

Module code: MOD006400	Version: 1 Date Amended: 17/Jul/2018
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1. Module Title
Postgraduate Major Project

2a. Module Leader
Andrew Todd

2b. School
School of Humanities and Social Sciences at Cambridge Theological Federation

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

3a. Level
7

3b. Module Type
Project or dissertation (fine graded)

4a. Credits
60

4b. Study Hours
600

5. Restrictions			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:	MA Contemporary Ethics, MA Contemporary Faith and Belief, MA Pastoral Care and Chaplaincy, MA Spirituality		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

This module is compulsory for all Masters students undertaking MA study with the Cambridge Theological Federation.

The major project module enables students to demonstrate their ability to articulate meaningful questions within the area of their course. It encourages students to draw systematically on the knowledge and understanding they have already established in their taught modules and requires them to take a further critical step by analysing the contributions of major texts and thinkers, relating them to the area concerned.

To this end, as independent, reflective learners, students will identify a theological question and design a method of investigation, showing it to be consistent with the epistemological and methodological assumptions of their approach. For some students this will include consideration of issues of research ethics. The student will then take a constructive role by reflecting on the results of their investigation in order to contribute to understandings of the particular theological question in play, potentially shaping conceptual or practical approaches for the future, while acknowledging the limits of their investigation.

Through supervision students will be challenged and supported to engage critically with diverse viewpoints, develop their own analytical perspective and to communicate their findings effectively.

NB: Students undertaking a Major Project module which includes elements of assessment based on research involving the collection of primary empirical data are required to comply with Anglia Ruskin's ethical approval requirements. Students are required to submit evidence of passing the LMS-based ethics training course with their application which can be accessed at: http://me.anglia.ac.uk/sites/research_ethics. Further information, including the Research Ethics Policy and Code of Practice for Applying for Ethical Approval, can be accessed from the ethics webpages at www.anglia.ac.uk/researchethics

6b. Outline Content

Course specific content:

Independent systematic consideration of one significant and complex question for historical or contemporary theological or philosophical thinking

Critical discussion of appropriate methodological approaches to particular research questions

Discussion of any relevant research ethics issues

Identifying and analysing contributions of key thinkers or texts to the question in play, considering the significance of their context and legacy

Development of critical, constructive conclusion on the project topic

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: <https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/>

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

n/a

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)		
No.	Type	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:
1	Knowledge and Understanding	With reference to a chosen significant and complex area for enquiry, establish a method for investigation / exploration of key concepts, models and principles.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Identify and analyse key texts/thinkers from multiple perspectives relevant to the research question, understanding their original context and their hermeneutical application.
3	Knowledge and Understanding	Develop an effective argument, by drawing critically on a variety of viewpoints, and come to a constructive conclusion for the area of enquiry.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Critically justify and rigorously apply appropriate methodologies, techniques and practical strategies; being sensitive to the context.
5	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Demonstrate appropriate exegetical and hermeneutical handling of sources.
6	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Reflect critically on the process and outcomes of the investigation / enquiry.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2026/7	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments
Lectures	0	None	None
Other teacher managed learning	12	1-6	Individual supervision of 6 hours Students will attend 3 group classes on designing their research question and proposal, considering issues for ethics clearance choice of methodology, sharing progress and best practice, staggered through the course of the year.
Student managed learning	588	1-6	Identifying texts, proposal design, note-taking and analysis, developing chapter outlines, drafting and writing the chapters and final project
TOTAL:	600		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
The assessment for some modules includes a presentation (see below for details on how this particular module is assessed). We recognise that presenting, especially to a large group, can cause significant anxiety or distress for some students. If this may affect you, please contact your Module Leader or the Disability and Neurodiversity Service as early as possible. We will work with you to consider appropriate reasonable adjustments. Depending on your individual needs, these might include, for example, presenting to a smaller group or presenting only to a member of academic staff.					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-6	100 (%)	Fine Grade	40 (%)
A major project of 15,000 words, designed by the student, in consultation with the appropriate staff supervisor					

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*). In addition, students are required to: (a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above (b) pass any pass/fail elements [* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]
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