

Foundations and Forms of Christian Spirituality (TMM44820)

Module Level: 7

Module Credit Value: 20

Pre-requisites: None

Co-requisites: None

Excluded Combination of Modules: None

Aims:

To introduce students to the nature of Spirituality in the Christian tradition, and its instantiation in particular historical periods.

To look at a number of spiritual traditions within Christianity and enable students to place them in their historical and philosophical contexts.

To make students aware of the problems we face in matters of interpretation when dealing with classical spiritual texts.

To enable students to apply a range of interpretative methods to the texts they are introduced to.

Content:

Classic Christian spiritual traditions and their historical and cultural contexts.

Critical tools for the study of Spirituality, particularly those associated with history and the interpretation of texts.

The discipline of Spirituality, its sources and methods.

The problems of interpretation associated with classic spiritual traditions.

A detailed overview of a number of specific traditions in relation to historical contexts

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

Subject Specific Knowledge [SSK 1, 2]

Demonstrate a depth of knowledge of fundamental aspects of key historical spiritual traditions.

Demonstrate critical understanding of how Christian spiritual traditions have been affected by their contexts.

Critically evaluate the foundations of Spirituality in the Christian tradition.

Understand, assimilate and evaluate the hermeneutical issues associated with classic spiritual traditions and texts.

Subject Specific Skills [SSS 2,3]

Apply their knowledge of Classic Christian spiritual traditions and their historical and cultural contexts to reflect on contemporary spirituality.

Evaluate and apply methodologies in the discipline of spirituality, and develop critiques of them. Reflect theologically in a sophisticated and rigorous manner on hermeneutical issues in the study of spirituality.

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, organization, 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'
Contact Hours:	Contact hours to be specified by each TEI using the 'Guidelines for Contact 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 programmes
Indicative Reading:	Indicative reading to be specified by each TEI in line with the published guidelines on creating bibliographies for postgraduate modules.