

**M711 Independent Theological Study**

<b>Code</b>	M711
<b>Title</b>	Independent Theological Study
<b>Tutor</b>	Helen Miller
<b>School</b>	Moorlands College
<b>Owning Course</b>	MA Applied Theology
<b>Module Type</b>	Independent Study
<b>Brief description</b>	This module aims to further the student's learning experience in Christian theology by providing students with an opportunity to demonstrate self-direction, initiative, and insight in identifying and addressing complex issues relating to a specific field of Christian theology and practice. The field chosen must not be one that the student has investigated or will investigate at a different point within their studies on the programme.
<b>Level of study</b>	Level 7
<b>CATS points</b>	30
<b>Approved base location</b>	Module validated for delivery at Moorlands College, Christchurch.
<b>Restrictions</b>	None
<b>Indicative syllabus</b>	The student (i) frames and negotiates their question; (ii) selects and uses appropriate methodologies; (iii) researches and engages with relevant sources, relating these to current academic debate in relation to a specific area of context and practice; (iv) arrives at an appropriate and clear overall structure and argument; and (v) presents findings in an academically responsible fashion.
<b>Learning outcomes</b>	A student passing this module should be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. identify, negotiate, propose and conduct an in-depth appraisal within an area of Christian Theology related to a specific field of Christian theology (which the student has not studied and will not study elsewhere on the programme) and area of practice;</li> <li>2. demonstrate self-direction, initiative, and insight in identifying and addressing complex issues relating to a specific field of Christian theology (which the student has not studied and will not study elsewhere on the programme) and practice so to grow in wisdom and decision-making ability in complex and unpredictable situations;</li> <li>3. reflect systematically and theologically on a specialised area of focus relating to professional practice relevant to their vocational context.</li> </ul>
<b>Learning and teaching activities</b>	<b>Scheduled learning and teaching activities:</b> 8 hours <b>Guided independent study:</b> 292 hours
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	Postgraduate: Standard Assessment: Mark/Grade
<b>Assessment</b>	A: 100 % Major Project 7,000 words or equivalent

<b>Indicative resources</b>	<p>Bell, Judith. <i>Doing Your Research Project: A Guide for First-Time Researchers</i>. 6th ed. Maidenhead: Open University, 2014.</p> <p>Bennett, Zoë. <i>Your MA in Theology: A Study Skills Handbook</i>. London: SCM, 2014.</p> <p>Braun, Virginia and Victoria Clarke. <i>Thematic Analysis: A Practical Guide</i>. London: SAGE, 2022.</p> <p>Cho, Jeasik. <i>Evaluating Qualitative Research</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017.</p> <p>Lincoln, Timothy D. <i>Qualitative Research: A Field Manual for Ministry Students</i>. Chicago: ATLA Open Press, 2021.</p> <p>Swinton, John, and Harriet Mowat. <i>Practical Theology and Qualitative Research</i>. 2nd ed. London: SCM, 2016.</p> <p>Ward, Peter and Knut Tveitereid, eds. <i>The Wiley Blackwell Companion to Theology and Qualitative Research</i>. Wiley Blackwell Companions to Religion. Oxford: John Wiley &amp; Sons, 2022.</p> <p>(And as related to chosen topic.)</p>
<b>Initial Intake Year</b>	September 2025
<b>Date of approval</b>	November 2024?
<b>Revision dates</b>	
<b>External Examiner</b>	Dr Andrew Rogers