accommodations' Office.

The following is the weekend timetable:

Friday

Arrival/check in: 6-6:30 pm;
coffee break 6:30-6:55 pm;
class: 7-9 pm;

Saturday

7:30: Mass (optional),
Breakfast: 8 am,
class: 9-11;
class: 11-1;
lunch: 1-2;
class or library time: 2-3;
class 3-5.

Students are free to leave at 5 pm.

Overnight facilities are available in the College at a discounted rate. While students need only stay in the area on Friday nights, they are welcome to either stay on either Thursday night or Saturday night at the discounted rate to conduct research or simply enjoy some free time on the historic college campus.

Rates and information from the [Maynooth Campus Conference and Accommodation Office](#).

Early booking is advisable as they are often booked out.

Telephone: 01-708-6400 Fax: 01-708-3534

E-mail: Reservations@Maynoothcampus.com

Web Pages: www.Maynoothcampus.com / www.MaynoothCollege.ie

Please note that if social distancing rules make it impossible to gather on campus for the weekend residential during the first term of the 2020/21 academic year, the programme will still go ahead with the residential being held on-line.



Fees

The full cost of the HDip (excluding accommodation) is €3,550.

Further Information

For further information please contact our Admissions Officer, [Barbara Mahon](mailto:Barbara.Mahon@spcm.ie): admissions@spcm.ie +353 (0)1 708 4772. Or the Programme Director: Fr. [Neil Xavier O'Donoghue](mailto:Neil.Xavier.O'Donoghue@spcm.ie): neilxavier.odonoghue@spcm.ie

Also please note that all of the relevant rules and procedures for St. Patrick's College as found in the latest edition of the Kalendarium apply to the Higher Diploma Programme.

HDip Courses 2020-2021

Course Code & Title	Lecturer	Semester	Credits
TH 401 Introduction to Theology	Marmion/O'Gorman	1	7.5
Systematic Theology			
ST 403 The Church and its Sacraments	Surlis	1	5
ST 404 Understanding Jesus Christ Today	O'Sullivan	2	5
Moral Theology			
MR 401 Bioethics	Shortall	1	5
MR 403 Catholic Social Teaching	Corkery	2	5
Sacred Scripture			
SC 400 The Bible and Its Worlds	O'Connell/Macnamara	1	7.5
SC 401 The Old Testament	Corley	1	5
SC 402 The New Testament	Macnamara	2	5
General Courses			
LI 400 Foundations of Worship	O'Kane	2	5
TS 109 Foundations in Religious Education	Sheridan	2	5
TS 114 Philosophy of Religion and Secular Belief Systems	Kerr	2	5
TS 111 Introduction to World Religions	O'Donoghue	2	2.5
TS 112 Church History	Ryan	1	2.5



HDip Timetable 2020-2021¹

Please note that there may be some minor changes to this timetable, particularly in the second term

Semester 1: 32.5 credits

TH 401 Introduction to Theology, 7.5 credits.
ST 403 The Church and its Sacraments, 5 credits.
MR 401 Bioethics, 5 credits.
SC 400 The Bible and Its Worlds, 7.5 credits.
SC 401 The Old Testament, 5 credits.
TS 112 Church History, 2.5 credits.

September 25/26 Residential One

Friday: 7-8 pm: Orientation; 8-9 pm Moodle introduction 1st hour

Saturday: 9-10: Moodle 2nd hour; 10-11: Church History; 11-1: The Bible and Its Worlds; 3-5: Introduction to Theology

Wednesday classes (matched hour for hour with self-directed learning sessions)

The Bible and Its Worlds: Sep 30; Oct 7; Oct 14; Oct 21; Nov 4 (2 hrs)

Introduction to Theology: Sep 30; Oct 7; Oct 14; Oct 21 (2 hrs); Nov 4

Church History: Sep 30; Oct 7; Oct 14;

October 16/17 Residential Two

Friday: 7-9 pm: Introduction to Theology

Saturday: 9-11: Church History; 11-1: Bioethics; 2-4: The Church and its Sacraments
Exceptionally 4-6: The Old Testament

Wednesday classes (matched hour for hour with self-directed learning sessions)

The Old Testament: Nov 11; Nov 18; Nov 25; Dec 2; Dec 9; Dec 16

Bioethics: Nov 11; Nov 18; Nov 25; Dec 2; Dec 9; Dec 16

The Church and its Sacraments: Nov 11; Nov 18; Nov 25; Dec 2; Dec 9; Dec 16

December 4/5 Residential Three

Friday: 7-9 pm: The Bible and Its Worlds

Saturday: 9-11: The Old Testament; 11-1 Bioethics; 3-5 The Church and its Sacraments

¹ N.B. for every Wednesday hour the lecturer will assign one hour of self-directed learning, that the students will complete that week (instead of Mondays the students will have 3 hours of specific tasks in the self-directed learning every week).



Semester 2: 32.5 credits²

ST 404 Understanding Jesus Christ Today, 5 credits.
MR 403 Catholic Social Teaching, 5 credits.
SC 402 The New Testament, 5 credits.
LI 400 Foundations of Worship, 5 credits.
TS 109 Foundations in Religious Education, 5 credits.
TS 114 Philosophy of Religion and Secular Belief Systems, 5 credits.
TS 111 Introduction to World Religions, 2.5 credits.

January 29/30 Residential One

Friday: 7-9 pm Foundations in Religious Education

Saturday: 9-10: Catholic Social Teaching; 10-11: The New Testament; 11-1: Foundations of Worship; 2-3: The New Testament; 3-5: Understanding Jesus Christ Today.

Wednesday classes (matched hour for hour with self-directed learning sessions)

Foundations in Religious Education: Feb 3; Feb 10; Feb 24; March 10; March 24; April 14;

Catholic Social Teaching: Feb 3; Feb 17; Feb 24; March 10; March 31; April 14;

The New Testament: Feb 3; Feb 17; March 3; March 10; March 31; April 21

Foundations of Worship: Feb 10; Feb 17; March 3; March 24; March 31; April 21

Understanding Jesus Christ Today: Feb 10; Feb 24; March 3; March 24; April 14; April 21

March 15-19 Study Week

March 26/27 Residential Two

Friday: 7-9 pm Foundations in Religious Education

Saturday: 9-10: Catholic Social Teaching; 10-11: The New Testament; 11-1: Foundations of Worship; 2-3: The New Testament; 3-5: Understanding Jesus Christ Today.

