

Political Theology for Mission (TMM48120)

Module Level: 7

Module Credit Value: 20

Pre-requisites: None

Co-requisites: None

Excluded Combination of Modules: None

Aims: To enable students to engage critically with different historical and contemporary approaches to the relationship between church and state as they relate to mission and practice.

To enable students to navigate issues around church, mission and society such as power, politics, community development, hospitality, secularisation, money, migration, and identity.

To develop practical skills for engaging in politics such as community organising

Content: This module gives the opportunity for in-depth engagement with a range of issues around church, mission and society.

It will consider selected understandings of church/state relations from the history of the church and draw out the implications for church and mission in the 21st century. In doing this it will raise key theological questions such as whether politics is pre or post fall, the role of the church, the place of eschatology and how to navigate the complex realities of engaging with the state.

It will cover a range of significant themes relating to contemporary issues of church and state, such as secularisation, empire, postcolonialism, the modern nation state and establishment.

It will explore some contemporary models of engagement, such as humanitarianism, charity, community organising, asset-based community development (ABCD), fair trade and pacifism.

It will explore issues around justice, such as poverty, race, gender and sexuality, violence, and war.

Overall, it equips students in theological and practical approaches to engaging in issues of church, mission and society in the complexities of everyday life, mission and ministry.

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

Subject Specific Knowledge [1, 3]

Demonstrate a systematic understanding and depth of knowledge of frameworks of church and state that is informed by research and original thinking at current boundaries of the subject and be able to use these frameworks to reflect on and critique contemporary mission practice.

Demonstrate an understanding of a range of methods of theological analysis and inquiry in relation to church, mission and society, and an in-depth engagement with methods applicable to their chosen field of research or enquiry.

Subject Specific Skills [3]

Identify particular political theologies in practice and use the knowledge of those political theologies to critique and evaluate those mission practices.

Reflect theologically in a sophisticated and rigorous manner on one or more specific examples of mission practice using political theology frameworks, exercising sound judgement when engaging systematically and creatively with complex, unpredictable and ambiguous realities.

Key Skills [1, 2, 3]

Carry out systematic and creative research into complex issues and communicate their findings 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'

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 undergraduate programmes.

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