



<b>PART 1 – PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION</b>		
<b>1</b>	<b>Awarding institution</b>	St Mary's University, Twickenham
<b>2</b>	<b>Partner institution and location of teaching (if applicable)</b>	none
<b>3</b>	<b>Type of collaborative arrangement (if applicable)</b>	none
<b>4</b>	<b>Award title</b>	Theology
<b>5</b>	<b>Final award</b>	Master of Arts (MA)
<b>6</b>	<b>Interim award(s) with award titles (if specific titles have been designated)</b>	Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip) in Theology Postgraduate Certificate (PGCert) in Theology (Students will normally register initially for the MA. The PGDip and PGCert are exit awards for students who, for a variety of reasons, are unable to pursue the MA to completion.)
<b>7</b>	<b>School with responsibility for the programme</b>	School of Education, Theology and Leadership
<b>8</b>	<b>Language of study</b>	English
<b>9</b>	<b>Joint Honours combinations</b>	N/A
<b>10</b>	<b>UCAS code</b>	N/A
<b>11</b>	<b>JACS code</b>	V600 – Theology and Religious Studies
<b>12</b>	<b>Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation / recognition</b>	N/A
<b>13</b>	<b>QAA subject benchmark or other relevant external reference point</b>	Theology and Religious Studies (Oct 2014)—Appendix A concerns Master's degrees. QAA Master's degree characteristics statement and descriptor for an HE qualification at level 7 FHEQ (UK Quality Code part A).
<b>14</b>	<b>Normal completion time and maximum duration of study</b>	Normal completion time for <u>MA</u> : Full-time study: 1 calendar year. Part-time study: 3 academic years (6 semesters). Normal completion time for <u>PGDip</u> : Full-time study: 1 academic year. (2 semesters). Part-time study: 2 academic years (4 semesters). Normal completion time for <u>PGCert</u> : Full-time study: 1 academic year (2 semesters). Part-time study: 1 academic year (2 semesters).
<b>15</b>	<b>Mode of study</b>	Full-time.



		Part-time.
16	<b>Mode of delivery</b>	Face to face
17	<b>Date approved and name of authorised body</b>	
18	<b>Applies to students commencing study in (month/year)</b>	September 2018
<b>PART 2 – CURRICULUM SPECIFIC DETAILS</b>		
19	<b>Summary of the programme</b>	Based on a balance of academic study and practical application of the insights of scholarship, the MA in Theology offers students education in the central areas of Christian theology. After a foundation offering a grounding in Systematic Theology and Ecclesiology, students have a choice of two further optional modules. A dissertation completes the programme. The programme is suitable for teachers of Religious Education at secondary level, those engaged in Christian ministry and priesthood, and those who want to enrich their understanding of the ongoing theological tradition which accompanies Christian faith and life.
20	<b>Aims of the programme</b>	<p>The programme aims to provide students with a thorough grounding in knowledge of key areas of Systematic Theology and cognate subjects. In addition, it aims to provide a conceptual understanding so that students are more able to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship within these theological disciplines. Furthermore, the programme aims to enable students to deal with complex issues systematically and creativity so as to be able to engage in contemporary debates on them.</p> <p>The programme also seeks to enhance the employability of students in the context of employers' expectations of subject knowledge and practical experience. In addition, it aligns with the University Mission to offer exceptional student learning opportunities to maximise student engagement and to deliver a distinctive approach that develops a broad and balanced education embracing a formation of the whole character through full membership of a learning community (Vision 2025). Finally, it aims to encourage a high standard of teaching, learning and scholarship among both its staff and students in order to provide a balanced, stimulating and academically sound education within the fields of theological study.</p>
21	<b>Criteria for admission</b>	<p>Candidates must satisfy the general admission requirements of St Mary's University.</p> <p>In addition, candidates are expected to have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a good first degree (normally 2.2 or higher) in Theology (or similar);</li> <li>• <b>or</b> a good first degree in another discipline and a DipHE in Theology (or similar), normally with grades in DipHE at 2.1 level or higher;</li> <li>• <b>or</b> (exceptionally) other relevant experience and study with evidence of the ability to engage with such a programme (subject to approval by the Academic Registrar on the advice of the Programme Director).</li> </ul>



