

M708 Christian Life and Thought in a Post-Enlightenment World

Code	M708
Title	Christian Life and Thought in a Post-Enlightenment World
Tutor	Tim Miller
School	Moorlands College
Owning Course	MA Applied Theology
Module Type	Standard Taught Module
Brief description	This module aims to give students the tools and understanding to reflect critically and theologically on the development of and interrelation between Christian thought and Western philosophy in the birth of and post the Enlightenment. It also traces the history of evangelical theology in the context of secularism, seeking to understand and engage reflectively with the contemporary world. This module considers the interrelationship between theological developments and cultural and philosophical thought, particularly in relation to evangelical theology, in order to better understand and minister within today's context.
Level of study	Level 7
CATS points	30
Approved base location	Module validated for delivery at Moorlands College, Christchurch
Restrictions	None
Indicative syllabus	This module gives a broad historical sweep of key thinkers in the history of Western thought, such as Descartes, Locke, Hegel, Kant and Barth. Contemporary thinkers such as Charles Taylor, Tim Hull and Nancy Pearcey assist in drawing out contemporary relevance, implications and application.
Learning outcomes	A student passing this module should be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. discern and develop advanced knowledge of Christian thought in contemporary context; 2. critically reflect on the impact of influential philosophers and theologians by engaging with primary and secondary source materials; 3. synthesise and evaluate the implications of important philosophical and theological developments for ministry and witness today.
Learning and teaching activities	Scheduled learning and teaching activities: 26 hours Guided independent study: 274 hours
Mark Scheme	Postgraduate: Standard Assessment: Mark/Grade
Assessment	A: 100 % Assignment 6,000 words or equivalent
Special assessment requirements	The module has an 80% attendance requirement.

Indicative resources	<p>Byrne, James M. <i>Religion and the Enlightenment: From Descartes to Kant</i>. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1997.</p> <p>Cottingham, John, ed. <i>Western Philosophy: An Anthology</i>. 3rd ed. Hoboken: Wiley/Blackwell, 2021.</p> <p>Craig, William Lane. <i>Philosophy of Religion: A Reader and Guide</i>. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2022.</p> <p>Hull, Timothy. <i>Faith and Modern Thought: The Modern Philosophers for Understanding Modern Theology</i>. Eugene: Cascade Books, 2020.</p> <p>Minich, Joseph. <i>Bulwarks of Unbelief: Atheism and Divine Absence in a Secular Age</i>. Bellingham: Lexham Academic, 2023.</p> <p>Pearcey, Nancy. <i>Finding Truth: 5 Principles for Unmasking Atheism, Secularism, and Other God Substitutes</i>. Colorado Springs: David C. Cook, 2015.</p> <p>Taylor, Charles. <i>A Secular Age</i>. Cambridge: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2018.</p> <p>Trueman, Carl R. <i>The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self: Cultural Amnesia, Expressive Individualism, and the Road to Sexual Revolution</i>. Wheaton: Crossway, 2020.</p> <p>Watkin, Christopher. <i>Biblical Critical Theory: How the Bible's Unfolding Story Makes Sense of Modern Life and Culture</i>. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Academic, 2022.</p>
Initial Intake Year	September 2025
Date of approval	November 2024?
Revision dates	
External Examiner	Dr Andrew Rogers