April 5-9 Easter Vacation

April 23/24 Residential Three

Friday: 7-9 pm: Philosophy of Religion and Secular Belief Systems

Saturday : 9-11: Introduction to World Religions; 11-1: Philosophy of Religion and Secular Belief Systems; 2-4: Catholic Social Teaching 4-5: Introduction to World Religions

Wednesday classes (matched hour for hour with self-directed learning sessions)

Introduction to World Religions: April 28; May 5; May 12

Phil of Religion & Secular Belief Systems: April 28 (2 hrs); May 6 (2 hrs); May 13 (2 hrs)

N.B. May 12 is a Reading Week (already cleared with lecturers affected)

² At the end of the first semester, students must participate in a mid-programme review process, which comprises a short, individual consultation between the student and the Programme Director. The process will entail a review of the student's participation in the programme and his/her ability to satisfactorily complete the award. It is an opportunity for students to identify and address challenges they are facing and receive guidance accordingly.



HDip Course Descriptions 2020-2021³

N.B. These course descriptions are indicative, the individual lecturers may provide updated course descriptions at the start of each course.

Introduction to Theology

Module Code: TH 401

Lecturer: Rev. Prof. [Declan Marmion](#) SM and Rev. Dr. [Kevin O’Gorman](#) SMA

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 in 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

³ N.B. for every Wednesday hour the lecturer will assign one hour of self-directed learning, that the students will complete that week (instead of Mondays the students will have 3 hours of specific tasks in the self-directed learning every week).



- Integrating Theology, Morality and Spirituality

Bibliography:

- Bevans, Stephen. *An Introduction to Theology in Global Perspective*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2009.
- Hession, Anne & Patricia Kieran, eds. *Exploring Theology: Making Sense of the Catholic Tradition*. Dublin: Veritas, 2007.
- Lamoureux, Patricia & Paul J. Waddell. *The Christian Moral Life: Faithful Discipleship for a Global Society*. Maryknoll, N.Y.: Orbis Books, 2010.
- Mattison III, William C. *Introducing Moral Theology: True Happiness and the Virtues*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Brazos Books, 2008.
- Migliore, Daniel L. *Faith Seeking Understanding: An Introduction to Christian Theology*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans, 2004.

Time Allowance for Constituent Elements:

4 hours on campus lectures during the weekend residentials (divided between 2 weekends)
6 hours live on-line lectures on Wednesday evening, 6 hours of self-directed learning,
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

The Church and its Sacraments

Module Code: ST 403

Lecturer: Rev. Dr. [Tom 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 scripture and as it unfolds in history.
- To demonstrate an ability to critically assess the functioning 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.
- 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:

- Understand the mysterious nature, and our always developing understanding of the Church.
- Recognise the relationship of the Church with the Kingdom of God.
- Appreciate the Church as the universal sacrament.
- Know the key principles of Catholic sacramental theology.
- 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
- A developing ecclesiology
- The principles of Catholic sacramental theology
- Rite and ritual: a secular-belief/sociological assessment of the sacraments
- Contemporary Issues facing the sacraments today

Bibliography

SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, AAS 56 (1964) 97-138.

_____, *Lumen Gentium*, 21 November 1964, AAS 57 (1965) 5-71.

_____, *Nostra Aetate*, 28 October 1965, AAS 58 (1966) 740-744.

_____, *Ad Gentes*, 7 December 1965, AAS 58 (1966) 947-990.

_____, *Dei Verbum*, 18 November 1966, AAS 58 (1966) 817-835.

_____, *Gaudium et Spes*, 7 December 1966, AAS 58 (1966) 1025-1120.

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

Boring, M. Eugene. *An Introduction to the New Testament*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2012.

Dulles, Avery. *Models of Revelation* Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 1983.

_____. *Models of the Church* (Expanded edition). New York: Image Books, 2002.

Grün, Anselm. *The Seven Sacraments*. London: Continuum, 2003.

Guzie, Tad. *The Book of Sacramental Basics*. New York: Paulist Press, 1981.

Henn, William. *Church – The People of God*. London: Burns & Oates, 2004.



- Hession, Anne & Patricia Kieran eds. *Exploring Theology – Making Sense of the Catholic Tradition*. Dublin: Veritas 2007.
- Himes, Michael J. *The Mystery of Faith – An Introduction to Catholicism*. Cincinnati, OH: Franciscan Media, 2004.
- Irwin, Kevin W. *The Sacraments*. New York: Paulist Press, 2016.
- Lane, Dermot A. *The Experience of God – An Invitation to Do Theology*. Dublin: Veritas 2003.
- Leahy, Brendan. *The Marian Profile in the Ecclesiology of Hans Urs von Balthasar*. London: New City, 2000.
- Lewis, C.S. *The Abolition of Man*. London: Harper Collins, 1999.
- _____. *Mere Christianity*. London: Harper Collins, 2002.
- McGrath, Alister E. *Christian Theology – An Introduction* Oxford: Blackwell 2001. McGrath, Alister E. *Theology: The Basics* Oxford: Blackwell 2008.
- McGrath, Alister. *Mere Theology* London: SPCK, 2010.
- Migliore, Daniel L. *Faith Seeking Understanding – An Introduction to Christian Theology* Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2014.
- Murphy, Francesca Aram, Balázs M. Mezei & Kenneth Oakes *Illuminating Faith – An Invitation to Theology* London: Bloomsbury, 2015.
- O’Collins, Gerard SJ *Retrieving Fundamental Theology – The Three Styles of Contemporary Theology* London: Geoffrey Chapman, 1994.
- O’Collins, Gerald & Mario Farrugia: *Catholicism: The Story of Catholic Christianity* Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004
- O’Collins, Gerard SJ *Rethinking Fundamental Theology – Toward a New Fundamental Theology* Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011.
- Plantinga, Richard J., Thomas R. Thompson and Matthew D. Lundberg *An Introduction to Christian Theology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010.
- Ratzinger, Joseph. *Introduction to Christianity*. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2004 (3rd ed.).
- _____. *Principles of Catholic Theology*. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 1987.
- _____. *Church, Ecumenism and Politics*. Slough: St Paul Publications, 1988.
- _____. *Called to Communion*. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 1996.
- _____. *The Spirit of the Liturgy*. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2000.
- _____. *Pilgrim Fellowship of Faith: The Church as Communion*. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2005.
- _____. *Jesus of Nazareth, Vol. I*. London: Bloomsbury, 2007.
- _____. *The God of Jesus Christ*. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2008.
- _____. *Joseph Ratzinger in Communio, Vol. I, The Unity of the Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2010.
- _____. *Joseph Ratzinger in Communio, Vol. II, Anthropology and Culture*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2013.



- Rausch, Thomas P. ed. *The College Student's Introduction to Theology* Collegeville, MN: Michael Glazer, 1993.
- Rausch, Thomas P. *Systematic Theology* Collegeville, MN: Michael Glazer, 2016.
- Schüssler Fiorenza, Francis & Galvin, John P. *Systematic Theology – Roman Catholic Perspectives*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress, 2011.
- Spufford, Francis. *Unapologetic: Why, Despite Everything, Christianity Can Still Make Surprising Emotional Sense*. London: Faber and Faber, 2013.
- Tillich, Paul. *Dynamics of Faith*. London: Harper 1957.
- Towey, Anthony. *An Introduction to Christian Theology*. London: Bloomsbury, 2013.
- Vorgrimler, Herbert. *Commentary on the Documents of Vatican II, Vol. III*. London: Burns & Oates, 1969.
- Donald Wuerl, *The Sacraments – A Continuing Encounter with Christ*. Huntington, IN: Our Sunday Visitor, 2010.