		<p>Candidates whose first language is not English are also required to satisfy the UK Visas and Immigration and the University's English Language requirement, which is normally an IELTS score of 6.0 overall with no less than 5.5 in any section (or equivalent on other tests).</p> <p>Candidates may have prior learning accredited providing that they can demonstrate their prior learning to the Programme Director with appropriate evidence, such as: written independent work; formal or informal testimony from others concerning their previous learning; publications to which they have contributed; teaching materials or reports they have created; written or oral evidence of relevant knowledge and reading.</p> <p>The relevance, status and currency of the prior learning will be considered by the Academic Registrar on the advice of the Programme Director. The maximum number of credits for which exemption may be given are: PGCert – up to 30 credits; PGDip – up to 60 credits; Master's Degree – up to 90 credits.</p>																		
22	<b>Scheduled learning time</b>	<table border="1" data-bbox="448 913 1316 1193"> <thead> <tr> <th>Type of learning time</th> <th>Number of hours</th> <th>Expressed as %</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Contact time</td> <td>177</td> <td>10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Placement/work-based learning hours</td> <td>0</td> <td>0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Guided learning hours</td> <td>522</td> <td>29%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Independent study time</td> <td>1101</td> <td>61%</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTAL</b></td> <td><b>1800</b></td> <td><b>100%</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>For students taking option modules BIB7001 and THY7019 the contact time is 166 hours (9%), guided learning hours are 496 hours (28%) and independent study time is 1138 (63%), making the total 180 hours.</p>	Type of learning time	Number of hours	Expressed as %	Contact time	177	10%	Placement/work-based learning hours	0	0%	Guided learning hours	522	29%	Independent study time	1101	61%	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1800</b>	<b>100%</b>
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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1800</b>	<b>100%</b>																		
23	<b>Programme learning outcomes</b>	<p>On successful completion of the programme, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Work at and with advanced levels of theoretical and/or research knowledge in the areas of Systematic Theology and Ecclesiology;</li> <li>2. Depending on options chosen, work at and with advanced levels of theoretical and/or research knowledge in areas such as Biblical Studies, Catholic Social Teaching and Christian Ethics;</li> <li>3. Analyse and engage with texts in a critically rigorous, systematic, and informed way, with a respect for different genres and forms of writing relevant to the subject area;</li> <li>4. Demonstrate comprehension and critically analysis of a range of themes, debates and methods in the discipline of Systematic Theology and cognate subjects and undertake analysis of complex, incomplete or contradictory areas of knowledge;</li> <li>5. Undertake synthesis of information or ideas and create responses to problems in terms of advanced states of knowledge which may involve the development of new approaches in new situations;</li> <li>6. Evaluate alternative approaches to theological issues and accurately, and with justification, assess, or report on, their own or others' work;</li> <li>7. Demonstrate confidence and autonomy in problem solving;</li> <li>8. Reflect habitually on their own, and possibly others', functioning in order</li> </ol>																		

		<p>to improve their own, and possibly others', practice.</p> <p>9. Demonstrate the skills of research appropriate to M level attainment, and undertake independent research to produce a dissertation which shows a high level of critical thinking and advanced knowledge.</p>																																			
24	<b>Programme structure and module requirements</b>	<p>To gain the MA in Theology, students must pass modules totalling 180 credits, which must include THY7017: Systematic Theology and Contemporary Themes, THY7018: Ecclesiology in Contemporary Perspective, and THY7020: Dissertation.</p> <p>To gain the PGDip in Theology, students must pass modules totalling 120 credits, which must include THY7017: Systematic Theology and Contemporary Themes and THY7018: Ecclesiology in Contemporary Perspective.</p> <p>To gain the PGCert in Theology, students must pass modules totalling 60 credits, which must include THY7017: Systematic Theology and Contemporary Themes, and THY7018: Ecclesiology in Contemporary Perspective.</p> <p>All optional modules will run every year.</p> <p><b>FHEQ Level 7 Modules</b></p> <p><i>Full-time structure</i></p> <p>In any given academic year, the core modules THY7017, THY7018 AND THY7070 will be offered, and two options from BIB7001, THY7019 AND CST7004. Students must take the two options offered plus the dissertation in semesters 1 and 2.</p> <p><u>MA in Theology</u></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Code</th> <th>Title</th> <th>Credits</th> <th>Semester of delivery</th> <th>Module status</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>THY7017</td> <td>Systematic Theology and Contemporary Themes</td> <td>30</td> <td>1</td> <td>Core</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BIB7001</td> <td>Aspects of Biblical Interpretation</td> <td>30</td> <td>1</td> <td>Option</td> </tr> <tr> <td>THY7018</td> <td>Ecclesiology in Contemporary Perspective</td> <td>30</td> <td>2</td> <td>Core</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CST7004</td> <td>Catholic Social Teaching Applied</td> <td>30</td> <td>2</td> <td>Option</td> </tr> <tr> <td>THY7019</td> <td>Foundations of Ethics</td> <td>30</td> <td>Concentrated session in summer (Term 3)</td> <td>Option</td> </tr> <tr> <td>THY7020</td> <td>Dissertation</td> <td>60</td> <td>1 and 2</td> <td>Core</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Code	Title	Credits	Semester of delivery	Module status	THY7017	Systematic Theology and Contemporary Themes	30	1	Core	BIB7001	Aspects of Biblical Interpretation	30	1	Option	THY7018	Ecclesiology in Contemporary Perspective	30	2	Core	CST7004	Catholic Social Teaching Applied	30	2	Option	THY7019	Foundations of Ethics	30	Concentrated session in summer (Term 3)	Option	THY7020	Dissertation	60	1 and 2	Core
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PGDip in Theology

In any given academic year, the core modules THY7017 and THY7018 will be offered, and two options from BIB7001, THY7019 AND CST7004. Students must take the two options offered.

