

School of Divinity

Head of School

Professor R A Piper

Degree Programmes

Bachelor of Divinity (Honours)
 Master of Theology (Honours)
 Master of Arts (Honours)

Single Honours Degrees:

Biblical Studies (M.A.)
 Divinity (B.D., M.Theol.)
 Theological Studies (M.A.)

Joint Honours Degrees:

Biblical Studies and
 Ancient History, Art History, Classical Studies, Economics, English, French^w, German^{ws}, Greek, Hebrew, Philosophy.
 Hebrew and
 Arabic, Art History, Biblical Studies, English, French^w, Geography, Greek, Latin, Mathematics, Middle East Studies, New Testament, Russian^w.
 New Testament and
 Classical Studies, German^w, Greek, Hebrew, Latin, Modern History.
 Theological Studies and
 Classical Studies, English, French^w, Geography, German^w International Relations, Mathematics, Mediaeval History, Modern History, Philosophy, Psychology, Social Anthropology, Spanish^w.
 Mediaeval Studies (See School of History)

Minor Degree Programme:

^wavailable also as 'with Integrated Year Abroad Degrees'

^sTimetable clash exists, therefore this combination is subject to arrangement by both Departements.

Programme Prerequisites

M Theol Honours

240 credits, of which: (a) 80 credits must be from DI1001, DI1002, DI1003, DI1006; (b) at least 20 credits must be from DI1004, DI1005, DI1009, DI1010, DI1011, MP1001, MP1002, SA1002, SC1001, SC1002, AR1001, LT1001; (c) at least 60 credits must be from DI2001, DI2003, DI2004, DI2005, with a pass at Grade 11 or better in two of these modules; (d) at least 20 credits must be from DI2002, DI2007, DI1005 (unless taken under (b) above), MO2001, MP2001, MP2002; (e) at least a further 20 credits must be taken from those modules listed in (b) or (d) above, or PS1001, PS1002, LT1002, AR1002, IS1001.

BD Honours

240 credits, of which: (a) 80 credits must be from DI1001, DI1002, DI1003, DI1006; (b) 40 credits must be from DI1004, DI1005, DI1009, DI1010, DI1011, MP1002, SC1001, SC1002; (c) 80 credits must be from DI2001, DI2003, DI2004, DI2005, with a pass at Grade 11 or better in two of these modules; (d) at least a further 20 credits from those modules listed in (b) above, or DI2002, DI2007, MP2001, MP2002.

Biblical Studies

For all Programmes: DI1003, DI1006 and passes at 11 or better in both DI2001 and DI2003.

Hebrew

For all Programmes: DI1004; a pass at Grade 11 or better in DI2002; any one of DI1003, AR1001 (except for students doing joint Honours with Arabic), LT1001 (except for students doing joint Honours with Latin), GK1001 or GK1005 (except for students doing joint Honours with Greek); any one of DI2001, AR1002 (except for students doing joint Honours with Arabic), LT2003 (except for students doing joint Honours with Latin), GK1002 or GK1006 (except for students doing joint Honours with Greek).

Divinity - pathways & 1000 Level modules

New Testament

For all Programmes: DI1006, and passes at 11 or better in DI2003 and in one of DI1005 and GK1001 or a pass in Higher Greek or A level Greek

Theological Studies

For all Programmes: DI1001; DI1002; passes at Grade 11 or better in both DI2004 and DI2005.

The required passes at 11 or better must be gained at the first round of assessment; results at reassessment will not give entitlement of entry to Honours.

Programme Requirements

Divinity

M Theol (Hons): At least 210 credits in Honours modules in Divinity, including DI3501, save that, with the permission of the Head of School, 30 of the above credits may be taken in an Honours module or modules offered by another School. The following modules may be taken as part of the list of 'Honours modules in Divinity': AR3211, AN3007, ME3201, ME3203, ME3205, ME3206, ME3220, ME3402, MO3011, SA3039.

BD Honours: At least 150 credits in Honours modules in Divinity, save that, with the permission of the Head of School, 30 of those credits may be taken in a module in Divinity outwith the Honours list or in an Honours module or modules offered by another School. The following module may be taken as part of the list of 'Honours modules in Divinity': AR3211.

Biblical Studies

Single Honours Degree: At least 210 credits chosen from DI3100 - DI3299, DI3426, and DI3501, including at least 60 credits in modules from both DI3100 - DI3199 and DI3200 - DI3299, save that with the permission of the Head of School, 30 of the 210 credits may be taken in a module or modules outwith the stated list.

Joint Honours Degrees: 120 credits from DI3100 - DI3299, DI3426, and DI3501, save that, with the permission of the Head of School, 30 of the credits may be taken in a module or modules outwith the stated list.

