

Texts and Traditions in Christian Spirituality (TMM3551)

Module Level: 6

Module Credit Value: 20

Pre-requisites: None

Co-requisites: None

Excluded Combination of Modules: TMM2581 - Texts and Traditions in Christian Spirituality

Aims:

- To extend and deepen students' knowledge of the diversity of Christian spiritual traditions through history and foster continuing engagement with those traditions in the contemporary context of lifelong discipleship.
- To provide students with the opportunity to study a number of spiritual texts in the light of relevant contemporary scholarship and be shaped by encounter with them.
- To explore spirituality as a critical area for interfaith dialogue.

Content:

- Study of a range of extracts from spiritual texts that represent the diversity of Christianity, in a context that fosters discussion of the different perspectives within the teaching group and personal reflection on what we might learn from the past.
- Exploration of how these texts fit within particular traditions in Christian spirituality and how those traditions in turn are bound up with other dynamics within Christian history.
- Introduction to at least one example of non-Christian spiritual traditions and associated texts and to related questions about how far spirituality may be considered to be a religious and cultural universal.
- Opportunity to carry out self-directed study of some primary sources in Christian spirituality and of the writings of some contemporary scholars interacting with them.

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

Subject Knowledge [BA SSK 3, 4] [Graduate Cert SSK 2/ Graduate Dip SSK 1, 2]

Give a coherent, detailed and critical account of the concept of spirituality as it may relate to universal human experience and to other faith traditions.

Draw on a systematic understanding of major themes and developments within the history of Christian spirituality to address contemporary issues in and beyond the church.

Explore and critically evaluate how key texts from Christian spiritual tradition can resource the contemporary practice of Christian spirituality from an informed awareness of the methodologies and findings of relevant contemporary scholarship.

Subject Skills [BA SSS 3] [Graduate Cert / Dip SSS 1]

Extend and apply their knowledge and understanding of the close reading of primary sources to the reading of spiritual texts, reflecting critically on their impact on the life and ministry of the church.

Reflect theologically and critically on one's personal spiritual development and practice of prayer as a way of participating in the body of Christ and the mission of God, with reference to a range of spiritual texts encountered in the module.

Key Skills [BA / Graduate Dip KS 1, 2, 4] [Graduate Cert KS 1, 2, 3]

Identify, gather, analyse and evaluate textual source materials, including material from primary sources and scholarly research, for a range of purposes, and communicate their findings with clarity and fairness to specialist audiences.

Critically evaluate ideas, arguments and assumptions, using them to construct and communicate coherent and well-reasoned arguments, showing critical awareness of their own and others' beliefs, commitments and prejudices.

Take responsibility for 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.