

## Research and Reflection: Resources and Methods (TMM42220)

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Module Level: 7

Module Credit Value: 20

Pre-requisites: None

Co-requisites: None

Excluded Combination of Modules: None

**Aims:**

To familiarise students with the range of theoretical and empirical research methods and approaches in academic and practical study of theology, ministry and / or mission.

To enable students to study one or more methods in detail with a view to engaging in research using these methods.

To give students an opportunity to gain experience of research either by undertaking a small research project or by writing a dissertation proposal for a larger project, such as a Masters dissertation.

To develop in students a nuanced understanding of the importance of research design and the appropriate representation and use of research data and, where appropriate, of the ethics of research.

To enable students to study and practice advanced level approaches to relating theology to non-theological disciplines and of theory to practice (and vice versa).

To encourage dialogue among students engaged in research, thereby increasing students' capacity for critical thinking in relation to their own and others' work.

**Content:**

An overview of quantitative and qualitative, empirical and theoretical research methods in theology, ministry and / or mission.

General research skills, including resources and methods, library and archival resources, IT, bibliography, referencing and developing a research topic.

In depth study of one or more research methods appropriate to theology, ministry and mission.

Advanced methods and practice of critical theological reflection for interdisciplinary work and for integrating theory and practice.

Seminars will offer students the opportunity engage with each other's areas of interest and research.

Learning Outcomes: By the end of the module students will be able to:

**Subject Knowledge [SSK 2, 3, 4]**

Understand, assimilate and critically evaluate the methodologies and findings of advanced scholarship and research in an area of theology, ministry and / or mission.

Demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of the range of research methodologies in theology, ministry and / or mission and detailed engagement with some of these methods.

Give a critical and comprehensive account of a range of methods for relating their chosen field of study to aspects of faith, church and society.

**Subject Skills [SSS 1, 2, 3]**

Apply their knowledge to plan and/or undertake independent investigation of an area of study or of professional practice.

Evaluate some research methodologies in theology, ministry and / or mission and develop critiques of them.

Reflect theologically in a sophisticated and rigorous manner, exercising sound judgment when engaging systematically and creatively with complex, unpredictable and ambiguous realities in the church and world today.

**Key Skills [KS 1, 2, 3]**

Carry out systematic and creative research into complex issues and communicate their findings with clarity, sensitivity, fairness and imagination to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

Demonstrate initiative, self-direction and independence in tackling and solving problems, and in planning and implementing tasks.

Exercise their independent learning skills to pursue further professional development or academic study.

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| Modes of Teaching and Learning | Teaching methods to be specified by each TEI, using the 'Guidelines for Modes of Teaching and Learning'.                                  |
| Learning Hours                 | Learning hours to be specified by each TEI using the 'Guidelines for Learning Hours'.   |
| Formative Assessment           | Formative assessment to be specified by each TEI in line with the published guidelines on formative assessment.                           |
| Summative Assessment           | Summative assessment to be specified by each TEI using the published guidance on assessment patterns for postgraduate modules.            |
| Indicative Reading             | Indicative reading to be specified by each TEI in line with the published guidelines on creating bibliographies for postgraduate modules. |