Hebrew

Joint Honours Degrees: 120 credits in modules from DI3106, DI3200 - DI3299, and DI3501, including DI3214 and at least one of DI3206, DI3210, DI3213, DI3218 or DI3220 and at least one of DI3203 - DI3205, save that, with the permission of the Head of School, 30 of the credits may be taken in a module or modules outwith the stated list.

New Testament

Joint Honours Degrees: At least 120 credits from DI3100 - DI3199, DI3201, DI3203 - DI3205, and DI3501, including at least one module from DI3101, DI3105, DI3109, DI3113, DI3118 or DI3119 save that, with the permission of the Head of School, 30 of the credits may be taken in a module or modules outwith the stated list.

Theological Studies

Single Honours Degrees: At least 210 credits chosen from DI3300 - DI3501, save that, with the permission of the Head of School, 30 of the credits may be taken in a module or modules outwith the stated list.

Joint Honours Degrees: At least 120 credits from DI3300 - DI3501, save that, with the permission of the Head of School, 30 of the credits may be taken in a module or modules outwith the stated list.

In the case of students who spend part of the Honours Programme abroad on a recognised Exchange Scheme, the Programme Requirements will be amended to take into account courses taken while abroad.

Modules

DI1001 Theology : Issues and History

Credits: 20.0 Semester: 1

Description: This module will address a variety of themes within Christian theology. Each theme will be approached with a view to its biblical roots and historical development, its critical reception and restatement in the modern period, and its significance for contemporary theological reflection. Themes covered will include: The problem of 'God' in the modern world; who is Jesus Christ and what difference does it make?; Trinity, Spirit and community; Diagnosis and cure – models for salvation; Beginnings and endings – the origin and destiny of the world. Through consideration of these themes students will also be introduced to some key names in the history of theology, such as Irenaeus, Athanasius, Augustine, Anselm, Aquinas, Luther, Calvin, Descartes, Kant, Schleiermacher, Feuerbach, Ritschl, Bultmann, and Barth.

Class Hour: 10.00 am

Teaching: Three lectures and one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 2 Hour Examination = 50%

Re-Assessment: 3 Hour Examination = 100%

DI1002 The Church, Ritual and Politics

Credits: 20.0 Semester: 2

Description: This module explores ways in which Christianity is expressed and lived out today in Britain, Latin America and Africa with respect to worship and social and political engagement on the part of churches. The first part of the module will focus on liturgy, liberation theology and social reflection in Latin America and on dance, worship, healing, the world of spirits and inculturation in Africa. The second half will focus on worship, spirituality and the political and social involvement of the churches in contemporary Britain.

Class Hour: 10.00 am

Teaching: Four classes, including one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 2 Hour Examination = 50%

Re-Assessment: 3 Hour Examination = 100%

DI1003 The History and Religion of Ancient Israel : An Introduction

Credits: 20.0 Semester: 1(01-02); 2(02-03)

Description: This module is an introduction to the life, literature and religion of Ancient Israel. It will in particular consider the main literary types of the Old Testament literature, both in order to familiarise students with the traditions used in the Old Testament and to demonstrate how this literature was shaped by religious, social and historical factors. The class will also consider how it came to form the traditional canon of the Hebrew Bible.

Class Hour: 12.00 noon.

Teaching: Four classes.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 2 Hour Examination = 50%

Re-Assessment: 3 Hour Examination = 100%

DI1004 Hebrew 1 : Introduction to Hebrew Language

Credits: 20.0 Semester: 2

Description: This module teaches the basic grammar of biblical Hebrew and enables the student to proceed by the end of the module to reading some of the simpler parts of the Hebrew Bible. The course text is Davidson's *Introductory Hebrew Grammar* (27th ed. by J D Martin, Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1993), supplemented by a Computer Assisted Language Learning package based on the textbook.

Class Hour: 4.00 pm.

Teaching: Four lectures and one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 2 Hour Examination = 50%

Re-Assessment: 3 Hour Examination = 100%

DI1005 New Testament Greek 1

Divinity - 1000 Level modules

Credits: 20.0 Semester: 1

Anti-requisites: GK1001-GK1004

Description: This module aims to give students a sufficient knowledge of the grammar and vocabulary of New Testament Greek to read sections of a prescribed New Testament text and to engage with technical literature in New Testament studies. The course textbook will be supplemented by materials prepared by the course tutor. The course concludes with reading sections of a prescribed New Testament text in Greek.

Class Hour: 4.00 pm

Teaching: Four lectures and one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 2 Hour Examination = 50%

Re-Assessment: 3 Hour Examination = 100%

DI1006 Jesus and the Gospels

Credits: 20.0 Semester: 2(01-02); 1(02-03)

Description: This module aims to introduce students to New Testament studies in general and to gospel studies in particular. The general introduction will include consideration of the historical contexts of the New Testament texts, including political, socio-economic and religious factors within the Graeco-Roman world and Early Judaism. The gospels will then be studied with a view to determining the particular interests of their authors, and with a view to assessing their portraits of Jesus in relation to the historical Jesus.