Code	Title	Credits	Semester of delivery	Module status
THY7017	Systematic Theology and Contemporary Themes	30	1	Core
BIB7001	Aspects of Biblical Interpretation	30	1	Option
THY7018	Ecclesiology in Contemporary Perspective	30	2	Core
CST7004	Catholic Social Teaching Applied	30	2	Option
THY7019	Foundations of Ethics	30	Concentrated session in summer (Term 3)	Option

PGCert in Theology

In any given academic year, the core modules THY7017 and THY7018 will be offered and students must take both of these to gain the PGCert.

Code	Title	Credits	Semester of delivery	Module status
THY7017	Systematic Theology and Contemporary Themes	30	1	Core
THY7018	Ecclesiology in Contemporary Perspective	30	2	Core

*Part-time structure*

MA in Theology

In any given academic year, the core modules THY7017, THY7018 AND THY7020 will be offered, and two options from BIB7001, THY7019 AND CST7004. Students take the two options offered.



Part-time students will normally take THY7017 in semester 1 of their first year and THY7018 in semester 2. In their second year, they will take two optional modules, normally one in each semester (or in a concentrated session in early summer). In their third year (semesters 5 and 6), they will take THY7020 Dissertation.

Code	Title	Credits	Semester of delivery	Module status
<b>Year 1</b>				
THY7017	Systematic Theology and Contemporary Themes	30	1	Core
THY7018	Ecclesiology in Contemporary Perspective	30	2	Core
<b>Year 2</b>				
BIB7001	Aspects of Biblical Interpretation	30	1	Option
CST7004	Catholic Social Teaching Applied	30	2	Option
THY7019	Foundations of Ethics	30	Concentrated session in summer (Term 3)	Option
THY7020	Dissertation	60	1 and 2	Core

PGDip in Theology

In any given academic year, the core modules THY7017 and THY7018 will be offered, and two options from BIB7001, THY7019 AND CST7004. Students must take the two options offered.

Part-time students will normally take THY7017 in semester 1 of their first year and THY7018 in semester 2. In their second year, they will take two optional modules, normally one in each semester (or in a concentrated session in early summer).

Code	Title	Credits	Semester of delivery	Module status
<b>Year 1</b>				
THY7017	Systematic Theology and Contemporary Themes	30	1	Core
THY7018	Ecclesiology in Contemporary Perspective	30	2	Core
<b>Year 2</b>				



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25	<b>Work placements or study abroad</b>	There will be no work placement or study abroad opportunities on this programme.																														
26	<b>Links to industry and employability</b>	<p>It is anticipated that many students will study part-time as continuing professional development, alongside various forms of Christian ministry and leadership, or for personal interest; for such people, the programme will enhance their future employability, including in more senior roles. Those taking the MA as a 'way in' to doctoral study will progress in that direction. Others will have an enhanced education in Theology which would open specific opportunities in school teaching, and work with Christian or other charities and agencies. The programme will also provide an education which sensitises students to engaging with religious and ethical ideas from other times, cultures and places, and thus will equip them for work engaging with cross-cultural situations, such as non-governmental organisations in the UK and overseas, international relations, and the Civil Service in the Foreign Office.</p> <p>The primary focus of the programme is on developing knowledge and skills in engaging with key theological ideas and their reception through history, including in today's world. Christian ministers taking the MA part-time are likely to be engaged already in service in particular contexts, and will be encouraged and supported to make explicit connections between their studies and their ministries—the programme team do not anticipate that a specific 'placement' would be helpful or desirable (or, for that matter, practical) for such students.</p>																														