Time Allowance for Constituent Elements:

4 hours on campus lectures during the weekend residentials (divided between 2 weekends)
6 hours live on-line lectures on Wednesday evening, 6 hours of self-directed learning,
Assignment – 15 hours, Private Study – 24 hours.

Elements and Forms of Assessment: Exam

Understanding Jesus Christ Today

Module Code: ST 404

Module Co-ordinator: Rev. Dr. [Noel O'Sullivan](#)

Department: Systematic Theology

Module Level: Level 8

Credit rating: 5 ECTS

Aims:

- To reflect on the mystery of Christ, as revealing in Scripture and Tradition, and as lived today.

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

- Demonstrate a solid understanding of the identity of Jesus Christ in the light of Scripture and Tradition
- Appreciate the centrality of the Paschal Mystery in Christology
- Understand the meaning of Redemption
- Know the issues in Christology that marked the first millennium of the Church
- Be familiar with Medieval and Reformation Christologies



- Be able to analyse contemporary Christological issues
- Be acquainted with contemporary writings in Christology

Indicative Syllabus:

- Introduction to contemporary developments in Christology
- Scriptural, historical, and anthropological anticipation of the Incarnation
- The Reign of God in Jesus Christ
- The Christological Councils
- The Hellenization of Christianity
- Why did Christ come and why so late?
- Medieval Christology: academic and monastic
- Reformation Christology
- The Search for the Historical Jesus
- The Freedom and Sinlessness of Christ
- Jesus' Knowledge and Self-Consciousness
- Redemption: From Image to Likeness

Bibliography:

Catechism of the Catholic Church. Dublin: Veritas, 1994, Articles 2-7 §§ 430-683.

Grillmeier, Aloys. *Christ in Christian Tradition I: From the Apostolic Age to the Council of Chalcedon 451*. English translation by John Bowden. Westminster: John Knox Press, 1975.

Grillmeier, Aloys. *Christ in Christian Tradition II: From Chalcedon to Justinian I*. English translation by Pauline Allen and John Cawte. Atlanta: John Knox Press, 1987.

Kereszty, Roch A. *Jesus Christ: Fundamentals of Christology*. New York: Alba House, 1991.

Loewe, William P. *The College Student's Introduction to Christology*. Collegeville, Minnesota: The Liturgical Press, 1996.

Lohfink, Gerhard. *Jesus of Nazareth: What He Wanted, Who He Was*. Collegeville, Minnesota: Liturgical Press, 2012.

Moloney, Raymond. *The Knowledge of Christ*. London and New York: Continuum, 1999.

O'Collins, Gerald. *Christology. A Biblical, Historical and Systematic Study of Jesus*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1995, 2009.

O'Collins, Gerald. "Developments in Christology: The Last Fifty Years", *The Australasian Catholic Record*, 90, 2, April, 2013.

O'Sullivan, Noel. *Christ and Creation: Christology as the key to interpreting the theology of creation in the works of Henri de Lubac*. Oxford: Peter Lang, 2009.

O'Sullivan, Noel. "An Emerging Christology," in Jordan Hillebert. *The T&T Clark Companion to Henri de Lubac*. London: Bloomsbury, 2017, 327-348.



Ratzinger, Joseph, Pope Benedict XVI. *Jesus of Nazareth*. London: Bloomsbury, 2007.
Ratzinger, Joseph, Pope Benedict XVI. *Jesus of Nazareth. Holy Week: From the entrance into Jerusalem to the Resurrection*. London: CTS, 2011.

Articles

Delio, Ilia. "Revisiting the Franciscan Doctrine of Christ," *Theological Studies* Vol. 64, N° 1, 2003, 3-23.
Dupuis, Jacques. *Toward a Christian Theology of Religious Pluralism*. Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books, 1997, 2001.
Gutiérrez, Gustavo. "The Options for the Poor Arises from Faith in Christ." *Theological Studies* 70:2. 2009, 317-26.
Matera, Frank J. "Christ in the Theologies of Paul and John: Diverse Unity of New Testament Theology." *Theological Studies* 67:2, June 2006, 237-56.

Time Allowance for Constituent Elements:

4 hours on campus lectures during the weekend residentials (divided between 2 weekends)
6 hours live on-line lectures on Wednesday evening, 6 hours of self-directed learning,
Assignment – 15 hours, Private Study – 24 hours.

Elements and Forms of Assessment: Essay or Examination

Moral Theology

The Catholic Moral Tradition and Bioethics

Module Code: MR 401

Lecturer: Rev. Dr. [Michael Shortall](#)

Department: Moral Theology

Module Level: Level 8

Credit Rating: 5 ECTS Credits

Aims: This module aims to further unpack the Catholic Moral Tradition through the engagement with contemporary topics in the area of bioethics. An early definition stated that Bio-ethics is the "critical examination of the moral dimensions of decision-making in health-related contexts and in contexts involving the biological sciences" (S. Gorovitz). This module explores the intersection of the Catholic Moral Tradition with the field of medicine (**bio-ethics**) and normative theories of human conduct (**bio-ethics**).

Indicative Syllabus

- Models of Nature, Technology and Medicine



- Ethical Theories as they apply to the field of Health Care
- Conscience and Moral Decision Making
- Key principles in bioethics and healthcare ethics: autonomy, beneficence, dignity.
- Current trends in healthcare: resource allocation, legal developments, cultural changes, codes of behaviour
- Contemporary Topical Issues.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this module, students will be able to:

- Evaluate and display a critical awareness of current trends and issues in contemporary healthcare, clinical practice and biomedical research
- Demonstrate a systematic understanding of a range of ethical theories and principles operating in the field of Health Care
- Apply and appraise various frameworks for dealing with ethical problems, challenges and dilemmas in health care
- Consider the resources proposed by spiritual practices and religious traditions, especially the Catholic tradition.

Bibliography

Ashley, Benedict M & O'Rourke, Kevin D., *Health Care Ethics: A Theological Analysis*, Catholic Health Association of US, 1997.

Corkery, Pdraig. *Bioethics and the Catholic Moral Tradition*. Dublin: Veritas, 2011.

Sowle-Cahil, Lisa. *Theological Bioethics*. Washington: Georgetown, 2005

Meilaender, Gilbert. *Bioethics: A Primer for Christians*. Eerdmans; 2004.

O'Rourke, Kevin D and Phillip Boyle. *Medical Ethics: Sources of Catholic Teachings*. 4th edn. Washington D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2011.

