

MODULE TITLE: EUROPEAN STUDIES: CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

MODULE CODE: FMM732

MODULE SUMMARY:

This module requires you to explore and critically engage with the issue of Europe and the Gospel today; exploring in what senses Europe is 'post Christian'; in what sense Europe is still 'Christian'; typical barriers and bridges; implications for Christians and Churches; secularisation, secularity and secularism as typical European phenomena; secular trends today; religious trends today; Taylor and Habermas and the idea of 'post-secular society'; and 'types' of Europeans – post-Christian, post-communist, post-modern, post-secular, post-migrant; explore and critically engage with the issues involved in multi-religious societies, identities and integration. This will include: demography and religion; multiculturalism and political responses; characteristics of collective identities and its different forms in Europe; nation-states and nationalism as European phenomena; Integration, assimilation, Leitkultur and models of multi-ethnic societies; and the question of 'European' values; explore and critically engage with the issue of Muslims in Europe: Muslim presence in the past; immigration; statistics and the problem of measuring Muslim populations; prospects; traditionalism, radicalisation, secularisation and other trends; 'European Islam' or 'Muslims in Europe'; Muslims in politics and society; interreligious dialogue in Europe today; and evangelism, churches and Muslims in Europe; and explore and critically engage with European integration, prospects and concerns, including: the story of the Founding Fathers of Europe; from the Council of Europe and the ECCS to the EU; moments of grace; European, national and regional identities; Eurocritical and nationalist movements; Lisbon, Brexit, concerns and prospects of the EU; and churches, Christian organisations and Europe. It also requires you to consider and evaluate postcolonial and decolonising perspectives including engagement with non-Western sources and viewpoints by academics and scholars from the global south.

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: Jeff Fountain

MODE OF DELIVERY: Blended

PROGRAMME(S) FOR WHICH THIS MODULE IS MANDATORY:

MA Missional Leadership and European Studies
PGDip Missional Leadership and European Studies

PROGRAMMES WHERE THIS MODULE MAY BE TAKEN AS AN OPTION:

PGCert Missional Leadership and European Studies

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 of diverse cultural contexts in contemporary Europe and demonstrate advanced teamworking skills in the effective formation and practice of missional leaders in diverse European contexts.
- Engage in advanced critical thinking of the principal cultural 'structures' of contemporary Europe and analysis of appropriate skills for communicating the Gospel in postmodern, post-Christendom secular contexts within Europe.
- Demonstrate capacity for independent thought and judgement including appreciation of alternative perspectives.
- Formulate, communicate, debate, and defend concepts, ideas and practical application of key missional leadership principles that are culturally appropriate in contemporary European contexts, in class time.
- Articulate your own original thinking and ideas in the field of mission related to European studies and research related to contemporary innovative research emerging in the field of studies.

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:

This module requires that you particularly interact with research in the field of contemporary European studies, which at postgraduate level requires you to access research produced in the last five years, as well as to interact with sources that are of classic importance to a variety of disciplines and field of studies. Specialist tutors will enable you to identify relevant sources of this kind, as well as to access sources related to your own research interests.

INDICATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Jones, E. (2020). *European Studies*. Agenda Publishing
 Chaplin, J. and Wilton, G. (eds.) (2016). *God and the EU*. Oxford: Routledge
 De Ruiter, B. (2010). *Sharing Lives*. Munich: OM Books
 Jenkins, P. (2007). *God's Continent - Christianity, Islam, and Europe's Religious Crisis*. Oxford: OUP
 Segers, M. and Albrecht, Y. (eds.) (2016). *Re: Thinking Europe*. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press
 Van de Poll, E.W. (2017). *Europe and the Gospel*. Amsterdam: Schuman Resources

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