Class Hour: 12.00 noon.

Teaching: Three lectures and one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 2 Hour Examination = 50%

Re-Assessment: 3 Hour Examination = 100%

Re-Assessment: 3 Hour Examination = 100%

DI1009 Introduction to World Religions

Credits: 20.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2002-03

Description: This module aims to provide a basic introduction to the major world religions apart from Christianity. It will consider methodologies for the comparative study of religions and will investigate how the religions studied (Judaism, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism) function in contexts within and outwith Britain.

Class Hour: 4.00 pm

Teaching: Four lectures and a fortnightly tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 2 Hour Examination = 50%

Re-Assessment: 3 Hour Examination = 100%

DI1011 Classics of Western Spirituality

Credits: 20.0 Semester: 2(01-02);1(02-03)

Description: The module will be a study of the major texts from the western (i.e. Christian and Jewish) tradition of spirituality. Eleven texts will be chosen, from such authors as Gregory of Nyssa, Augustine (Confessions), Benedict (Rule), Bernard of Clairvaux, Francis of Assisi, Bonaventure, Hildegard of Bingen, Julian of Norwich, Walter Hilton, the Cloud of Unknowing, Ignatius Loyola, Teresa of Avila, George Herbert, John Bunyan, Richard Baxter, William Law, Søren Kierkegaard, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Simone Weil, Thomas Merton.

Class Hour: 3.00 pm

Teaching: Four classes each week, including one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 2 Hour Examination = 50%

Re-Assessment: 3 Hour Examination = 100%

DI2001 Exile and Return in the Old Testament

Divinity - 2000 Level modules

Credits: 20.0 Semester: 1 (01-02); 2 (02-03)

Prerequisite: DI1003

Description: This module continues the study of the Old Testament in DI1003 and is an introduction to the literature and theology of the period of Israel's history from exile to the consolidation of the canon. Prophecy, wisdom, psalms, apocalyptic writings, and the earliest forms of inner-biblical exegesis are studied. Attention is given to the final shaping of Israel's sacred texts. The important events from exile to Qumran are illustrated in relation to the biblical literature.

Class Hour: 11.00 am

Teaching: Three lectures and one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 2 Hour Examination = 50%

Re-Assessment: 3 Hour Examination = 100%

DI2002 Hebrew 2

Credits: 20.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2002-03

Prerequisite: DI1004

Description: This module aims to extend students' skills in reading the Hebrew Bible and in the techniques of textual criticism and of exegesis. It consists of the reading and studying of a selection of Hebrew biblical texts representative of different literary genres such as prose writing and psalms.

Class Hour: 3.00 pm

Teaching: Three lectures and one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 2 Hour Examination = 50%

Re-Assessment: 3 Hour Examination = 100%

DI2003 New Testament History and Theology

Credits: 20.0 Semester: 2(01-02); 1(02-03)

Prerequisite: DI1006

Description: This module covers: (i) the history of the Church in the New Testament period, setting the church in its Jewish and Greco-Roman contexts; (ii) study of a Pauline letter; (iii) the theology of the New Testament, including the issue of unity and diversity, and with special attention to Christology.

Class Hour: 11.00 am

Teaching: Four lectures and fortnightly tutorials.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 2 Hour Examination = 50%

Re-Assessment: 3 Hour Examination = 100%

DI2004 Contemporary Theology and Its Challenges

Credits: 20.0 Semester: 2

Prerequisite: DI1001

Description: This module is in two parts. The first considers how Christian faith has been expressed and reformulated within the context of the 20th century. The second considers what have been some of the major challenges to Christian belief.

Class Hour: 2.00 pm

Teaching: Each fortnight: 6 lectures and one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 2 Hour Examination = 50%

Re-Assessment: 3 Hour Examination = 100%

DI2005 Christian Ethics

Divinity - 2000 & 3000 Level modules

Credits: 20.0 Semester: 1

Description: This module allows students to consider the issues which arise when applying theological concepts to practical questions of moral behaviour. Students will explore the nature of theological ethics in relation to philosophical categories of ethics and to notions of biblical authority. Selected issues will then be examined in the areas of bioethics, personal relationships, economic justice and political power, and the integrity of creation. The task of the Christian community will be discussed in relation to each of these issues.

Class Hour: 2.00 pm

Teaching: 6 lectures and one tutorial each fortnight.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 2 Hour Examination = 50%

Re-Assessment: 3 Hour Examination = 100%

DI2007 The Anthropology of Religion

Credits: 20.0 Semester: 2

Description: This module explores theoretical and practical developments within the anthropological methodologies/insights for the study of contemporary religion, including the World Religions and the new-religious movements. It assumes religion as a social phenomenon to be explored and interpreted through the analysis of symbols, ritual performances and social analysis. Lecture themes include theories and controversies; the body as symbol; boundaries; the *emic* and the *etic*; the politics of religious identity; religion and politics; gender and the sacred; religion and environment; ritual theory and rites of passage; spirit possession; witchcraft and sorcery. Materials to be used: videos and slides as well as religious texts. Essays will focus on particular case studies of contemporary religious phenomena.

