

Embodied Christian Spirituality (TMM49620)

Module Level: 7

Module Credit Value: 20

Pre-requisites: None

Co-requisites: None

Excluded Combination of Modules: None

Aims: To introduce students to perspectives on Christian Spirituality that resist Neo-Platonic dualities. The module will centre the place of the body in Christian Spirituality and explore the nature of embodied experience in the Christian spiritual tradition.

To introduce students to the concept of Christian Materialism and the contribution this can make to Christian Spirituality, including sacramental and ecological concerns.

To enable students to explore a range of perspective on bodies that do not conform to societal or ecclesiological expectations, and how such embodied, lived experiences relate to Christian theology and spirituality.

Content: The relationship of the body to spiritual experience.

The impact of the Platonic tradition on Christian Spirituality.

Spiritual practices and how they involve the body, e.g. pilgrimage, spirituality of place.

Christian Materiality and its impact on contemporary expressions of Christian Spirituality.

The place of sacraments and sacramentality in Christian spiritual experience.

Methodological tools required for an academic examination of the interface between gender, sexuality, and spirituality.

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

Subject Knowledge [SSK 1, 2]

Demonstrate in-depth understanding of the place of the body in Christian Spirituality, assimilating and evaluating the methodologies and findings of advanced research.

Subject-Specific Skills [SSS 2, 3]

Reflect theologically in a sophisticated and rigorous manner on claims of embodied experiences of the Divine with reference to the Christian spiritual tradition.

Develop an appropriate methodological approach to the study of the relationship between the body and spiritual encounter, drawing on other methodologies such as feminist, practical, disability, liturgical and anthropological methodologies

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.

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.

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.