

**BA602            The Bible and the Making of the People of God**

The module examines the theme of the people of God through both the Hebrew scriptures and the New Testament. In particular it focuses on the theme of exile within the Hebrew Scriptures, with related concepts such as covenant. In the New Testament, the theme is continued through examining the changing understanding of the people of God and God's covenant within Paul's letters, examining issues such as justification, faith, and the Law alongside issues such as identity and rhetoric.

**BA603            New Testament Texts**

Participants will study two key New Testament texts: one gospel and one Pauline epistle (eg Luke/Acts and Paul's letter to the Galatians). We shall examine the gospel from a variety of critical perspectives, including: the issue of genre; historical-critical analysis; source and redaction criticism; narrative approaches; and reader-response readings including postcolonial and feminist. In studying the epistle we shall explore the processes involved in interpreting ancient letters. Participants will engage in social and textual analysis, and consider the issues involved in interpreting Pauline passages for today's situations.

**BA604            Old Testament Texts**

The first part of this unit focuses on the theme of Exile within the Old Testament. The second part focuses more narrowly on a chosen text, e.g. the book of Exodus, studied as a text in its own right but also paying attention to how it links in with material studied in the first part of the module, and exploring the relevance of all this for our faith and worship today. A range of methodological approaches will be used in our study of the texts, such as literary analysis; historical-critical analysis; source criticism; intertextuality, and reader-response approaches (e.g. liberationist; feminist).

**BA607            Social and Political Theologies**

This module will explore some key social and political contexts and dimensions which have shaped theological thinking in the last century, and how the social, political and personal values and experiences of the participants inform their theological formation. It will focus on particular theological texts, and help participants to critically reflect on its formation, content and impact.

**BA608            Conflict Transformation for Church Leaders**

Conflict is normal and inevitable – but Christian leaders often feel ill-prepared to handle conflict in the church. This course aims to raise self-awareness, to deepen understanding of conflict and to teach methods for transforming conflict and enable participants to select and use them appropriately.

**BA609            Society, Community and Mission in Britain**

This unit will consider the implications for the theory and practice of mission of some of the major socio-cultural changes that are shaping Britain today such as secularisation, postmodernity and the passing of Christendom. It will also look at how the churches might respond to particular missional challenges relating to different forms of community to be found in Britain today.

**BA611 Independent Study**

This module aims to develop the participant with skills in independent reading, research and writing, providing good preparation for the writing of a dissertation.

**BA612 Research Methodology**

This unit explores resources and skills needed in preparation for research projects at undergraduate level (taken in conjunction with BA613).

**BA613 BA Dissertation**

Produce a dissertation on a topic agreed with the tutor and approved by the Course Committee.

**BA614 Shaking Mission: Andrew Shanks, Truth and Solidarity**

This module is designed to enable participants to engage with and respond to theological and missiological perspectives which pose challenges to existing missiological assumptions. It works with a series of proposals made by Andrew Shanks, a current British theologian. He identifies three 'dishonesties' out of which we need to be 'shaken'. They are;

- 'dishonesty-as-disowning', suggesting that a tradition is inclined to boast about the triumphs of its story, and effectively disown the moral failures, so as to sanitize its identity;
- 'dishonesty-as-banality', suggesting that a tradition can tend unreflectively or indifferently to ignore those of other traditions, declining to listen and attend otherness as such; and
- 'dishonesty-as-manipulation', suggesting that a tradition can succumb to the vested interests of those with the capacity to guide the tradition to a particular future, closing down other options.

Each of these 'dishonesties' reinforces a tradition's 'truth-as-correctness' rather than the cause of 'truth-as-Honesty'. This module works with these insights to think about mission.

**BA615 The Bible in our Ecological Context**

This module will engage students with a variety of Old and New Testament texts that raise important questions in the context of global ecological crisis and human abuse of creation (pollution, over-use of resources, for example).

Students will use a number of different approaches to interpret, and offer a critique of them: there is interesting input from Australia and South Africa as well as from Britain.

This module will enable students to engage in the processes of interpreting texts ecologically, see the theological consequences of these readings, and equip them to evaluate these approaches for today's situation.

**BA616 Chaplaincy in the Multi-faith and Secular Context**

This module is designed for those working or on placement in chaplaincy, or engaged in other forms of work-place ministry. The module will evaluate the contemporary role of chaplaincy, and how it engages with secular agendas. The module will also examine chaplaincy in various settings and enable reflection of the ethical and theological issues that arise in practice.

**BA617      Seeing the Faith: Theology and Visual Art in Dialogue**

This module will explore the relationship between Christian theology and visual art, with the aim of developing coherent understandings of how they might inform and enrich each other. It will introduce students to past controversies concerning the place of art in the church, the need to reassess the importance of beauty for the life of faith, and what it means to engage in critical theological reflection on specific works of art. Particular attention will be given to current contextual issues, including the place of modern art in society and its relevance to Christian theology.