Class Hour: 12.00 noon.

Teaching: 3 lectures, and fortnightly tutorials

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 2 Hour Examination = 50%

Re-Assessment: 3 Hour Examination = 100%

The prerequisite for each of the following Honours modules is entry to the Honours Programme(s) for which they are specified, save where a specific prerequisite is given

DI3103 History of New Testament Interpretation

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2001-02

Prerequisite: 11 or better in DI2003

Description: This module seeks to introduce students to different methods of biblical interpretation used by selected major exegetes during the Christian era, with special attention to the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The relationship between changing methods of interpretation and changing intellectual and philosophical currents will be of particular interest. After some analysis of exegetical methods in the patristic, mediaeval and Reformation periods, the rise of modern historical criticism will be considered in detail. Modern alternatives to the historical-critical approach - structuralism, rhetorical criticism, feminist interpretations, liberation hermeneutics - will also be studied.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar, occasional lectures.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3104 Johannine Literature and Theology : English Text

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2001-02

Prerequisite: 11 or better in DI1006

Anti-requisite: DI3105

Description: This course will focus on a study of the Gospel of John and the Johannine Letters. Selected texts (in English) will be studied in detail with a view towards developing a more comprehensive understanding of the socio-historical situation of Johannine Christianity and the main theological themes reflected in the writings. Issues to be considered will typically include: (i) the parting of the Johannine Christians from Judaism; (ii) the relationship of Johannine Christianity to the rest of early Christianity; (iii) the significance of the ascent/descent motif in Johannine Christology; (iv) the distinctive characteristics of Johannine ideas about salvation, sacraments, ethics and the nature of the Spirit/Paraclete. A shift in Johannine thought from the Gospel to the Letters will also be explored.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar and one lecture.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3105 Johannine Literature and Theology : Greek Text

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2001-02

Prerequisites: 11 or better in DI1005 or GK1001 or Higher/A-level Greek, and 11 or better in DI1006

Anti-requisite: DI3104

Description: This course will focus on a study of the Gospel of John and the Johannine Letters. Selected texts will be translated from Greek and studied in detail with a view towards developing a more comprehensive understanding of the socio-historical situation of Johannine Christianity and the main theological themes reflected in the writings. Issues to be considered will typically include: (i) the parting of the Johannine Christians from Judaism; (ii) the relationship of Johannine Christianity to the rest of early Christianity; (iii) the significance of the ascent/descent motif in Johannine Christology; (iv) the distinctive characteristics of Johannine ideas about salvation, sacraments, ethics and the nature of the Spirit/Paraclete. A shift in Johannine thought from the Gospel to the Letters will also be explored.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar, one lecture and tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3112 Studies in the Pauline Corpus (A) : English Text

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1(01-02);2(02-03)

Prerequisites: 11 or better in DI2003

Anti-requisite: DI3113

Description: This course aims to develop skills in critical exegesis of Pauline letters in English. It will introduce central features of Pauline theology, 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.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3113 Studies in the Pauline Corpus (B) : Greek Text

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1(02-03);2(02-03)

Divinity - 3000 Level modules

Prerequisites: DI1005 or GK1001 or Higher/A-Level Greek, and pass at 11 or better in DI2003.

Anti-requisite: DI3112

Description: This course aims to develop skills in critical exegesis of Pauline letters in both English and Greek. It will introduce central features of Pauline theology, 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.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3114 The Historical Jesus

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2002-03

Prerequisite: 11 or better in DI1006

Description: In view of recent debate over the historical Jesus, this course seeks to encourage students to determine a viable methodology for historical Jesus research and to develop a defensible, comprehensive hypothesis of the aims and life of this figure. The course will begin with an analysis of the state of the quest(s) for the historical Jesus, including the Cynic hypothesis. It will then examine critically the trial narratives, the Temple incident, the reasons for Jesus' execution, Jesus' attitude to the Jewish law and the preaching of the kingdom of God in an effort to determine the main features of his message. The major roles attributed to Jesus - prophet, teacher, charismatic healer, Messiah, Son of Man, Son of God - will also be considered critically, as well as selected events of Jesus' life.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar and occasional lectures.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3115 New Testament Special Topic

Credits: 30.0 Semester: Either

Prerequisite: 11 or better in DI2003

Description: This module allows students the possibility of pursuing a special topic in the field of New Testament studies by arrangement with the staff of the subject area and the Head of School. The topic will be chosen from one of the areas of specialisation of 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 Faculty.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3119 The Sermon on the Mount : Greek Text