		<p>Many full-time students will be pursuing the MA in order to open the door for doctoral studies, and they too will be encouraged and supported to make explicit connections with today's world and issues. A specific placement alongside the programme would not help in doing this; since the majority of students taking such an MA are more mature, they will have experience of life and the world to draw upon in making these connections.</p> <p>To engage in reflection on theological ideas in relation to today's world will necessarily involve students being critically self-reflective about their worldview, mind-set, and approach to life and society, and features of modules, both core and optional will encourage such critical self-reflection. These skills have enhanced the work of many previous graduates of the degree who were already involved in teaching, chaplaincy and other part-time or full-time ministries within their ecclesial communities.</p>
27	<b>Programme awards</b>	<p>This programme conforms to the <a href="#">University Academic Regulations</a>. In order to qualify for the award of MA students must have successfully achieved 180 credits.</p>
<b>PART 3 – TEACHING, LEARNING &amp; ASSESSMENT</b>		
28	<b>Programme teaching and learning strategies</b>	<p>Student learning will be supported by a variety of strategies across the programme, which will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>lectures</i>, to give overviews or detailed considerations of areas of knowledge or methods;</li> <li>• <i>seminar discussion</i> based on prior reading or study tasks, to facilitate students growing in critical engagement with the Bible and its interpretation;</li> <li>• <i>debates</i> on particular issues, with students presenting different sides of a topic, to enable students to get 'inside' scholars' arguments and use of evidence;</li> <li>• <i>student oral presentations</i> on particular topics or texts, to enable students to develop in articulating their understanding and application of knowledge and approaches to Systematic Theology and cognate subjects;</li> <li>• <i>multimedia platforms</i> such as videos and podcasts;</li> <li>• an introduction to research methods will be embedded in modules from the outset;</li> <li>• <i>individual supervision</i> for dissertation work, to facilitate students' own research and growth in ability to pursue independent study.</li> </ul> <p>Each student will be provided with a personal tutor who will meet with the student at least once per semester to review the student's progress and experience of the programme. The personal tutor will also be available at other times if students have concerns, questions or issues in relation to the programme which they would like to discuss.</p>
29	<b>Programme assessment strategy</b>	<p>The programme aims to use assessment as part of the learning process for students, rather than simply a means of assessing learning. This means that assessment tasks are designed to help students <i>achieve</i> the desired learning outcomes, rather than only <i>measuring</i> their achievements (although that will, necessarily, take place too). Forms of formative and summative assessment will vary, and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>shorter and longer essays and written reports</i> which enable students to</li> </ul>





		<p>develop skills in research and reflection, and (for longer pieces of writing) the sustained application of methods, approaches and texts which they are studying. Typically such assessment will total 7500 words per module;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>portfolios</i>, where students submit work for formative assessment, which gauges ongoing knowledge-acquisition and understanding. culminating in a final submission for summative assessment;</li> <li>• <i>case studies</i>, where students are asked to identify the problems in a particular scenario and offer solutions, which enables them to apply theory to practice;</li> <li>• <i>article reviews</i>, where students provide a summary and evaluation of a piece of writing to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of that particular issue, together with other relevant knowledge in the field.</li> <li>• <i>the dissertation</i>, which is an enhanced form of essay for which students will receive individual supervision, normally 15000 words.</li> <li>• <i>class oral presentations</i> by individuals in a variety of formats (e.g. talk, debate, introducing a seminar discussion, question and answer) which enable students to research and communicate their learning in particular areas. For these purposes, projectors and computer facilities are available for student use. Students receive oral feedback on their presentations.</li> </ul> <p>The programme affirms the University's stated aim that feedback be available to students within three weeks of submission/presentation.</p>
<b>PART 4 – UNIVERSITY SUPPORT</b>		
30	<b>Student support and guidance</b>	<p>We have a dedicated Student Centre in the heart of the University. Our aim is to assist, guide and support students throughout their period of study. The Student Wellbeing Service provides personal 1-1 Counselling in addition to group workshops such as mindfulness. The Disability Service includes both physical disabilities and learning support such as Dyslexia. Mental Health Advisors and Mentors together with an on-site Health Centre. Our Student Life and Guidance Team includes; the Accommodation Services, Student Funding, Pastoral Care &amp; Advice &amp; Guidance. Each student is allocated a Personal Tutor who can assist with any academic advice and support with any personal issues.</p> <p>The Careers Service provides in curriculum delivery and one to one support for all students and alumni of the university. They also offer CareerConnect, an online platform that allows you to be able to manage your own employability if you are off campus. They run employer engagement events throughout the academic year and an online jobs board especially for St Mary's students and alumni, Jobs on Career. Connect.</p> <p>The department of Learning and Teaching also offers academic guidance to students through its Learning Development Lecturers.</p> <p>Thus levels of support include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>personal tutor</i> for academic matters, including extenuating circumstances and leave of absence;</li> <li>• <i>programme director</i>, for wider matters in relation to the programme;</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>student services teams</i>, for support in relation to disability or learning support, mental and physical health, accommodation, funding, and personal pastoral concerns.</li> </ul>
31	<b>Quality management arrangements</b>	<p>This programme aligns with the quality assurance requirements of St Mary's University through the following processes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Five yearly cycle of revalidation</li> <li>• Ongoing monitoring through the Programme Review process</li> <li>• Programme Boards</li> <li>• Consideration of marks and graduate profiles at Exam Boards</li> <li>• Engagement with programme student representatives</li> <li>• Engagement with approved external examiners</li> </ul>