



Graduate Diploma in Theological Studies

Note

The modules listed below may not all be available in any particular academic year, though care will be taken to ensure that students continue to have a range of options.

TH6342 Being Christian: Humanity, Discipleship, Maturity (20 credits)

This module will use a systematic examination of theological anthropology as a way in to discussing issues related to the development of contemporary Christian identity, specifically, issues related to discipleship and maturity (ethics and spirituality) with the church (ecclesiology) for the sake of the world (politics and mission). It will focus on developing a theological understanding of personhood with a view to articulating a constructive understanding of how this might shape spiritual formation and outreach in contemporary charismatic Christian contexts.

The module will cover:

1. What is theology?: Sources, approaches, aims, and debates
2. Being Human:
 1. Body and Soul: What is the soul? How does it relate to the body?
 2. *Imago Dei*: What does it mean to be made in the image of God?
 3. A Theology of Disability: How do we respond to suffering?
 4. A Theology of Sex: Gender, desire and Christian faith
 5. Free Will and the Good: Virtue, habit, and responsibility
3. You Are What You Love:
 1. An Augustinian Anthropology: a relational account of human flourishing
 2. Forming Love: a relational account of spiritual formation
4. A Community of Love(rs):
 1. Learning with the Church...: worship and human transformation
 2. ...for the Sake of the World: worship and the common good

TH6344 Biblical Perspectives on the Local Church (20 credits)

The module will focus on several key areas:

- Understanding Biblical teaching on the nature and purpose of the church and historical ecclesiological developments.
- The ministry and mission of the church.
- Views on leadership, governance and authority.
- Pastoral/practical theology.
- Contemporary issues facing the church.

TH6346 Christian Ethics (20 credits)

The module introduces the student to the study of Christian ethics, focusing, in particular, on some of the ethically challenging issues that have an impact on the life of the Church.

It considers the history and foundation of Christian ethics and briefly reflects on the nature of ethics and a number of different ethical theories. The course explores how Christians can make good ethical choices and develop their sense of morality in the context of a complex, postmodern society. It focuses on the ethical emphasis of Old and New Testament teaching and questions and examines the overall use and value of the Bible in engaging with ethical issues. The module also discusses how biblically informed values and virtues relate to western culture.

It considers issues at the beginning and end of life, same sex marriage, sexual ethics, and environmental ethics. There will be study of current debate and its application to Christian living and ministry. The module will discuss how pastors and Christian leaders should navigate these multifaceted topics and identify the different positions the Church might take regarding contentious ethical issues.

TH6347 Introductory New Testament Greek (10 credits)

The syllabus comprises detailed study of fifteen lessons, which introduce the student to basic New Testament Greek.

1. Verbs: The Present Indicative Active
2. Verbs: -εω Verbs
3. Nouns: Second Declension 'Masculine' Nouns
4. Adjectives: The Definite Article – 'The'
5. Nouns: Second Declension Neuter Nouns
6. Nouns: First Declension Feminine Nouns (that end with -η)
7. Nouns: First Declension Feminine Nouns (that end with -α)
8. Nouns: First Declension Masculine Nouns
9. Adjectives: '2:1:2' Adjectives (Part 1)
10. Adjectives: '2:1:2' Adjectives (Part 2)
11. Pronouns & Adjectives: The Demonstratives
12. Pronouns: Five More Pronouns
13. Pronouns: First and Second Person Pronouns

TH5375 New Testament Studies (A) (20 credits)

This module looks at the background of the New Testament documents, including their Greco-Roman context, and the circumstances surrounding their creation and subsequent transmission. It also looks at the methods that critical scholarship uses to interpret the New Testament documents. It considers different approaches to NT interpretation alongside the history of their use in recent NT studies. The principal methods of interpretation that have shaped NT studies for the past century will be considered, as well as some of the more recent approaches.

TH6350 Old Testament Theology (20 credits)

The module looks, first, at various approaches to Old Testament Theology, and then considers the major theological themes of the Old Testament – including the development of monotheism, aspects of the nature and character of God, creation and origins, election and covenant, worship and sacrifice, prophecy and wisdom literature, kingship, ethical issues in the Old Testament, God and the future and God and the nations.