Shannon, Thomas A. *An Introduction to Bioethics*. 4th edn. Mahweh NJ: Paulist Press, 2009

Sutton, Agneta. *Christian Bioethics: A Guide for the Perplexed*. London: T&T Clark, 2008.

Walter, James J & Shannon, Thomas A. *Contemporary Issues in Bioethics: A Catholic Perspective*. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2005.

Time Allowance for Constituent Elements:

4 hours on campus lectures during the weekend residenceals (divided between 2 weekends)

6 hours live on-line lectures on Wednesday evening, 6 hours of self-directed learning,

Assignment – 15 hours, Private Study – 24 hours.

Elements and Forms of Assessment: Exam

Catholic Social Teaching



Module Code: MR 403

Lecturer: Rev. Dr. [Padraig 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.

Outcomes:

At the end of the course, the student will:

- Have a good knowledge of the social doctrine of the Church.
- Be aware of key historical developments in Catholic Social Teaching and of its dynamic nature.
- Be able to apply Catholic Social Teaching to a number of key contemporary issues.
- Be familiar with the roots and key principles of Catholic Social Teaching.

Indicative Syllabus:

- The central principles of Catholic Social Teaching such as justice, the common good, preferential option for the poor, subsidiarity and solidarity.
- Key social documents – both universal and local.
- The response of Catholic Social Teaching [universal and local] to homelessness and ecology.
- Globalization: Challenges and opportunities.
- Human solidarity and its implications for our engagement with refugees and global poverty.
- The importance of the subjective dimension of work.

Bibliography

Benestad, J Brian. *Church, State & Society: An Introduction to Catholic Social Doctrine*. Washington, D.C.: CUA Press, 2011.

Corkery, Pádraig. *Companion to the Compendium*. Dublin: Veritas, 2007.

Cullen, Philomens et al, eds. *Catholic Social Justice*. London: Continuum, 2007.

Curran, Charles E. *Catholic Social Teaching 1891-Present: A Historical, Theological, and Ethical Analysis*. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2002.

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- Dorr, Donal. *Option for the Poor: A Hundred Years of Vatican Social Teaching*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 1983.
- _____. *The Social Justice Agenda: Justice, Ecology, Power, and the Church*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 1991.
- _____. *Option for the Poor and for the Earth: From Leo XIII to Pope Francis*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2012.
- Dwyer, Judith A. *The New Dictionary of Catholic Social Thought*. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2000.
- Finn, Daniel K., ed. *The Moral Dynamics of Economic Life: An Extension and Critique of Caritas in Veritate*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012
- Hollenbach, David. *The Common Good and Christian Ethics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002.
- Himes, Kenneth, ed. *Modern Catholic Social Teaching: Commentaries and Interpretations* 2nd Edition. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2018.
- Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace. *Compendium of Catholic Social Doctrine*. Rome: Vatican Press, 2004.
- _____. *Towards Reforming the International Financial and Monetary Systems*. Rome: Vatican Press, 2011.
- Riordan, Patrick. *A Grammar of the Common Good*. London: Continuum, 2008.

Local Church.

Pastoral Letters of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference:

Work of Justice (1977).

Work is the Key (1992).

Prosperity with a Purpose (1999).

Towards the Global Economy (2005).

The Cry of the Earth (2009).

A Room at the Inn: A Pastoral Letter on Housing and Homelessness (2018).

Time Allowance for Constituent Elements:

4 hours on campus lectures during the weekend residentials (divided between 2 weekends)

6 hours live on-line lectures on Wednesday evening, 6 hours of self-directed learning,

Assignment – 15 hours, Private Study – 24 hours.

Elements and Forms of Assessment: Exam

Sacred Scripture

The Bible and Its World



Lecturers: Rev. Prof. [Seamus O'Connell](#)

Module Code: SC 400

Department: Sacred Scripture

Module Level: Level 8

Credit rating: 7.5 ECTS

Indicative Syllabus

1. Beyond Danger, Daftness, and Darwin: Seeking the Indispensable in the Bible
 - a. The Bible as Library
 - b. The Bible as Window (I) and Witness
 - c. The Book of a God who Speaks
 1. God's Word
 2. Approaching Biblical Inspiration
 - a. Revelations and Encounters—Of Angels and Seers
 - b. KEY TEXT:
2. Not all Books are the Same! Discovering Genre
 - a. Parable
 - b. Narrative
 - c. History
 - d. Prophecy
 - e. Visions, Revelations and Dreams
 - f. Law
 - g. Letters
 - h. Identity Literature
3. Not all Peoples are the Same! How the Bible came to Be
 - a. The Peoples of the Bible
 - i. The ANE and its Peoples
 - ii. Introduction to Judaism
 - iii. The Greeks and the Transform
 - b. The Lands of the Bible
 - i. Geography as Theology
 - c. The Times of the Bible:
 - i. Exodus,
 - ii. Exile
 - iii. Assimilation (Hellenisation)
 - d. Survivors of Turmoil and Trauma: Meet the Sadducees!
 - e. How the Bible Came to Be: Canon and Community
 - f. Hermeneutics: The World *Behind* the Text
 - g. Text as Window (II) and Mirror (I)
4. The Nasty Little Prophet of a Generous God



- a. Jonah as Narrative
- b. Jonah as History
- c. The Book of Jonah as Scripture
- d. What were the prophets about?
- e. Hermeneutics: The World *Before* the Text
- f. The Text as Mirror (II)
5. We have a Law! Torah, Life and God
 - a. Approaches to Biblical Law
 - b. Holiness and Torah
 - c. Holiness, Purity, and Halakhah
 - d. Love of *Torah* as Love of God
 - e. Torah as Divine Revelation
 - f. Jesus and Torah
 - g. The Law for All: Meet the Pharisees!
 - h. The Text as Mirror (III)
6. Singles, Sex, and Camels: Social Construction and Biblical Narrative
 - a. Social and Cultural Critique of Texts
 - b. Key Texts: Gen 29 (Jacob at the Well) + John 4 (Jesus at the Well)
 - c. Text as Window (III)
 - d. Hermeneutics: The World *Of* the Text
7. Judaism—the World and Religion of Jesus
 - a. From Ancient Judaism to Second Temple Judaism
 - b. From Second Temple Judaism to Hellenistic Judaism
 - c. The Bible as a Product of Judaism
 - d. The Jewish Jesus
 - e. Survival in a Hostile World: Meet the Qumranites!
 - f. Judaism and Christianity today
8. The New Testament—Origins and Overview
 - a. Jesus and what happens to him
 - b. Hindsight is 20/20
 - c. The Gospels as Resurrection Narratives
 - d. Beyond Division—Transcending Judaism: Meet the Nazarenes!
9. The New Testament (II)—New Peoples, New Communities (Paul)
 - a. The Jewish Diaspora
 - b. The Holy Land at the Time of Jesus—Places and Peoples
 - c. Palestine at the Time of Jesus: Key Events
 - d. The Spread of Christianity
 - e. Encounter with Gentiles
10. The Text as Mirror (IV)—The Bible and Our Lives
 - a. The Bible and Faith