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2002-03

Anti-requisites: DI3108, DI3109 and DI3120

Description: The text (in Greek) of the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew's gospel will be translated and then analysed from a variety of perspectives. A detailed study of the nature of the Sermon traditions prior to Matthew will be undertaken, giving consideration to earlier forms of an inaugural sermon and to the authenticity and source of the traditions. Matthew's own structure and emphases will be investigated, and these will be both related to the rest of Matthew's gospel and contrasted with the emphases of the Sermon on the Plain in Luke. The meaning of the traditions will also be explored with regard to the ancient Mediterranean social and cultural context. Finally, an effort will be made to see how the Sermon has been used in the history of Christian thought and in modern Christian theology and ethics.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One 2 hour seminar and one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3120 The Sermon on the Mount : English Text

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2002-03

Anti-requisites: DI3108, DI3109 and DI3119

Description: The text (in English) of the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew's gospel will be analysed from a variety of perspectives. A detailed study of the nature of the Sermon traditions prior to Matthew will be undertaken, giving consideration to earlier forms of an inaugural sermon and to the authenticity and source of the traditions. Matthew's own structure and emphases will be investigated, and these will be both related to the rest of Matthew's gospel and contrasted with the emphases of the Sermon on the Plain in Luke. The meaning of the traditions will also be explored with regard to the ancient Mediterranean social and cultural context. Finally, an effort will be made to see how the Sermon has been used in the history of Christian thought and in modern Christian theology and ethics.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One 2 hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3121 Moral Identity in New Testament Texts

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2002-03

Prerequisites: 11 or better in DI2003

Anti-requisites: DI3107

Description: This module is not interested in particular ethical prescriptions of New Testament texts. Instead, it assesses the way that New Testament texts promote the formation of moral identity in relation to the values and life of the wider Christian community. The module incorporates a wide range of New Testament texts, and focuses on the following topics in particular: eschatology, cruciform existence, pneumatology, corporate solidarity, moral distinctiveness, interaction with society. The module will provide tools for the theological assessment of textual data, with the expectation that students will emerge from the module better prepared to offer their own critique of contemporary social and religious influences on moral formation.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One 2 hour seminar and occasional lectures.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3122 The Parables of Jesus

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2001-02

Prerequisites: Grade 11 or better in DI2003

Description: This module will consider methodological issues pertinent to parable research and will focus on selected gospel parables as case studies in parable interpretation. In particular, the module will address the following issues: the definition of 'parable'; the function of Jesus' parables; historical trends in parable interpretation including recent interest in parables as language-events or linguistically-created 'worlds' that are epistemologically subversive or 'existentially' performative (e.g. the new hermeneutic and speech-act theoreticians); changes in 'Sitz im Leben' and parable multivalence. In particular, recent advances in understanding the socio-economic context of Jesus' day allow Jesus' parables to be heard in fresh ways and the module will capitalise on those advances.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Occasional lectures, 2 hour seminar per week

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3205 Biblical Aramaic

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Divinity - 3000 Level modules

Availability: 2001-02

Prerequisite: 11 or better in DI2002

Description: This module introduces students to a Semitic language related to Hebrew, in which parts of the Hebrew Bible are written. It consists of an introduction to basic elements of the language and study of selected texts from the biblical books of Daniel (court tales describing life in the Babylonian capital during the exile) and Ezra (diplomatic texts from the post-exilic period dealing with the return of the exiles to Palestine and the rebuilding of the temple in Jerusalem).

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar.

Assessment: 3 Hour Examination = 100%

DI3211 Old Testament Special Topic

Credits: 30.0

Semester: Either

Prerequisite: 11 or better in DI2001

Description: This module allows students the possibility of pursuing a special topic in Hebrew Bible Old Testament by arrangement with the staff of the subject area and the Head of School. The topic will 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 Faculty.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar.

Assessment: 3 Hour Examination = 100%

DI3212 The Dead Sea Scrolls : English Texts

Credits: 30.0

Semester: 1

Availability: 2002-03

Prerequisite: 11 or better in DI2001 or DI2003

Anti-requisite: DI3213

Description: This module is a survey of the Dead Sea Scrolls and related manuscript finds from the Judaean Desert. The class will read and discuss the major sectarian texts from Qumran with a view toward understanding their place in Second Temple Judaism. Attention will also be given to the archaeological context of the Qumran discoveries, as well as to the revolutionary importance of the scrolls for our understanding of the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament. Related manuscript discoveries will also be studied, including the Samaria Papyri, the scrolls from Masada, and the letters of Bar Kochba. All texts will be read in English translation.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3213 The Dead Sea Scrolls : Hebrew Texts

