

School of Divinity

Head of School Professor T A Hart

Degree Programmes

Conversion Diploma: Divinity

Graduate Diploma: Divinity
Bible and Contemporary World (part-time and by distance learning)

M.Litt.: Divinity
Bible and Contemporary World (part-time and by distance learning)

M.Phil.: Divinity

Programme Requirements

Divinity

Graduate Diploma: 120 credits from modules DI5001 - DI5499, save that in exceptional circumstances the Head of School may permit a student to take up to 40 of these credits in a 5000-level module offered by another School.

M.Litt.: 120 credits as for Graduate Diploma plus DI5099

M.Phil.: 120 credits as for Graduate Diploma and a Dissertation of not more than 40,000 words.

Bible and Contemporary World

Graduate Diploma: 120 credits from modules DI5901, DI5902 and DI5903

M.Litt.: 120 credits as for Graduate Diploma plus DI5099

Students whose first degree is not in Divinity may prepare themselves for graduate work in Divinity by taking the:

Conversion Diploma in Divinity

120 credits from the list of 4000 level Divinity modules, selected with the permission of the Head of School. One 3000 level module may be taken in place of a 4000 level module with the permission of the Head of School. In some cases (e.g. when a biblical language is required) a semester or year of language study at the 1000-2000 levels may be substituted for one of the 4000 level modules.

Divinity – 5000 Level Modules

Modules

DI5099 Dissertation for M.Litt. Programme/s

Credits: 60.0

Prerequisite: An average grade of at least 14 in course work.

Programme(s): Compulsory module for M.Litt. Postgraduate Programmes within the School

Description: Student dissertations will be supervised by members of the teaching staff who will advise on the choice of subject and provide guidance throughout the research process. The completed dissertation of not more than 15,000 (excluding bibliography) words must be submitted by the end of August.

Class Hour: At times to be arranged with the supervisor

Teaching: Individual Supervision

Assessment: Dissertation = 100%

DI5113 Studies in the Pauline Corpus : Greek Text

Credits: 40.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2003-04

Programme(s): Optional module for Divinity Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This module aims to develop skills in critical exegesis of Pauline letters in both English and Greek. It will investigate central features of Pauline thought, aspects of current controversy in Pauline study, and current methodological interests in the study of Paul. Selections of Pauline texts will be studied in detail.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar and occasional lectures. Also an individual reading programme.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 60%, 3 Hour Examination = 40%

DI5115 New Testament Special Topic

Credits: 40.0 Semester: Either

Availability: As announced.

Programme(s): Optional module for Divinity Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: The special topic in New Testament would be chosen from one of the areas of specialisation of the teaching staff or of a visiting scholar. A written statement of teaching and assessment will be agreed with the student and lodged with the Dean of the Faculty.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: To be arranged.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 60%, 3 Hour Examination = 40%

DI5211 Old Testament Special Topic

Credits: 40.0 Semester: Either

Availability: As announced.

Programme(s): Optional module for Divinity Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: The special topic in Hebrew Bible/Old Testament would be chosen from one of the areas of specialisation of the teaching staff or of a visiting scholar. A written statement of teaching and assessment will be agreed with the student and lodged with the Dean of the Faculty.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: To be arranged

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 60%, 3 Hour Examination = 40%

DI5215 The Pentateuch

Credits 40.0 Semester: 2
Availability 2003-04
Programme(s): Optional module for Divinity Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: The major theological themes of the Pentateuch will be examined in this course, such as Law, Sacrifice, Blessing, Creation. Attention will be given to particular passages which will be studied in Hebrew.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Two hour seminar and 1 hour lecture
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 60%, 3 Hour Examination = 40%

DI5219 Prophecy: The Book of the Twelve

Credits 40.0 Semester: 1
Availability 2003-04
Description: This module analyses in detail the Twelve Minor Prophets of the Old Testament. A consideration of various approaches to interpreting the prophets will be undertaken in the course of the semester. Questions of socio-historical context, tradition-history, and literary criticism will be taken up and critically evaluated. Newer approaches to the Twelve as a collection will be examined throughout the term, and will form the focus of our concern in the module. Exegesis of individual texts will be undertaken. The module will lead to the production of a significant research paper.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One 2 hour seminar, plus fortnightly tutorial.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 60%, 3 Hour Examination = 40%

DI5221 Theological Interpretation of Scripture

Credits: 40.0 Semester: 2
Availability: 2003-04
Programme(s): Optional module for Divinity Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: Students will be working with a range of Jewish and Christian approaches to theological reading of Scripture, largely but not exclusively from the twentieth century. The module seeks to give students exposure to the individual contributions, ongoing disputes, and emerging horizons of theological exegesis, and the more recent history of ideas within which this discourse functions. Specific examples of exegesis will be surveyed, as well as the relationship of exegetical practice and method to constructive theological appropriation, alive to the concerns of the church and the world.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One 2 hour seminar per week, plus individual supervisions.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 60%, 3 Hour Examination = 40%

Divinity – 5000 Level Modules

DI5305 Practical Theology Special Topic

Credits: 40.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2003-04.