- b. The Bible and Ethics
- c. The Bible and Conversion: the inspiration of Life
- d. Prayer and the Bible
- e. The Future of the Bible

Bibliography

Core Text for Module

John Barton, *The Bible: the Basics*. Second Edition. London: Routledge, 2019. [220.61 BAR and as eBook (via Library website)]

Essential Short Readings

Walter Wink "Letting Parables Live" *Christian Century* (5.11.1980): 1062–64 *Online:* www.religion-online.org/article/letting-parables-live/ (verified 18.09.19)

Textbooks (also of use in SC 401 and SC 402)

Boadt, Lawrence, ed. R. J. Clifford and D. J. Harrington, *Reading the Old Testament*. 2d ed. New York: Paulist, 2012. [221.61 BOA]

Brettler, Marc Zvi, *How to Read the Jewish Bible*. Oxford: OUP, 2007. [221.61 BRE]

Ehrman, Bart D. *A Brief Introduction to the New Testament*. 4th ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 2017. [225.6 EHR]

Metzger, B. M., and M. D. Coogan, eds., *The Oxford Companion to the Bible*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1993. [Ebook]

Powell, Mark Allan. *Introducing the New Testament: A Historical, Literary, and Theological Survey*. 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2018, [225.61 POW] & [ebook]

Witherington III, Ben. *Invitation to the New Testament: First Things*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2012. [225.61 WIT].

Options for Book Review

1. Brown, R. E. *Reading the Gospels with the Church*. Cincinnati. Saint Anthony Messenger Press. 1996. [220.6 BRO] [complete book; 90 pages]
2. Alter, R. *The Art of Biblical Narrative*. New York: Basic Books. 1991. [Chaps 1, 2, 6]
3. Matera, F. J. *Resurrection: the Origin and Goal of the Christian Life*. Collegeville: Liturgical Press. 2015. [online via Library website] [Chaps 1–2 + Conclusion]
4. Hagen, K. (ed). *The Bible in the Churches: How Various Christians Interpret the Scriptures*. Third Edition. Milwaukee: Marquette University Press, 1998. [Pages 1–56]
5. Muddiman, J. *The Bible: Fountain and Well of Truth*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1984. [220.6MUD]

Time Allowance for Constituent Elements:

4 hours on campus lectures during the weekend residentials (divided between 2 weekends)

6 hours live on-line lectures on Wednesday evening, 6 hours of self-directed learning,

Assignment – 15 hours, Private Study – 24 hours. N.B. still under review



Assessment: End of Semester Examination

As this is a 7.5 credit course it **also** has 2,500 words Book Synthesis and a 10 minute interview.

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 Genesis Creation Stories: Cosmos, Earth, and Humanity

Indicative Bibliography:

Barton, John, *The Bible: The Basics*. New York: Routledge, 2010. [Ebook]

Boadt, Lawrence, ed. R. J. Clifford and D. J. Harrington, *Reading the Old Testament*. 2nd ed. New York: Paulist, 2012. [221.61 BOA]

Brettler, Marc Zvi, *How to Read the Jewish Bible*. Oxford: OUP, 2007. [221.61 BRE]

Metzger, B. M., and M. D. Coogan, eds., *The Oxford Companion to the Bible*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1993. [Ebook]

Time Allowance for Constituent Elements:

4 hours on campus lectures during the weekend residentials (divided between 2 weekends)
6 hours live on-line lectures on Wednesday evening, 6 hours of self-directed learning,
Assignment – 15 hours, Private Study – 24 hours.

Elements and Forms of Assessment: Exam

The New Testament: Reading Mark's Gospel as Story

Module Code: SC 402



Lecturer: Rev. Dr. [Luke Macnamara](#) OSB

Department: Sacred Scripture

Module Level: Level 8

Credit rating: 5 ECTS

Aims:

To read the Gospel of Mark with attention to its power as story to engage, confront and shape readers, so as to access its fundamental narrative and theological character, with sensitivity to the cultural contexts of its origin and those of contemporary readers.

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the course, the student will,

- appreciate the complexity of Mark's Jesus and the inherent Christology
- recognise the various conflicts that drive the plot and inform the theology of the Gospel story
- be able to situate Mark's Gospel within its first century contexts
- be able to apply the reading for contemporary audiences

Indicative Syllabus:

Ten lectures each with a passage of scripture

- Opening the Story of Mark's Gospel
- Mark in its Roman Imperial Context
- Gathering the Household
- Sowing the Gospel (Parables)
- Crossing Boundaries
- Allegiance and Misunderstanding
- Mark's Strong Women
- Jesus, Prayer and God
- Death and Annihilation
- Mark Among the Gospels

Core Text:

Rhoads, David M., Joanna Dewey, and Donald Michie. *Mark as Story: An Introduction to the Narrative of a Gospel*. Third ed. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2012. [226.3066 RHO] [and Kindle]

Indicative Bibliography:



- Byrne, Brendan. *A Costly Freedom: A Theological Reading of Mark's Gospel*. Collegeville, Minn: Liturgical Press, 2008. [226.306 BYR]
- Harrington, Wilfrid J. *Reading Mark for the First Time*. New York: Paulist Press, 2013. [226.306 HAR]
- Struthers Malbon, Elizabeth. *In the Company of Jesus. Characters in Mark's Gospel*. London; Leiden: Westminster John Knox, 2000. [226.3066 MAL]
- Telford, William. *The Theology of the Gospel of Mark*. Cambridge, UK; New York: Cambridge University Press, 1999. [226.306 TEL] [and ebook]
- Powell, Mark Allan. *Introducing the New Testament: A Historical, Literary, and Theological Survey*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2018, [225.61 POW] [and ebook]

Time Allowance for Constituent Elements:

4 hours on campus lectures during the weekend residentials (divided between 2 weekends)
6 hours live on-line lectures on Wednesday evening, 6 hours of self-directed learning,
Assignment – 15 hours, Private Study – 24 hours.

Assessment: Essay and Interview (10 mins)

Foundations of Worship

Module Code: LI 400

Lecturer: Rev. Fr. Peter O'Kane OP

Department: Liturgy

Module Level: Level 8

Credit rating: 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 understand current liturgical norms
- To critically assess the practical application of liturgical norms in experience of “real-time” worship
- 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. Reference will be made to important liturgical documents, in particular *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, *Lumen Gentium* and the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*.

Indicative Bibliography:

Paul Bradshaw, *Eucharistic Origins* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004).

Louis-Marie Chauvet, *The Sacraments* (Collegeville: Pueblo Books, 2001).