Credits: 30.0

Semester: 1

Availability: 2002-03

Prerequisite: 11 or better in DI2002 and either DI2001 or DI2003

Anti-requisite: DI3212

Description: This module is a survey of the Dead Sea Scrolls and related manuscript finds from the Judaean Desert. The class will read and discuss the major sectarian texts from Qumran with a view toward understanding their place in Second Temple Judaism. Attention will also be given to the archaeological context of the Qumran discoveries, as well as to the revolutionary importance of the scrolls for our understanding of the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament. Related manuscript discoveries will also be studied, including the Samaria Papyri, the scrolls from Masada, and the letters of Bar Kochba. Key texts will be read in Hebrew, with the rest in English translation.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar and a one hour Hebrew reading session.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3214 Translation from and into Hebrew

Credits: 30.0

Semester: 2

Availability: 2001-02

Prerequisite: 11 or better in DI2002

Description: Building on the skills obtained by students who have taken modules DI1004 and DI2002, the aim of this module is to enable students to attain a high standard in translating from and into Hebrew. This will be done through an introduction to and practice of translating unseen Hebrew texts, reading unpointed Hebrew, vocalising unpointed Hebrew, and translating English texts into Classical Hebrew.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One 2 Hour seminar.

Assessment: 3 Hour Examination = 100%

DI3216 The Old Testament Pseudepigrapha

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2001-02

Prerequisite: 11 or better in DI2001 or DI2003

Description: This module examines the Old Testament Pseudepigrapha, a loose collection of ancient Bible-like writings that were excluded from the canons of both normative Judaism and Christianity. The emphasis will be textual (unlike the thematic approach of DI3106), and we shall explore the reasons for the rejection of these documents by the major canons, the problem of the mixed Jewish and Christian strata in the texts, their intertextual connections with biblical literature, and their influence after antiquity. All texts will be read in English translation. A public discussion group for this module will be created on the Internet, and the students and instructor will use electronic mail as part of the course. Training sessions on the use of the Internet will be provided. The topic for 2001-02 will be pseudepigraphal texts alleged to have been composed in Hebrew or Aramaic.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3218 Second Isaiah (Isaiah 40-66) : Hebrew Exegesis

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2002-3

Prerequisites: DI2001 and DI2002

Antirequisite: DI3222

Description: Students will read selected portions of the Hebrew Text of Isaiah 40-66, illustrating important matters of exegesis and interpretation in respect of the given passages. Special attention shall be paid to (a) the place of these chapters within the larger book of Isaiah; (b) the phenomenon of intertextuality and inner-biblical exegesis; (c) the emergence of prophecy as a written phenomenon; (d) the social and historical implications of such a thesis, and its relationship to the question of prophecy's end; (e) reviewing basic exegetical methods (form and redaction criticism); and (f) theological appropriation and reflection on Isaiah as divine speech today.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One 2 hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3222 Second Isaiah (Isaiah 40-66) : English Text

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Divinity - 3000 Level modules

Availability: 2002-03

Prerequisite: DI2001

Antirequisite: DI3218

Description: Students will read selected portions of the English Text of Isaiah 40-66, chosen to illustrate important matters for interpreting the larger message of the prophet. Special attention will be paid to (a) the place of these chapters within the larger Book of Isaiah; (b) the phenomenon of inner-biblical exegesis; (c) the emergence of prophecy as written rather than oral; (d) the social and historical implications of (c), especially as regards the 'end of prophecy' in Israel; (e) reviewing basic exegetical methods (form, redaction, and rhetorical analysis); and (f) theological appropriation of Isaiah as divine speech today.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3300 Theology, Spirituality and Pastoral Care

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2001-02

Prerequisites: DI1002 and 11 or better in DI2005

Description: This module is designed to introduce students to the subject of pastoral care and counselling from a theological and spiritual perspective. It covers the historical development of pastoral and spiritual care in the Christian tradition, examines contemporary models of pastoral care and explores the subjects of mental illness, depression, terminal illness, death, bereavement and grief. Consideration is also given to the theory and practice of counselling. Lectures are delivered by visiting practitioners and a visit is made to a hospice in Edinburgh.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar and one hour lecture.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3305 Practical Theology Special Topic

Credits: 30.0 Semester: Either

Prerequisites: DI1002 and 11 or better in DI2005

Description: This module allows students the possibility of pursuing a special topic in Practical Theology by arrangement with the staff of the subject area and the Head of School. The topic will 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 Faculty.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3309 Christian Ethics : An Historical Approach

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2002-03

Prerequisite: Either DI2004 or DI2005, and DI3430

Description: This module will study some of the most important and exciting developments within the history of Christian ethics. It will consider how major thinkers have understood and applied the teaching of Jesus Christ to practical concerns. Students will be introduced to *The Confessions* of St Augustine and will have the opportunity to explore for themselves what he says about marriage, lying, virginity, etc. They will learn about the influence that the monasteries exerted over centuries of Christian morality, the doomed romance between Abelard and Heloise and its effect upon their understanding of virtue and vice, and they will read what Luther and Calvin say, respectively, about Christian social action and ethics as an attitude of gratitude towards God. The module will also study topics from the modern era, notably John Wesley's social ethics and Kierkegaard's treatment of the biblical story of Abraham's near sacrifice of Isaac.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One 2 hour seminar and one lecture.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3310 Health-Care Issues in Christian Perspective

