

Reflective Practice: Mission and Ministry in Rural Contexts (TMM44020)

Module Level:	7
Module Credit Value:	20
Pre-requisites:	None
Co-requisites:	None
Excluded Combination of Modules:	None

Aims:	<p>To support students in their ministerial development by developing their engagement with well-informed and structured forms of theological reflection which underpin a high standard of reflective practice.</p> <p>To develop students' understanding of and ability to evaluate the distinctives and diversity of rural contexts and their implications for Christian mission, leadership and public ministry.</p> <p>To enable students to interpret and analyse the narratives of rural communities and churches from a variety of methodological resources drawn from theology, sociology and anthropology.</p> <p>To enable students to reflect critically on different models of structure and governance for multi-church groups and their effectiveness in supporting mission and ministry.</p>
Content:	<p>Examination of rural mission and ministry from biblical, historical sociological and theological perspectives.</p> <p>Exploration of the distinctives for rural contexts with multiple communities of collaborative leadership, incarnational ministry, pastoral care, outreach, mission, evangelism, ecumenical partnership, worship and work with schools.</p> <p>Critical reflection upon and application of current issues for rural communities to the ministry and mission of the church, including issue of political and social power and their impact on decision-making in rural contexts.</p> <p>Practices and skills of collaborative leadership relating to team development and relationships, managing change, equipping and empowering others, problem solving, shared decision making and working with conflict.</p> <p>Models for multi-church structures and their governance, including for Fresh Expressions of church.</p>

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

Subject Knowledge [SSK 1, 4]

Demonstrate a systematic understanding and depth of knowledge of current rural contexts in relation to the practice of ministry and mission in multiple rural churches communities, engaging with current research and practice.

Critically and knowledgeably evaluate a range of methods for relating theological understandings of mission and ministry to the contexts of multiple rural churches and their communities.

Subject Skills [SSS 1, 3]

Develop, implement and evaluate appropriate ministry and mission strategies for the church in multiple rural contexts, relating their theoretical and theological understanding to the complex realities of rural church and community.

Reflect theologically in a sophisticated and rigorous manner, exercising sound judgment when engaging systematically and creatively with the complex realities of lay and ordained ministry, leadership, collaboration and authority as applied to multiple rural churches and communities.

Key Skills [KS 1, 2, 3]

Communicate complex information and detailed argument with clarity, sensitivity, fairness and imagination.

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.