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

Liam G. Walsh, “Liturgy in the Theology of St. Thomas.” *The Thomist* 38 (1974): 557-83.

_____, “Sacraments.” In *The Theology of Thomas Aquinas*, edited by Rik van Nieuwenhove and Joseph Wawrykow, 326-364. (Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 2005).

James F. White, *A Brief History of Christian Worship* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1993).

_____, *Introduction to Catholic Worship* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2000).

Donald A. Withey, *Catholic Worship: An Introduction to Liturgy* (Oregon: Wipit and Stock, 2002).

Time Allowance for Constituent Elements:

4 hours on campus lectures during the weekend residential (divided between 2 weekends)

6 hours live on-line lectures on Wednesday evening, 6 hours of self-directed learning,

Assignment – 15 hours, Private Study – 24 hours.

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 the meaning, tradition and contemporary practice of religious education with a particular focus both on the teaching of Religious Education at post-primary level, with particular but not exclusive reference to Catholic Education.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the module, students will be able to.

- Define the principle terms and concepts associated with Irish education today and specifically Religious Education.
- Understand the difference between Religious Education, Catholic Education and Catechesis.
- Integrate their theological knowledge into religious education methodologies.
- Explain the concepts and current thinking on Childhood Spirituality.
- Understand the current curricula and syllabi for teaching religious education in Ireland.
- Show proficiency in constructing lesson plans based on content and current methodologies.
- Understand and evaluate the current challenges involved in teaching religious education today.
- Identify and describe the relationship between faith, spirituality and education as it is manifest in post-primary education today.
- Discuss the place of a faith and spirituality in the life of a teachers

Indicative Syllabus:

- Religious Education
- Religious Education – Theological and Philosophical Perspectives
- Integrating Theology and Religious Education
- Catholic Education
- Vision, Ethos and Identity of Faith Based Schools
- Spirituality of the Child
- Religious Education – Curricula
- Religious Education – Programmes
- Religious Education – Methodologies & Planning
- Religious Education – Contemporary Issues and Challenges
- Faith, Spirituality and Education
- Teacher Identity



Indicative Bibliography – Chapters in the Following Books

- Barnes, L. Philip, ed. *Debates in Religious Education*. London: Routledge 2012.
- Best, Ron, ed. *Education, Spirituality and the Whole Child*. London: Cassell 1996.
- Byrne, Garth & Patricia Kieran. *Toward Mutual Ground – Pluralism, Religious Education and Diversity in Irish Schools*. Dublin: Columba Press, 2013.
- Groome, Thomas H. *Will There be Faith? Depends on Every Christian*. Dublin: Veritas, 2011.
- Hession, Anne *Catholic Primary Religious Education in a Pluralist Environment*. Dublin: Veritas 2015.
- Kieran, Patricia and Anne Hession, eds. *Exploring Religious Education: Catholic Religious Education in an Intercultural Europe*. Dublin: Veritas, 2008.
- Lane, Dermot A. *Challenges Facing Religious Education in Contemporary Ireland*. Dublin: Veritas, 2008.
- O’Higgins Norman, James, ed. *Education Matters – Readings in Pastoral Care for School Chaplains, Guidance Counsellors and Teachers*. Dublin: Veritas, 2011.
- Ratcliff, Donald E., ed. *Handbook of Children’s Religious Education*. Birmingham, AL: Religious Education Press, 1992.

Time Allowance for Constituent Elements:

4 hours on campus lectures during the weekend residentials (divided between 2 weekends)
6 hours live on-line lectures on Wednesday evening, 6 hours of self-directed learning,
Assignment – 15 hours, Private Study – 24 hours.

Elements and Forms of Assessment:

- Reflection Pieces
- Project Work
- Essay

Introduction to World Religions

Module Code: TS 111

Lecturer: Rev. Dr. [Neil Xavier O’Donoghue](#)

Module Level: Level 8

Credit Rating: 2.5 ECTS

Aims:

- To offer a general introduction to the main religious traditions of the world
- To examine the relationship between these other religions and the Catholic Church
- To look at avenues for inter-religious dialogue
- To equip students with a framework for analyzing other 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
- Understand the basic outlines of the relationship between Divine Revelation, Catholicism and the various 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?
- Brief introduction to the various main World Religions: Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism
- Human Dignity as the Source of Religious Freedom

Bibliography

Barnes, Philip. *World Religions. Into the Classroom: Religious Education and the Leaving Certificate*. Dublin: Veritas, 2003.

Bevans, Stephen B. and Jeffrey Gros, *Evangelization and Religious Freedom: Ad Gentes, Dignitatis Humanae*. Rediscovering Vatican II. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 2009.

Cassidy, Edward Idris. *Ecumenism and Interreligious Dialogue: Unitatis Redintegratio, Nostra Aetate*. Rediscovering Vatican II. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 2005.

Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Declaration, “*Dominus Iesus: On the Unicity and Salvific Universality of Jesus Christ and the Church*.” Available at: http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_20000806_dominus-iesus_en.html

Council for Catechetics of the Irish Episcopal Conference, *A Reflection on Mindfulness: Rediscovering the Christian Tradition of Meditation and Contemplation* (Dublin: Veritas, 2018).

D’Costa, Gavin. *Vatican II: Catholic Doctrines on Jews and Muslims*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014.

_____. “*Nostra Aetate*” in Matthew L. Lamb and Matthew Levering, eds. *The Reception of Vatican II*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2017, 425-458.

Dulles, Avery. “Who Can be Saved?” *First Things* 180 (February 2008): 17-22.

Dunn, Matthew W. I. “The CDF’s Declaration *Dominus Iesus* and Pope John Paul II.” *Louvain Studies* 36 (2012): 46-73.



- Hardon, John A. *Religions of the World*. An Image Book. New York: Doubleday, 1963. N.B. this book is out of print, but the full text is available on-line at: http://www.therealpresence.org/archives/Protestantism/Protestantism_019.htm
- Healy, Jr., Nicholas J. "Dignitatis Humanae," in Matthew L. Lamb and Matthew Levering, eds. *The Reception of Vatican II*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2017, 367-392.
- Heft, James L. ed. *Catholicism and Interreligious Dialogue*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011.
- Miles, Jack, et al, eds. *The Norton Anthology of World Religions*. Volume I: *Hinduism, Buddhism, Daoism*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2014.
- _____. *The Norton Anthology of World Religions*. Volume II: *Judaism, Christianity, Islam*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2014.
- O'Donovan, Jo. *Understanding Differently: Christianity and the World Religions*. Dublin: Veritas, 2012.
- Second Vatican Ecumenical Council. Declaration on Religious Freedom *Dignitatis Humanae* on the Right of the Person and of Communities to Social and Civil Freedom in Matters December 7, 1965. Available at: http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_decl_19651207_dignitatis-humanae_en.html
- Second Vatican Ecumenical Council. Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions *Nostra Aetate*. October 28, 1965. Available at: https://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_decl_19651028_nostra-aetate_en.html
- Steinkerchner, Scott. *Beyond Agreement: Interreligious Dialogue Amid Persistent Differences*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2010,
- Whitehead, Kenneth D., *Affirming Religious Freedom: How Vatican Council II Developed the Church's Teaching to Meet Today's Needs*. Staten Island, NY: Alba House, 2010,
- Wilken, Robert Louis. *Liberty in the Things of God: The Christian Origins of Religious Freedom*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2019.