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2001-02

Prerequisite: Either DI2004 or DI2005

Description: This module offers students the opportunity to study contemporary health-care issues within the broad framework of a Christian perspective. There will be opportunity to study and assess biblical and theological attitudes to health, as well as current statements by churches. Topics covered will include genetic engineering, resource allocation, mental health, AIDS and HIV.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture and one 2 hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3313 Self, Ethics and Spirituality

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2001-02

Prerequisite: 11 or better in either DI2003 or DI2004, and at least a pass in the other.

Description: In recent years the understanding of religion and spirituality has for many undergone a fundamental shift. It seems limiting and mistaken to think in terms, on the one hand, of a transcendent God and, on the other, of the sinfulness of 'man'. People seek self-realisation and pursue spiritual practices which may allow them to live with integrity. 'God' may well be understood as present in relationships between people and in the wonder of the natural world. There are of course strands within the Western tradition, both Jewish and Christian, on which it seems natural to draw. But, equally, there has arisen an intense interest in 'green' spirituality, feminists have had much to say, and many follow what might be named a 'secular' spirituality. The impact of Buddhism has been considerable and meditative practices are widespread. This course seeks to marshal some of the resources for a consideration of spirituality today. It considers questions to do with the nature of the self, religious experience, and what it is that we may mean by 'God'.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One 2 hour seminar and one lecture.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3315 Celtic Christianity : Contemporary Myths & Models

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2001-02

Divinity - 3000 Level modules

Prerequisite: Entry to any Honours Programme.

Description: This module makes a critical examination of the current revival of Celtic Christianity, explaining what is meant by this phrase, its historicity and the myth making and propaganda involved in its revival. It looks at Celtic models for the contemporary church and explores their usefulness and potential.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3317 Religion, Politics and Contemporary Society

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Description: The range of topics offered within this module include an inter-disciplinary reflection on religion and politics, political theology, liberation theology, religious studies, history, international relations and the social sciences. The module will look at the centrality of religious contestations within a globalised community and to a contemporary European secularised society. After exploring issues of sacred texts and secular contexts, students will be encouraged to explore symbolic constructions of different worlds and the contemporary conflicts related to such multi-vocality. Issues of history, religious reflection and international law will also be explored within the general issues of the 'local' and the 'universal', the 'religious' and the 'political', in the context of Africa, Latin America and Europe. Case studies will cover the Rwanda Genocide, Religion in the Colonial Period, Chile and the "Disappeared", Secularism and Religious Freedom, the Oromo and Nationalism.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One 2 hour seminar, plus occasional lectures.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3318 Theology in Latin America and Africa

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Description: The first part of the module will locate the development of indigenous theologies within a post-colonial and a post-missionary era. During the second part, relevant concepts will be explored by the reading and discussion of relevant papers. Finally each student will consider a particular theologian in depth, while the lectures will aim at comparison and critical assessment of such non-European contributions to the study and practice of theology in general and for the future.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One 2 hour seminar, plus occasional lectures.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3390 The Buddhist Tradition

Credits: 15.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2001-02

Description: A profound manifestation of religiousness, developing in and emanating from India, the Buddhist tradition has formulated responses to fundamental human issues, quite different from those proposed within theistic movements, and has continued to develop in Sri Lanka, Southeast Asia, China, Japan and elsewhere. This course investigates the formative structure of the tradition in India, key expressions of the human predicament, the make-up of the individual, the life context as morally significant (karma), conceptions of salvific truth, the practice of meditation, notions of liberation, "emptiness", bodhisattva, buddhahood, leading to the consideration of Theravada, Zen, and the Pure Land School. Essays will focus on aspects of Theravada or Zen or the Pure Land or issues in Buddhist-Christian dialogue.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One 2 hour lecture, two tutorials.

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

DI3414 Theology and Recent Continental Philosophy

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2001-02

Prerequisite: Admission to Honours in Divinity, Theological Studies or Philosophy.

Description: This course will allow students to consider the implications, both positive and negative, of recent Continental philosophy for theology. The course will grapple with late Heidegger, Derrida and Irigaray, and will also give attention to Levinas. Basic themes will be Heidegger's discernment of Being; the Heideggerian and Derridean critique of metaphysics with its implications for classical theism; Heidegger's relationship to Christian theology; Derrida's Jewish background and its impact on his thought; the implications of Derrida's prohibition on pre-linguistic experience for religious consciousness; Irigaray's wish to create a female "transcendental" and her critique of Levinasian ethics.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar and lecture.