TH6351 The Book of Isaiah (in English) (20 credits)

The module offers a thematic approach to the Book of Isaiah. Topics include: discussion of introductory issues, including textual criticism, possible historical context, issues of date and authorship, the relationship between the sections of the book, and the use of traditions in Isaiah 40-66; Isaiah's vision of God; the divine purpose in Isaiah; the Remnant; Zion/Jerusalem; the Messiah; the Servant of the LORD; and God and the nations.

TH6352 New Testament Theology (20 credits)

This module considers the theology of the New Testament. Focussing initially on core theoretical questions regarding the character of New Testament theology (the question of Canon; unity and diversity; the relationship between NT and OT), it progresses to discuss key theological themes across the NT. Students will be encouraged to consider, critically, the NT texts as primary theological sources, and to engage with and assess relevant secondary literature on a range of theological topics.

TH6354 Mark's Gospel in Greek (20 credits)

The module consists of detailed analysis of a number of chapters in Mark's Gospel in its original language (it is assumed that the student has a good working knowledge of New Testament Greek and is used to working with New Testament Greek texts). Particular attention will be given to the translation of the Greek into English including grammatical and translation comments. The module will also look to exegete, critically, certain passages of the text.

TH6355 John's Gospel in Greek (20 credits)

The module comprises a study of the Fourth Gospel in its original extant language (it is assumed that the student has a good working knowledge of New Testament Greek and is used to working with New Testament Greek texts).

The first half of the module deals with John 1 – 12: The Prologue and Public Ministry of Jesus.

The second half of the module deals with John 13 – 21: The Private Discourse material, Passion Narrative and Appendix

Particular attention is focused on the distinctive character of the Fourth Gospel and its relation to the Synoptic Gospels; other topics include: reconstructing a likely scenario that produced the Fourth Gospel, particularly in light of the Johannine Epistles; Second Temple Jewish texts that may have a bearing on the Fourth Gospel; and the nature of the Fourth Gospel's Jewish polemic.

TH6356 Intermediate Biblical Hebrew (1) (10 credits)

The module covers the following areas:

- Qal Perfect and Imperfect (regular/strong verbs) and the Waw Consecutive (conversive)
- Qal Imperative, Infinitives, Participle, Cohortative and Jussive
- Pronominal suffixes
- Niphal, Piel, Pual, Hiphil, Hophal, Hithpael (regular/strong verbs)
- Irregular/weak verbs

Short passages of translation from the Hebrew text of the Old Testament

Students will also be given graded vocabulary lists.

Examples will generally be taken from the Hebrew text of the Old Testament.

TH6357 Intermediate Biblical Hebrew (2) (10 credits)

The module will focus on the translation and exegesis of set Hebrew texts from the Old Testament. This will include identifying key grammatical constructions and discussing their significance for exegesis and interpretation.

TH6362 Dissertation (BST) (40 credits)

This unit is designed to allow students to carry out an in-depth study of a topic of their own choosing in the area of Biblical Studies and/or Theology. Students will work independently, with the support of a supervisor, to choose a topic for research, identify and collect appropriate literature, offer critical analysis and evaluation of source material, develop their own ideas in the light of the research, and organise and structure material into an extended, critical piece of writing that sustains a coherent argument.

TH6363 Intermediate New Testament Greek (1) (10 credits)

The syllabus comprises detailed study of ten lessons, which introduce the student to more advanced New Testament Greek.

1. Verbs: The Imperfect Indicative Active
2. Verbs: The Passive Voice; The Imperative Mood
3. Verbs: The Infinitive Mood
4. Verbs: The Future Indicative Active
5. Verbs: Stems
6. Verbs: The Middle Voice
7. Verbs: The Aorist Tense
8. Verbs: The Second Aorist Active
9. Verbs: The First and Second Aorist Middle
10. Conjunctions: ὅτι

TH6364 Intermediate New Testament Greek (2) (10 credits)

The syllabus comprises detailed study of twelve lessons, which introduce the student to more advanced New Testament Greek.

1. Nouns: Third Declension Nouns whose Stem ends with a Consonant (Part 1)
2. Nouns: Third Declension Nouns whose Stem ends with a Consonant (Part 2)
3. Nouns: Third Declension Nouns whose Stem ends with a Vowel
4. Pronouns & Adjectives: '3:3:3' Pronouns and Adjectives
5. Adjectives: Four 'one-off' Adjectives
6. Adjectives & Adverbs: Comparative Adjectives and Adverbs, etc.
7. Verbs: The Perfect Tense and the Pluperfect Tense
8. Verbs: The Aorist Passive and the Future Passive
9. Verbs: The Participle
10. Verbs: Two Special Uses of the Participle
11. Verbs: The Subjunctive Mood
12. Verbs: Five Further Uses of the Subjunctive Mood

TH6373 Church Planting (20 credits)

This module offers an advanced introduction to the theory and current practice of church planting in a postmodern western context within the Charismatic and emerging church sector.

