

MODULE TITLE: SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND PRACTICES

MODULE CODE: FMM728

MODULE SUMMARY:

This module requires you to critically explore a range of sources (biblical, historical and contemporary) of specific focal concerns and practices to help identify distinctively Christian concepts of 'community', including, for example, critical engagement with themes of discipleship, food, faith and friendship; critically evaluate recent approaches to intentional Christian community and the practices which sustain them, including exploration of L'Arche (and other organisations) as a model of spirituality and discipleship which honours disability and seek to identify lessons that can challenge Christian believers; and explore a range of spiritual disciplines by which persons are formed in community.

SEMESTER OF DELIVERY: 1

CATS VALUE: 20

ECTS VALUE: 10

CONTACT HOURS:

Lectures 16 hours; Tutorials 4 hours.
Independent study: 180 hours (Directed learning 100 hours; Self-directed 80 hours)
Total hours for module: 200 hours.

MODULE LEADER: Carol Kingston-Smith

Tutors: Nicole Gordon

MODE OF DELIVERY: Blended

PROGRAMME(S) FOR WHICH THIS MODULE IS MANDATORY:

MA Missional Leadership and Spirituality
PGDip Missional Leadership and Spirituality

PROGRAMMES WHERE THIS MODULE MAY BE TAKEN AS AN OPTION:

PGCert Missional Leadership and Spirituality

NORMALLY AVAILABLE TO EXCHANGE STUDENTS: No

THE PRE-REQUIREMENT(S) FOR THIS MODULE ARE: None

THIS MODULE IS A PRE-REQUISITE FOR: N/A

RELEVANT BENCHMARKS/NATIONAL OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS:

- QAA Master's Degree Characteristics (February 2022):
https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/quality-code/master's-degree-characteristics-statement.pdf?sfvrsn=86c5ca81_18
- Subject Benchmark Statement - Theology and Religious Studies (March 2022):
<https://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code/subject-benchmark-statements/theology-and-religious-studies>

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

As a successful student you will be able to:

- Demonstrate independent study and teamworking.
- Engage in advanced critical thinking of spiritual formation and community formation/practice and analysis of content-related skills.
- Demonstrate capacity for independent thought and judgement including appreciation of alternative perspectives of spiritual practices in diverse communities through case study evaluation.
- Formulate, communicate, debate, and defend concepts, ideas and practical application of community theory and practice in class time.
- Articulate original ideas related to the development of spiritual practices that can be used flexibly suited to the challenges that arise in missional ministry and leadership situations.

ASSESSMENT:

- Component 1: 75% Essay (3,750 words) critically engaging with the key content of the module, chosen by you from a short list of options set by the Programme Director.
KIS Category: Coursework
- Component 2: 25% Personal Development Profile Assessment Task (1,250 words or equivalent) as set out in the PDP Handbook
KIS Category: Coursework

READING STRATEGY:

The types of literature in the field of reflective practice, reflexivity, and spiritual theology, related to beliefs and practices especially, has a significant historiography that covers several thousand years of Christian and Jewish history in a large body of literature. The challenge you face on a module of this kind is to make sense of this large body of literature, which is devotional, theological, and also based on significant

research. Tutors who teach this module are specialists in the field of spiritual theology and they will provide you with tutorial support to identify and access sources which are most relevant for engagement on this module, as well as sources that will help you to engage in research in areas of interest to you.

INDICATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Swinton, J. (2022). *Walking with Jesus in Strange Places*. Fortress Press
Dewar, F. (2020). *Called or Collared?* SPCK Publishing
Nouwen, H. (2016). *The Way of the Heart*. HarperOne
Greig, J. R. (2015). *Reconsidering Intellectual Disability*. Washington: Georgetown University Press
Shepherd, A. (2014). *The Gift of the Other: Levinas, Derrida, and a theology of hospitality*. Cambridge, UK: James Clarke
Zscheile, D. J. (ed.) (2012). *Cultivating Sent Communities: Missional Spiritual Formation*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans

Journals:

Missiology - An International Review (American Society of Missiology)
Journal of Missional Practice
Missional Focus Journal
International Review of Mission (WCC)
Range of numerous other journals and e-books/articles on ATLA/EBSCO accessed through Moodle