Time Allowance for Constituent Elements:

- 3 hours on campus lectures during the weekend residentials (divided between 2 weekends)
- 3 hours live on-line lectures on Wednesday evening, 3 hours of self-directed learning,
- Assignment – 10 hours, Private Study – 20 hours.

Elements and Forms of Assessment: Essay

Church History

Module Code: TS 112

Lecturer: Prof. [Salvador Ryan](#)



Module Level: Level 8

Credit Rating: 2.5 ECTS Credits

Aims:

- To provide students with the skills necessary to navigate early sources regarding Jesus of Nazareth.
- To help students appreciate the various stages of development of the Christian Church from the first to the fourth centuries.
- To introduce students to key personalities in the history of the early Christian Church.

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the course, the students will:

- Have a general knowledge of the relevant historical sources for the life of Jesus of Nazareth, an awareness of their strengths and limitations, and their enduring value for the historian, the theologian, and Christian believers more generally.
- Understand relations as they developed between Judaism and Christianity, two growing “siblings” in the first and second centuries.
- Appreciate how Christians had difficulty integrating into daily life in a pagan empire, and why bursts of persecution, both spontaneous & local, and systematic & empire-wide, erupted from time to time, and what impact this had on the development of Christian identity.
- Recognise the significance of the “conversion” of the emperor Constantine in the fourth century for the subsequent history of the Christian Church.

Indicative Syllabus:

- Sources for the history of Jesus of Nazareth
- Christianity in the first and second centuries: teething problems
- Christians living in a pagan empire: principles and persecution
- Constantine and imperial Christianity

Bibliography:

Kelly, Joseph F. *The Ecumenical Councils of the Catholic Church: a History*. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2009.

Lynch, Joseph H. *Early Christianity, a Brief History*. New York: Oxford, 2009.

Time Allowance for Constituent Elements:



3 hours on campus lectures during the weekend residentials (divided between 2 weekends)
3 hours live on-line lectures on Wednesday evening, 3 hours of self-directed learning,
Assignment – 10 hours, Private Study – 20 hours.

Elements and Forms of Assessment: Essay (1,500 words)

Philosophy of Religion and Secular Belief Systems

Module Code: TS 114

Lecturer: Dr. [Gaven Kerr](#)

Department: Philosophy/Theology

Module Level: Level 8 (Undergraduate)

Credit Rating: 5 ECTS Credits

Aims:

This module considers the philosophical issue of the existence and nature of God, and in particular focusses on the classical theistic approach to these issues. Following on from that, it will address the interplay of faith and reason, science and religion, society and religion, and finish off with a consideration of the problem of evil.

Indicative Syllabus:

- Arguments for the existence of God
- Philosophical consideration of the nature of God.
- Faith and reason – opposition and harmony.
- Science and religion – opposition and harmony.
- The public place of religion within a secular society.
- The problem of evil.

Indicative Bibliography:

Davies, *Introduction to the Philosophy of Religion* (Oxford: OUP).

Brian Davies, *Philosophy of Religion: A Guide and Anthology* (Oxford: Oxford University Press)

St Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologiae* – available online:

<https://www.newadvent.org/summa/>

St Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Contra Gentiles*.

Frederick Copleston, *A History of Philosophy*.

Gaven Kerr, *Aquinas's Way to God: The Proof in De Ente et Essentia* (New York: Oxford University Press).

Gaven Kerr, *Aquinas and the Metaphysics of Creation* (New York: Oxford University Press).

St Anselm of Canterbury, *The Major Works* (Oxford: Oxford University Press).

Jacques Maritain, *Integral Humanism*



Jacques Maritain, *Man and the State*

Étienne Gilson, *From Aristotle to Darwin and Back Again.*

John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty*

St John Paul II, *Fides et Ratio*

First Vatican Council, *Dei Filius*

Second Vatican Council, *Gaudium et Spes*

Marilyn McCord Adams, *The Problem of Evil*

Plato, *Collected Dialogues*

Aristotle, *Collected Works*

Time Allowance for Constituent Elements:

4 hours on campus lectures during the weekend residentials (divided between 2 weekends)

6 hours live on-line lectures on Wednesday evening, 6 hours of self-directed learning,

Assignment – 15 hours, Private Study – 24 hours.

Elements and Forms of Assessment: Essay



Appendix HDip Timetable 2020-20201 (Complete)

**Please note that there may be some minor changes to this timetable,
particularly in the second term**

Semester 1: 32.5 credits

TH 401 Introduction to Theology, 7.5 credits.
ST 403 The Church and its Sacraments, 5 credits.
MR 401 Bioethics, 5 credits.
SC 400 The Bible and Its Worlds, 7.5 credits.
SC 401 The Old Testament, 5 credits.
TS 112 Church History, 2.5 credits.

N.B. for every Wednesday hour the lecturer will assign one hour of self-directed learning, that the students will complete that week (instead of Mondays the students will have 3 hours of specific tasks in the self-directed learning every week).

September 25/26 Residential One

Friday:

7-8 pm: Orientation.

8-9 pm Moodle introduction 1st hour.

Saturday

class: 9-10: Moodle 2nd hour.

class: 10-11: Church History.

class: 11-1: The Bible and Its Worlds.

class 3-5: Introduction to Theology.

Wednesday, September 30

6:30-7:30 pm: The Bible and Its Worlds, Class 1.

7:30-8:30 pm: Introduction to Theology, Class 1.

8:30-9:30 pm: Church History, Class 1.

Wednesday, October 7

6:30-7:30 pm: The Bible and Its Worlds, Class 2.

7:30-8:30 pm: Introduction to Theology, Class 2.

8:30-9:30 pm: Church History, Class 2.

Wednesday, October 14

6:30-7:30 pm: The Bible and Its Worlds, Class 3.

7:30-8:30 pm: Introduction to Theology, Class 3.

8:30-9:30 pm: Church History, Class 3.

October 16/17 Residential Two

Friday:

7-9 pm: Introduction to Theology.



Saturday

class: 9-11: Church History.

class: 11-1: Bioethics.

class 2-4: The Church and its Sacraments.

Exceptionally 4-6: The Old Testament.

Wednesday, October 21

6:30-7:30 pm: The Bible and Its Worlds, Class 4.

7:30-8:30 pm: Introduction to Theology, Class 4.

8:30-9:30 pm: Introduction to Theology, Class 5.

