Theology, Ministry and Mission in Contemporary Urban Contexts (TMM45920)

Module Level: 7

Module Credit Value: 20

Pre-requisites: None

Co-requisites: None

Excluded Combination

of Modules:

None

Aims:

Give students an overview of the ways in which theology has engaged with the subject of the city including approaches based on systematic theology, biblical theology, ecclesiology, missiology and practical theology.

Introduce some key contemporary understanding from the field of Urban Studies and enable critical theological reflection on those ideas.

Enable an appreciation amongst students about the speed and scope of change within cities, its effects and implications.

Enable students to investigate and critically reflect on the

appropriateness of various approaches to ministry and mission in a range of cultural, social and spatial contexts found in cities.

Equip students to analyse particular urban contexts and use this appropriately to inform mission and ministry in those contexts.

Content:

Overview of theological approaches to the subject of the city.

Critical reflection on the city as a context for ministry and mission by exploring a range of social and cultural spaces that comprise the city, such as the city centre, suburbs, outer-city estates, tourist centres, urban sprawl, transit hubs and links, shopping malls etc. and an awareness of how they relate and interact together.

Investigation of tonics such as the relationship between

Investigation of topics such as the relationship between urbanisation and globalisation, 'time-space compression', mobility and migration, gentrification, urban fragmentation, and the rise of urban inequality and

slums.

Exploration of the practical effects and lived experiences of rapid changes in cities.

The use of empirical research for investigation of particular urban contexts.

Critical reflection upon and evaluation of praxis in ministry and mission in urban contexts in light of material studied in the module.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this module students will be able to

Subject Knowledge [SSK 1,2,3]

Demonstrate a systematic understanding and depth of knowledge of key contemporary approaches to the theological investigation of cities that is informed by research and original thinking at current boundaries of the subject.

Understand, assimilate and evaluate critically how theological perspectives of cities relate to the broader body of Urban Studies literature and research and theories offered about the characteristics and dynamics of contemporary cities.

Identify, analyse and critically evaluate contemporary approaches to ministry and mission in urban contexts.

Demonstrate an understanding of a range of practical theological methods for the investigation of a particular urban context and the analysis and critical evaluation of praxis in ministry and mission in that context.

Subject Skills [SSS 1,2,3]

Apply their understanding of theological perspectives of urban environments to undertake analysis of one or more particular urban contexts, reaching valid conclusions and communicating them clearly, sensitively and effectively.

Reflect theologically in a sophisticated and rigorous manner on the challenges and opportunities presented by contemporary urban development.

Evaluate and thoughtfully critique a practical instance of ministry or mission in a contemporary, complex urban context or a particular social situation by drawing systematically and creatively on theological and non-theological sources of theory, exercising sound judgment.

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.