

M712 Dissertation

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| Code | M712 |
| Title | Dissertation |
| Tutor | Helen Miller |
| School | Moorlands College |
| Owning Course | MA Applied Theology |
| Module Type | Independent Study |
| Brief description | This module aims to further the student's learning experience in Christian theology by providing students with an opportunity to determine and complete an independent piece of research at master's level in an area of particular interest to them. |
| Level of study | Level 7 |
| CATS points | 60 |
| Approved base location | Module validated for delivery at Moorlands College, Christchurch. |
| Restrictions | None |
| Indicative syllabus | The student (i) frames, negotiates and proposes a research question; (ii) assesses, selects and utilises appropriate methodologies; (iii) undertakes advanced extended research, engaging critically and systematically with primary and secondary sources, relating these to current academic debates; (iv) arrives at an appropriate, coherent and persuasive overall structure and argument; and (v) presents findings in a professional and academically responsible fashion. |
| Learning outcomes | A student passing this module should be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. identify, negotiate, and propose a research project in an area of Christian theology related to a specific area of practice; 2. conduct an advanced research project in an area of Christian theology related to a specific area of practice, demonstrating comprehensive understanding of methodological approaches applicable to their research, critical engagement with advanced scholarship at the forefront of relevant disciplines, sophisticated analysis and, where appropriate, proposing new hypotheses; 3. demonstrate advanced skills in progressing the necessary research and the written presentation of it in a manner which is consistent with the requirements of the course and accepted academic standards; 4. reflect theologically and critically on an area of their own context and practice. |
| Learning and teaching activities | Scheduled learning and teaching activities: 30 hours Guided independent study: 570 hours |
| Mark Scheme | Postgraduate: Assessed by a combination of Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory & Mark/Grade All elements of the assessment must be passed in order to complete the module. |
| Assessment | A: 0% Assignment 1000 words or equivalent B: 100% |

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| | Dissertation 15,000 words or equivalent |
| Indicative resources | <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 & Sons, 2022.</p> <p>(And as related to chosen topic.)</p> |
| Initial Intake Year | September 2025 |
| Date of approval | November 2024? |
| Revision dates | |
| External Examiner | Dr Andrew Rogers |