Module Descriptor

Title	Theology and Contemporary Issues L9		
Session	2026-27	**Status**	Inactive
Code	THEO09032	**SCQF Level**	9
Credit Points	20	**ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)**	10
School	**Education and Social Sciences**		
Module Co-ordinator	G Meiklejohn		

Summary of Module

At its heart this module seeks to equip students to analyse the world they live in and discern authentic theological responses to their contexts. It explores and evaluates a broad range of theological approaches and methods to issues in society and the contemporary world. Amongst others it will cover different ways of construing the relationship between theology and context; theological engagement with political issues; and the impact of different ecclesiological approaches and engagement with culture.

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

[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

Learning Outcomes	
L1	Demonstrate a critical understanding of theological method and knowledge of how it relates to theological approaches in some social contexts.
L2	Using language and grammar appropriate to the level and with academic integrity, undertake some critical analysis of political and cultural issues in relation to a variety of theological themes and practices.
L3	Demonstrate knowledge of several theological approaches to the relationship between ecclesiology and theories of cultural engagement.
L4	Apply knowledge of theological approaches to the contemporary world across a limited range of current issues, both in writing and / or verbally and show how they relate to ecclesial communities.
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 9** Working with knowledge of the defining features of theological method and integrated knowledge of how theological method impacts the practice of theology. Demonstrating a critical understanding of how theology intersects with social issues.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	**SCQF 9** Applying theological method across a range of Christian practices and interactions with local contexts.
Generic Cognitive skills	**SCQF 9** Using a variety of theological approaches to culture in evaluating and critically analysing the application of theology to social issues.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	**SCQF 9** Communicating complex theological approaches in a coherent and logical form. Using a range of ways to and engage with and communicate specialised theological ideas to a range of audiences.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	**SCQF 9** Negotiating between ranges of different views held by people within a group setting. Exercising initiative in independent research and analysis of complex theological situations.

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)
Lecture / Core Content Delivery	25
Tutorial / Synchronous Support Activity	15
Asynchronous Class Activity	60
Independent Study	100
n/a	
n/a	
TOTAL	200

Indicative Resources

The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes:

Frei, Hans W. Types of Christian Theology. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1992.

Crouch, Andy. Culture Making: Recovering Our Creative Calling. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2008.

Tanner, Kathryn. Theories of Culture: A New Agenda for Theology. Minneapolis: Augsburg Press, 1997.

(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:

Students must attend scheduled sessions, complete learning activities and submit assessments. 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	I Birch
External Examiner	S. Holmes
Accreditation Details	None
Module Appears in CPD catalogue	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**
Changes / Version Number	3 Change of external examiner

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1
Essay 40%
Assessment 2
Essay 60%
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**
Essay	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐	40	0

Component 2							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Essay	☐	☒	☒	☒	☐	60	0

Component 3							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
n/a	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
Combined total for all components						100%	0 hours

Change Control

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