Secularisation and Christianity (TMM45320)

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

Aims:	To offer an in-depth introduction to the conceptual framework concerning secularisation, its implications and critique.
	To provide students with both a global and a contextual understanding of the patterns and dynamics of the encounter between religion and contemporary society.
	To enable students to form a framework of knowledge and skills that will allow them to reflect theologically and better explore the ways in which (post)modernity and the secularisation of the societal order shapes their own religiosity and/or ministry.
Content:	A mapping of the evolution of the secularisation paradigm in the research field, beginning in the 1960s and of the methodology.
	Studying if/how changes in a particular socio-political context can trigger changes in the religious milieu, at the corporate and individual level, but also at the level of theology and practice.
	Studying the relationship between church and state in different European contexts and exploring the implications of '*multiple modernities*' on the secularisation paradigm.
	Engagement with core texts and models patterning the place of religion in modern/contemporary society and eliciting individual student responses, relevant to their own context and experience.

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

Subject Knowledge [SSK 1, 2, 3, 4]

Demonstrate a systematic understanding and depth of knowledge of the development, conceptual framework and implications of the secularisation paradigm.

Demonstrate detailed familiarity with contextual responses to secularisation and the impact the modern-secular context has on Christian belief and practice.

Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of a range of methods of analysis and engagement in relation to the encounter between religion and a modern, secular context.

Subject-Specific Skills [SSS 1, 3]

Apply their knowledge to undertake independent investigation of a particular contemporary socio-religious context, taking into account secularisation-related sociological considerations, theological, pastoral and missionary concerns, and their own experience.

Reflect theologically in a sophisticated and rigorous manner on current tensions and dilemmas regarding secularisation including the experience and activities of their own ecclesial tradition.

Key Skills [KS 1, 2]

Carry out systematic and creative research into complex issues and communicate their finding 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.