Module Descriptor

Title	Dissertation Level 10		
Session	2025/26	Status	Active
Code	THEO10006	SCQF Level	10
Credit Points	20	ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)	10
School	Education and Social Sciences		
Module Co-ordinator	I Birch		

Summary of Module

This is a double module that requires the student to produce a 10,000 -15,000 word dissertation on a topic of their choice. The topic must be relevant to the degree programme being followed, and so is expected to fall in some area of biblical, theological and/or historical research. The particular choice of the topic is chosen by the student, but the academic staff will provide appropriate guidance. At the initial stages of the module, students are required to submit a dissertation proposal which includes a chosen provisional title, brief abstract, some indicative bibliography and provisional indication of chapter contents.

The Dissertation gives the student the opportunity to demonstrate research skills, utilize a range of published and electronic resources, give evidence of analytic and critical thinking, and the capacity to integrate and apply previous learning.

While the student is expected to work independently and to use their own initiative, the project is supported by supervision and peer review seminars.

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)	

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[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

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 maturity and facility in the use of primary research skills such as referencing, bibliographic control, and producing a substantial piece of work to publication standards of presentation.
L2	Evidence capacity to develop and confirm relevant hypotheses by demonstrating breadth and depth of reading, critical evaluation, integration of prior modular learning and confident ability in argumentation.
L3	Demonstrate creative and imaginative thought, showing both independence and originality, combined with ability to exploit and synthesize secondary material, resulting in a coherent research project.
L4	Demonstrate conscientious commitment to working with agreed deadlines for the proposal, the milestone stages of writing as indicated in the contents section, and ability to fulfill the time-management disciplines that undergird a substantial writing project.
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 10** Having an integrated knowledge and understanding of the Christian religious tradition from biblical, pastoral and theological perspectives. Discussion of issues, concepts and theories that arise from theological study, and to do so with mature confidence and intellectual competence.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	**SCQF 10** Writing a substantial research project which exploits and applies existing learning. Using existing knowledge to build towards new learning and understanding expressed with theological precision and literary competence.
Generic Cognitive skills	**SCQF 10** Overall competence in identifying, selecting, organizing and presenting information related to complex ideas in relevant areas of theological research. Use of primary and secondary resources, excavating each appropriately in order to deduce relevant information.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	**SCQF 10** Accessing resources from library, Internet and through peer discussion and review.

	Effective use of ICT in preparing and finishing a substantial research project to high standards of scholarly writing.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	**SCQF 10** Collaborative learning through supervision, independent and directed learning. Taking initiatives in chasing ideas, following informational clues, maintaining intellectual curiosity, in order to sustain and complete a major writing project.

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	20
Tutorial / Synchronous Support Activity	10
Independent Study	370
n/a	
n/a	
n/a	
TOTAL	400

Indicative Resources
The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes:
Sources and resources will arise out of the student's proposal and the supervisor's guidance.
(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	C Gardiner
Accreditation Details	None
Module Appears in CPD catalogue	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**
Changes / Version Number	4 Module delivery methods updated to reflect new UWS categories; Change of moderator

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1
Dissertation 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
Dissertation/Project report/Thesis	☒	☒	☒	☒	☐	100	15

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%	15 hours

Change Control

What	When	Who
Module delivery methods updated to reflect new UWS categories	Feb 2025	E Bell
Change of moderator	Feb 2025	E Bell