

Mission and Ministry in a Rural Context (TMM2347)

Module Level: 5

Module Credit Value: 10

Pre-requisites: None

Co-requisites: None

Excluded Combination of Modules: None

Aims:

- To provide students with an overview of the current contexts of rural England and the nature and role of the church in a variety of rural communities.
- To equip students with critical and reflective tools and understanding to enable them to develop a theological and missiological response to some of the challenges of rural ministry and mission.
- To develop an understanding of some of the concepts and skills needed for leadership in a rural multi-church / parish situation.
- To encourage students to develop the collaborative and facilitation skills, sensitivities and dispositions appropriate to rural ministry.

Content:

- An exploration of the demographic, social, economic and cultural changes in rural contexts in Britain in recent years and how these have affected the church in the countryside.
- Missional and ecclesiological responses to rural contexts, including the benefits and constraints of different approaches to multi-church / parish ministry.
- An exploration of the skills needed for leadership, partnership working, ecumenical working, collaboration and enabling of lay people in multi-church ministry.
- Classroom study will be related to the experience of one or more placements in rural contexts.

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

Subject Knowledge [SSK 3]

Offer a detailed account and analysis of the problems and challenges of rural contexts for ministry and mission.

Analyse and evaluate different ecclesiological approaches to multi-church / parish ministry, their benefits and constraints.

Explore and explain how contrasting approaches to leadership could be applied within a multi-church / parish group.

Subject Skills [SSS 3]

Outline a strategic framework for missional leadership of a rural congregation drawing from critical engagement with theologians and practitioners of rural ministry.

Key Skills [KS 1, 2, 3, 4]

Identify, gather, analyse and evaluate source materials for a range of purposes.

Undertake a critical analysis of information and arguments, communicating these effectively to a specific audience.

Take responsibility for a task that involves independent inquiry; the management of time, resources and use of IT; meeting deadlines, evaluating the task and learning from it.

Plan their own personal and professional development.

Modes of Teaching and Learning: Teaching methods to be specified by each TEI, using the 'Guidelines for Modes of Teaching and Learning'.

Learning Hours: Learning hours to be specified by each TEI using the 'Guidelines for Learning Hours'.

Formative Assessment: Formative assessment to be specified by each TEI in line with the published guidelines on formative assessment.

Summative Assessment: Summative assessment to be specified by each TEI using the published guidance on assessment patterns for undergraduate modules.

Indicative Reading: Indicative reading to be specified by each TEI in line with the published guidelines on creating bibliographies for undergraduate modules.