1. Answering objections, Biblical foundations and theological reflections
2. The nature of Church
3. Models of church planting – theory and practice
4. Gifts and competencies of a church planter
5. Building and developing team
6. Researching and engaging with community
7. Establishing a church – vision, structure, legal issues
8. Teaching, worship, community life and ongoing mission
9. Continued renewal and transition

TH6374 Pauline Studies (20 credits)

This course offers the student an opportunity to engage in a substantial study of the Pauline corpus contained within the New Testament, predominately the uncontested letters, but not excluding consideration of the deutero-Pauline letters.

The course will aim to introduce students to the history of scholarship and approaches to the study of Paul, particularly traditional and New Perspectives. It will also consider key issues within Pauline texts themselves and introduce students to the main theological developments contained within.

The course will offer the student a good awareness of the field, an opportunity to critically and analytically engage with significant scholarship, and allow them to become familiar with important Pauline texts.

The course will also consider Paul's legacy and the significance of interpretation of his letters for contemporary church practice.

TH6376 Old Testament Studies (20 credits)

This module looks, critically, at issues relating to the text of the OT and its exegesis and interpretation, and engages with past and current scholarship and approaches.

Topics include: the Christian significance of the OT; the formation of the OT canon; the text of the OT, including issues of textual criticism; the literary and socio-historic context of the OT; the significance of genre; the development of OT texts; exegetical and hermeneutical approaches to the OT text – including the location of meaning, behind, in and in front of the text approaches, historical criticism, narrative readings of OT passages and reader response criticism – and their practical applications to specific OT texts.

TH6384 Introductory Biblical Hebrew (1) (10 credits)

The module covers the following areas:

- The Hebrew alphabet: consonants, vowels, transliteration
- Syllables and pronunciation
- Nouns
- The definite article
- The conjunction
- Prepositions
- Adjectives

Students will also be given graded vocabulary lists

Examples will be taken, where possible, from the Hebrew text of the Old Testament

TH6385 Introductory Biblical Hebrew (2) (10 credits)

The module covers the following areas:

- Pronouns and demonstratives
- Pronominal suffixes
- The construct
- Hebrew numbers
- Introduction to Hebrew verbs
- Qal Perfect and Imperfect

Students will also be given graded vocabulary lists

Examples will be taken from the Hebrew text of the Old Testament

TH6386 Early Church History (20 credits)

This module looks at the establishment and growth of the Church from the Day of Pentecost to the mid-4th century. It considers the main events, key characters, the development of doctrine and practice during this period and notes the changing relationship between the Church and society. The module will include such subjects as: The Apostolic Church, The Sub-Apostolic Age, The Apologists, Montanism, Constantine, Arianism, Nicea, Monasticism and Augustine.

TH6391 Christian Missions (20 credits)

The module looks at the subject of modern Christian missions with an emphasis on missions from a Pentecostal/Charismatic perspective. There is a brief, critical, introduction to the theology of mission as it is portrayed in the Old and New Testaments as well as the role of the local church and agencies in mission. The module further considers important changes in the focus of mission since the days of colonialism, and other important practical and theoretical issues in missiology. It also looks at the role of the work of the Holy Spirit in mission as well as the importance of contextualisation, and the significance of mission strategies.

TH6395 Pentecostal Charismatic Studies (20 credits)

The module will consider the major aspects of Pentecostal and Charismatic theology and praxis, including some reflection on the following:

- The origins of modern day Pentecostalism – both doctrine, denomination and praxis, especially in the Western world;
- The Spirit in the Bible texts;
- The importance of the role of ‘subsequence’ in Pentecostal Pneumatology;
- Glossolalia and the ‘Initial Evidence’ debate;

Primary objections and Challenges to Pentecostal Theology and the responses.

It will further consider issues surrounding Pentecostal doctrine and praxis connected with the operation of charismatic gifts:

- Tongues and Prophecy;
- ‘Healing in the Atonement’ (views and debates);
- Pentecostal ecclesiology and governance.