Module Descriptor

Title	Directed Learning L8 Theology		
Session	2026-27	**Status**	Active
Code	THEO08005	**SCQF Level**	8
Credit Points	20	**ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)**	10
School	**Education and Social Sciences**		
Module Co-ordinator	I Birch		

Summary of Module

This module is only available as an option within the BD Programme if certain criteria are met and requires the approval of the Programme Leader.

This module provides an opportunity for students to choose an area of theological study relevant to their vocational or academic interests. A learning agreement will be formulated indicating the parameters of the subject to be studied, the approach to be taken, and the specific supervision and requirements in order to utilize the guidance of the module co-ordinator. The precise area for study will be formulated into a Learning Agreement and will become the focus of an assessed portfolio of written work of between 4,000 and 4,500 words.

As this is a directed learning module, students are expected at Level 8 to demonstrate some initiative and capacity for independent learning, ability to accept guidance in research and written submissions, a conscientious fulfilling of the learning agreement, and submitted work characterized by a good general knowledge of the chosen subject with evidence of some critical thinking and use of some previous learning. Through a process of accompaniment, support, tuition and formative comment students are enabled to develop specific study skills, and engage with theological learning, as outlined in the Learning Agreement.

Module Delivery Method	**On-Campus**[1] ☐	**Hybrid**[2] ☒	**Online**[3] ☒	**Work -Based Learning**[4] ☐
Campuses for Module Delivery	☐ Ayr	☐ Lanarkshire	☒ Online / Distance Learning	

[1] Where contact hours are synchronous/ live and take place fully on campus. Campus-based learning is focused on providing an interactive learning experience supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[2] The module includes a combination of synchronous/ live on-campus and online learning events. These will be supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus and online contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[3] Where all learning is solely delivered by web-based or internet-based technologies and the participants can engage in all learning activities through these means. All required contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[4] Learning activities where the main location for the learning experience is in the workplace. All required contact hours, whether online or on campus, will be clearly articulated to students

	☐ Dumfries		☐ London ☒ Paisley		☐ Other (specify)	
Terms for Module Delivery	Term 1	☒	Term 2	☒	Term 3	☒
Long-thin Delivery over more than one Term	Term 1 – Term 2	☐	Term 2 – Term 3	☐	Term 3 – Term 1	☐

Learning Outcomes	
L1	Demonstrate ability to conduct personal research by finding and choosing relevant information around the chosen subject area, so as to evidence some creative and evaluative thought.
L2	Formulate with some support from the Module Co-ordinator, a learning agreement indicating the subject area to be studied, the methodological approach to be taken, the form of assessment to be submitted, and the bibliographic base to be consulted.
L3	Compile a portfolio of assessments according to the Learning Agreement, utilising such instruments as critical review, essay, reflective journal, group or shared project, bibliography of resources indicating the scholarly underpinning of the agreed coursework.
L4	Demonstrate self-motivation in independent and supported learning, and evidence good knowledge management in the creation of a portfolio of evidence.
L5	n/a

Employability Skills and Personal Development Planning (PDP) Skills	
SCQF Headings	**During completion of this module, there will be an opportunity to achieve core skills in:**
Knowledge and Understanding (K and U)	**SCQF 8** Researching, selecting, organizing material in constructing sound argumentation, demonstrating a well informed grasp of knowledge appropriate to the subject area. Knowledge of several of the various fields of theological studies such as biblical, pastoral, historical and theological.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	**SCQF 8** Some capacity for theological reflection on specific issues as indicated in the learning agreement which underpins the module. Initial research procedures including bibliographic compilation of relevant resources, negotiating a practicable and appropriate learning agreement.
Generic Cognitive skills	**SCQF 8** Identifying an area of personal interest and demonstrate ability in formulating and defending a research proposal with some guidance and supervision. Consolidation and exploitation of knowledge to evidence that some prior learning has been exploited in the pursuit of new learning.

Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	**SCQF 8** Identifying relevant items of bibliographic support for the proposed research project, and compiling these into Bibliographic format consistent with the College referencing system. Academic referencing through footnotes according to the format in the Student Handbook.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	**SCQF 8** Holding oneself accountable for one's own learning, supported as appropriate by the module co-ordinator, and such learning demonstrated in substantial written form. Management of time to ensure a learning agreement with fixed deadlines is fulfilled.

Prerequisites	**Module Code**	**Module Title**
	Other	
Co-requisites	**Module Code**	**Module Title**

Learning and Teaching	
In line with current learning and teaching principles, a 20-credit module includes 200 learning hours, normally including a minimum of 36 contact hours and maximum of 48 contact hours.	
Learning Activities During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:	**Student Learning Hours** (Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Tutorial / Synchronous Support Activity	16
Independent Study	184
n/a	
n/a	
n/a	
n/a	
TOTAL	200

Indicative Resources
The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes: As part of the Learning Agreement, appropriate SCQF level written resources will be chosen to underpin the written project. These must be used and referenced in the submitted work.
(N.B. Although reading lists should include current publications, students are advised (particularly for material marked with an asterisk*) to wait until the start of session for confirmation of the most up-to-date material)

Attendance and Engagement Requirements
In line with the Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure, Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time. **For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:** Detailed guidance will be provided by the module coordinator

Equality and Diversity
The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code. As a Christian theological college, students should be aware that teaching, discussion and the college's ethos is from a confessional viewpoint. The college actively encourages an environment of openness and religious tolerance, but the main function of the college is the training of ministerial candidates and the learning environment will be supportive of this. Where students need additional support, this is provided by the college team with reference if appropriate to other UWS colleagues, they are referred to Student Support Services for further assistance. In consultation with the student, the needs of individual students are met, wherever practicable, and every effort made to ensure individual students are not disadvantaged.
(N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School)

Supplemental Information

Divisional Programme Board	**Education**
Overall Assessment Results	☐ **Pass / Fail** ☒ **Graded**
Module Eligible for Compensation	☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** **If this module is eligible for compensation, there may be cases where compensation is not permitted due to programme accreditation requirements. Please check the associated programme specification for details.**
School Assessment Board	Divinity
Moderator	G Meiklejohn
External Examiner	S. Holmes
Accreditation Details	None
Module Appears in CPD catalogue	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**
Changes / Version Number	5 External examiner

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1
Portfolio of Written Work 100%

Assessment 2
n/a
Assessment 3
n/a
(N.B. (i) Assessment Outcomes Grids for the module (one for each component) can be found below which clearly demonstrate how the learning outcomes of the module will be assessed. (ii) An indicative schedule listing approximate times within the academic calendar when assessment is likely to feature will be provided within the Student Module Handbook.)

Component 1							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Portfolio	☒	☒	☒	☒	☐	100	16

Component 2							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
n/a	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		

Component 3							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
n/a	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
Combined total for all components						100%	16 hours

Change Control

What	**When**	**Who**
Module delivery methods updated to reflect new UWS categories	Feb 2025	E.Bell
Change of moderator	Mar 2025	E Bell
Change of external examiner	Mar 2026	E Bell