

Methods in Modern Theology (TMM40820)

Module Level: 7

Module Credit Value: 20

Pre-requisites: None

Co-requisites: None

Excluded Combination of Modules: None

Aims:

To enable students to consider the implications of the study of theology for contemporary ministry and mission.

To enable students to explore the nature and purpose of theology, and its 'texture' as a responsive, corporate, participative and public activity, through the consideration of a representative range of theologies.

To offer students the opportunity to carry out an independent and in-depth study of one or two modern theologians.

Content:

A survey of the major ingredients of theological study and the 'texture' of theology as a responsive, corporate, participative and public activity, through a study of theological method.

The contexts in which theology is written: church, academy and world. The significance of language in mediating different theological expressions.

The diverse approaches in modern theology, from the systematic and the philosophical to the contextual and the mystical.

The role and meanings of revelation in both church and world.

These issues will be studied with reference to a variety of representative theologies. Students will choose one or two of these to study in depth, working towards the summative assignment. Students' in-depth study will address the significance of context in the formation of theology, and will evaluate the methodology and legacy of their chosen theology.

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

Subject Knowledge [SSK 1, 2, 4]

Identify and evaluate main themes, assumptions, and methods of some major modern theologians in relation to their context, drawing on the methodologies and findings of current research in the field.

Analyse critically theological sources and methodologies, and their implications for contemporary faith, church and society.

Subject Skills [SSS 1, 3]

Apply their understanding of theological method to undertake independent investigation of one or more major modern theologians.

Establish and exercise appropriate methods for engaging theologically with complex realities in the church and the world today.

Key Skills [KS 1, 2, 3]

Carry out systematic and creative research into complex issues and communicate their findings with clarity, sensitivity, fairness and imagination to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

Demonstrate initiative, self-direction and independence in tackling and solving problems, and in planning and implementing tasks.

Exercise their independent learning skills to pursue further professional development or academic study.

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