October 28 Study Week

Wednesday, November 4

6:30-7:30 pm: The Bible and Its Worlds, Class 5.

7:30-8:30 pm: The Bible and Its Worlds, Class 6.

8:30-9:30 pm: Introduction to Theology, Class 6.

Wednesday, November 11

6:30-7:30 pm: The Old Testament, Class 1.

7:30-8:30 pm: Bioethics, Class 1.

8:30-9:30 pm: The Church and its Sacraments, Class 1.

Wednesday, November 18

6:30-7:30 pm: The Old Testament, Class 2.

7:30-8:30 pm: Bioethics, Class 2.

8:30-9:30 pm: The Church and its Sacraments, Class 2.

Wednesday, November 25

6:30-7:30 pm: The Old Testament, Class 3.

7:30-8:30 pm: Bioethics, Class 3.

8:30-9:30 pm: The Church and its Sacraments, Class 3.

Wednesday, December 2

6:30-7:30 pm: The Old Testament, Class 4.

7:30-8:30 pm: Bioethics, Class 4.

8:30-9:30 pm: The Church and its Sacraments, Class 4.

December 4/5 Residential Three

Friday:

7-9 pm: The Bible and Its Worlds.

Saturday

class: 9-11: The Old Testament.

class: 11-1: Bioethics.

class 3-5: The Church and its Sacraments.



Wednesday, December 9

- 6:30-7:30 pm: The Old Testament, Class 5.
- 7:30-8:30 pm: Bioethics, Class 5.
- 8:30-9:30 pm: The Church and its Sacraments, Class 5.

Wednesday, December 16

- 6:30-7:30 pm: The Old Testament, Class 6.
- 7:30-8:30 pm: Bioethics, Class 6.
- 8:30-9:30 pm: The Church and its Sacraments, Class 6.

Spring Semester 2021

N.B. These dates are provisional depending on the final form of the semester

Semester 2: 32.5 credits

ST 404 Understanding Jesus Christ Today, 5 credits.
MR 403 Catholic Social Teaching, 5 credits.
SC 402 The New Testament, 5 credits.
LI 400 Foundations of Worship, 5 credits.
TS 109 Foundations in Religious Education, 5 credits.
TS 114 Philosophy of Religion and Secular Belief Systems, 5 credits.
TS 111 Introduction to World Religions, 2.5 credits.

February 1 First Day of Class

At the end of the first semester, students must participate in a mid-programme review process, which comprises a short, individual consultation between the student and the Programme Director. The process will entail a review of the student’s participation in the programme and his/her ability to satisfactorily complete the award. It is an opportunity for students to identify and address challenges they are facing and receive guidance accordingly.

January 29/30 Residential One

Friday:

- 7-9 pm Foundations in Religious Education.

Saturday

- class: 9-10: Catholic Social Teaching.
- class: 10-11: The New Testament.
- class: 11-1: Foundations of Worship.
- class: 2-3: The New Testament.
- class 3-5: Understanding Jesus Christ Today.

Wednesday, February 3

- 6:30-7:30 pm: Foundations in Religious Education, Class 1.



7:30-8:30 pm: Catholic Social Teaching, Class 1.

8:30-9:30 pm: The New Testament, Class 1.

Wednesday, February 10

6:30-7:30 pm: Foundations of Worship, Class 1.

7:30-8:30 pm: Understanding Jesus Christ Today, Class 1.

8:30-9:30 pm: Foundations in Religious Education, Class 2.

Wednesday, February 17

6:30-7:30 pm: Catholic Social Teaching, Class 2.

7:30-8:30 pm: The New Testament, Class 2.

8:30-9:30 pm: Foundations of Worship, Class 2.

Wednesday, February 24

6:30-7:30 pm: Understanding Jesus Christ Today, Class 2.

7:30-8:30 pm: Foundations in Religious Education, Class 3.

8:30-9:30 pm: Catholic Social Teaching, Class 3.

Wednesday, March 3

6:30-7:30 pm: The New Testament, Class 3.

7:30-8:30 pm: Foundations of Worship, Class 3.

8:30-9:30 pm: Understanding Jesus Christ Today, Class 3.

Wednesday, March 10

6:30-7:30 pm: Foundations in Religious Education, Class 4.

7:30-8:30 pm: Catholic Social Teaching, Class 4.

8:30-9:30 pm: The New Testament, Class 4.

March 15-19 Study Week

Wednesday, March 24

6:30-7:30 pm: Foundations of Worship, Class 4.

7:30-8:30 pm: Understanding Jesus Christ Today, Class 4.

8:30-9:30 pm: Foundations in Religious Education, Class 5.

March 26/27 Residential Two

Friday:

7-9 pm Foundations in Religious Education.

Saturday

class: 9-10: Catholic Social Teaching.

class: 10-11: The New Testament.

class: 11-1: Foundations of Worship.

class: 2-3: The New Testament.

class 3-5: Understanding Jesus Christ Today.



Wednesday, March 31

6:30-7:30 pm: Catholic Social Teaching, Class 5.

7:30-8:30 pm: The New Testament, Class 5.

8:30-9:30 pm: Foundations of Worship, Class 5.

April 5-9 Easter Vacation

Wednesday, April 14

6:30-7:30 pm: Understanding Jesus Christ Today, Class 5.

7:30-8:30 pm: Foundations in Religious Education, Class 6.

8:30-9:30 pm: Catholic Social Teaching, Class 6.

Wednesday, April 21

6:30-7:30 pm: The New Testament, Class 6.

7:30-8:30 pm: Foundations of Worship, Class 6.

8:30-9:30 pm: Understanding Jesus Christ Today, Class 6.

April 23/24 Residential Three

Friday:

7-9 pm: Philosophy of Religion and Secular Belief Systems.

Saturday

class: 9-11: Introduction to World Religions.

class: 11-1: Philosophy of Religion and Secular Belief Systems.

class: 2-4: Catholic Social Teaching.

class 4-5: Introduction to World Religions.

Wednesday, April 28

6:30-7:30 pm: Introduction to World Religions, Class 1.

7:30-8:30 pm: Philosophy of Religion and Secular Belief Systems, Class 1.

8:30-9:30 pm: Philosophy of Religion and Secular Belief Systems, Class 2.

Wednesday, May 6

6:30-7:30 pm: Introduction to World Religions, Class 2.

7:30-8:30 pm: Philosophy of Religion and Secular Belief Systems, Class 3.

8:30-9:30 pm: Philosophy of Religion and Secular Belief Systems, Class 4.

Wednesday, May 13 (Reading Week already cleared with individual lecturers)

6:30-7:30 pm: Introduction to World Religions, Class 3.

7:30-8:30 pm: Philosophy of Religion and Secular Belief Systems, Class 5.

8:30-9:30 pm: Philosophy of Religion and Secular Belief Systems, Class 6.