Programme(s): Optional module for Divinity Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: The Special topic in Practical Theology for Semester 2 2003-04 will be 'Theology in Latin America and Africa'. This module explores the history, development, methodology and current trends in Latin American and African theologies. Particular attention will be given to the theology of liberation in Latin America and the liturgical theologies in Africa. Themes to be covered: history of the Church, theology in context, theology and history, the poor as paradigm of the Kingdom, liturgy and body, ancestors and community, theological diversity. Students will be able to write substantial papers on one of the following authors: Gustavo Gutiérrez, Jon Sobrino, Ronaldo Muñoz, Oscar Romero, Jean Marc Ela, Charles Nyamiti, F. Kabasele Lumbala or Mercy Amba Oduyoye. A written statement of teaching and assessment will be agreed with the students and lodged with the Dean of the Faculty.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 60%, 3 Hour Examination = 40%

DI5415 Theology Special Topic

Credits: 40.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2003-04.

Description: The special topic in Theology for semester 2 2003-04 will be 'The Perfections of God' Philosophical and theological reflections on the divine nature. In this course we will consider what the perfections of God are, and whether the claim that God is a perfect being is coherent. Much depends on whether God must have all those attributes that would make him perfect, such as being all-powerful, or all-knowing, or eternal. Such attributes are called 'great-making qualities' by perfect being theologians. We shall examine a number of such qualities, including omnipotence, omniscience, eternity, divine foreknowledge, simplicity, benevolence, whether God is the source of moral obligation and what it means to say God is the creator. All these qualities are crucial to a full-orbed picture of a traditional theistic God, and raise on-going problems for theology.. A written statement of teaching and assessment will be agreed with the students and lodged with the Dean of the Faculty

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar and one hour lecture per week

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 60%, 3 Hour Examination = 40%

DI5418 Christology in the Modern Age

Credits 40.0 Semester: 1

Availability 2003-04

Programme(s): Optional module for Divinity Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This module seeks to deepen understanding of some of the key figures and texts in the development of Christology since the Enlightenment, offering both historical and theological contexts for understanding them. Such a foundation is important for research in historical and contemporary Christology. Texts from the following may be selected for study in seminars: Socinus, Schleiermacher, Kähler, Forsyth, Bultmann, Tillich, Barth, Boff, Macquarrie, Frei. Lectures will provide analysis of the wider context of the development of Christology.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture and one 2 hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 60%, 3 Hour Examination = 40%

DI5421 The Body and Society

Credits: 40.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2003-04

Programme(s): Optional module for Divinity Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This module explores current concern with 'the body' in light of the complex Christian metaphor of the body. Topics include pornography, eating disorders and the impact of consumer capitalism on attitudes to the body. Students will have opportunity to consider the relationship between ethics, liturgy and theologies of the body at an advanced level. The required 10,000 word dissertation may be on a subject of the student's choice.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One 2 hour seminar plus additional tutorials

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 60%, 3 Hour Examination = 40%

DI5901 The Bible and Contemporary Issues

Credits: 40.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2003-04

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Bible and Contemporary World Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

[Not available to any student not registered for one of these programmes]

Description: This module will deal with the interpretation of the Bible (both Testaments) in a variety of contexts in the contemporary world, and will require students to reflect on the relationship between historical exegesis and contextual interpretation. The focus will be on the study of specific biblical texts and themes studies in relationship to contemporary issues to which the application of biblical teaching may be problematic or debatable. In each case the contemporary shape of the issues must be understood, as well as the nature of the relevant biblical material. In the course of study of the topics, the methodological issues of contextual interpretation of Scripture will be raised and considered.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Lectures, seminars and a tutorial during residential period

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

DI5902 Theology, Art and Politics

Credits: 40.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2003-04

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Bible and Contemporary World Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

[Not available to any student not registered for one of these programmes]

Description: This module will explore the relationships between politics/ethics (as the sphere of human action), aesthetics and theology. Western art over the centuries has been profoundly influenced by and exercised a reciprocal influence upon Christian religious practice and theology in particular. At the same time, both the Church and artistic creativity are inexorably mixed up with the political and ethical climates of particular times and places. The module will attend to the complexity of some of these relationships, and in doing so invite reconsideration of the ancient question of how, truth, goodness and beauty are related to one another.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Lectures, seminars and a tutorial during residential period

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

Divinity – 5000 Level Modules

DI5903 Theology and Culture

Credits: 40.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2004-05

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Bible and Contemporary World Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

[Not available to any student not registered for one of these programmes]

Description: This module will explore the relationship between theology and culture as this has been understood and manifested in various historical contexts. It will consider the relationship between the historical particularity of the founding texts of Christianity and their 'universal' gospel of salvation. It will explore the impact of the missionary movement of the Christian religion into new cultural contexts in the early centuries. It will consider the impact of 'Christendom', and of the secularization which ensued from the Renaissance onwards. It will attend to the zenith of 'Kulturprotestantismus' in German Liberal Protestant theologies of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and the vehement reaction to this in so-called 'Dialectical' theologies. It will consider the situation of Christian theology in the pluralist intellectual context of contemporary Western society, and such responses to it as that of 'Radical Orthodoxy'. In all this it will introduce students to some key figures and texts (including in the modern period the writings of Barth, Tillich, Niebuhr, Newbigin, and Milbank).

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Lectures, seminars and a tutorial during residential period

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%