Assessment: 3 Hour Examination = 100%

DI3415 Theology Special Topic

Credits: 30.0 Semester: Either

Prerequisite: 11 or better in DI2004

Description: This module allows students the possibility of pursuing a special topic in Theology by arrangement with the staff of the subject area and the Head of School. The topic (which may focus on the work of a theologian/religious thinker or a theme in theology, philosophy of religion, or apologetics) will 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 Faculty.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar.

Assessment: 3 Hour Examination = 100%

DI3421 The Body and Society

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2001-02

Prerequisite: DI3430

Description: This module explores current concern with 'the body' in the light of the complex Christian metaphor of the body. Areas covered include pornography, domestic violence, eating disorders and the impact of consumer capitalism, which are studied in both sociological and theological discussion.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture and one 2 hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3424 Theology and Imagination

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2002-03

Prerequisites: DI1001, DI2004 and DI3430

Description: This module will explore the nature of the human capacity for imagination and its significance within common human, religious and Christian theological contexts. This will be achieved both through theoretical and applied approaches to the theme. Weekly lectures will consider the ways and places in which imagination functions in such distinctively human phenomena as knowledge, faith, hope, joy, morality, desire and understanding. In addition we may consider such themes as revelation and imagination, creation and creativity, incarnation and artistic imagination, inspiration and Spirit, and ritual, symbolism and sacrament. Weekly seminars will attend to a selection of products of human imagining (novels, plays, poetry, examples of visual art and music) with a view to exploring the theological questions raised by and expressed in them.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One-and-a-half hour lecture and one-and-a-half hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3425 Theology, Art, Politics

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2001-02

Divinity - 3000 Level modules

Prerequisites: DI1001, DI2004

Description: This module will explore the relation between ethics, aesthetics and theology. The bulk of it will be given over to a consideration of different artists, composers and writers in their social and political context. The art of Max Beckmann, Francis Bacon, Botticelli, and the theme of kitsch (illustrated in part through Millais and Holman Hunt); the music of Mozart and Schoenberg, and one or two novels by George Eliot and Dostoevsky will be studied. Through this study students will develop an understanding of theological aesthetics; the issues at stake in the relation of ethics and aesthetics; the subjects of study in their context and theological significance; and the main principles of aesthetic criticism.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3427 Modern Christology

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2001-02

Prerequisites: 11 or better in DI2004 and DI3430

Description: In this module, consideration will be given to christological claims which have long been considered definitive of the Christian faith. This will take place in a context of dialogue with a number of wider theological, philosophical, ethical and contextual challenges and concerns raised by modern and contemporary writers. The module will begin by re-examining the *homoousion* debate articulating the question as to how far Christians are justified in continuing to reiterate the central christological affirmations of the Nicene creed. This will lead to a distillation of the key challenges to christological orthodoxy facilitating examination of these in greater depth together with other doctrinal issues integral to christological affirmation - most notably those associated with the 'three days' (Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday) and the ascension. Integral to the course will be analysis of key methodological and hermeneutical issues on the one hand together with consideration of the social ramifications of christological affirmations on the other.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour lecture, seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3428 Theological Anthropology

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2002-03

Prerequisites: 11 or better in DI2004

Description: This module seeks to integrate philosophical and theological considerations of what it is to be a self and a person. The key issues here are introduced through critical engagement with Descartes' interpretation of the self, assessing the profound impact of Cartesian dualism on the theological debate. In dialogue with recent debates in philosophy and philosophical theology it will consider how we conceive of the self and most specifically the self-relation (self-awareness, self-understanding, self-knowledge, self-governance) together with associated issues relating to moral autonomy and agency. The second half of the module will progress, in the light of these considerations, to an engagement with the main schools of anthropological thinking characteristic of the modern/contemporary theological debate considering the contribution which Christian theology's own resources offer to the business of interpreting what it is to be a self.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour lecture, seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3430 Theological explorations: texts, issues and applications

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Prerequisites: DI1001, DI1002, and 11 or better in DI2004 or DI2005

Divinity - 3000 Level modules

Anti-requisite: DI3417

Description: This module will consider a range of issues of belief and practice which have been central to and have shaped the Christian theological tradition over the past two millennia. It will do this through the study of texts in seminars, through lectures, and through private study and written assignments. Issues selected for study will be considered both from a historical perspective, and with a view to contemporary criticisms and reformulations of them.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One hour lecture, Two hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, 3 Hour Examination = 70%

DI3501 Honours Dissertation in Divinity

Credits: 30.0 Semester: Either

Description: This project enables a student to research a special topic of his/her choice (in consultation with staff) and to develop it at length in dissertation form. The length of the dissertation should be approximately 10,000 words, and must not in any case exceed 12,000 words (to include text, footnotes and appendices). It must be submitted by the end of the semester.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: To be arranged.

Assessment: Dissertation = 100%

