

MA IN PASTORAL THEOLOGY COURSE

Most Theology Graduates will take the Anglia Ruskin University's MA or Postgraduate Diploma in Pastoral Theology. But there are usually modules from the BA that also need to be done. This situation can be handled in one of two ways:

- Taking the ARU BA Certificate in Christian Theology in your first year (choosing modules at any level), and then proceeding to the MA in your second – usually starting with the Summer School version of the Core module in late July.
- Spreading the MA over two years, taking modules from the BA at the same time. In this case the BA modules do not lead to an award but are simply assessed in-house.

Students who have done Tripos sometimes take the MA (or parts of it) in their final year.

These pages include details of your Ridley Pastoral Studies programme which is spread over two years. Students generally take all the Life & Service classes, though where there is significant overlap with elements in the MA, it may be possible to agree exemptions with the Director of Church Study and Practice at your beginning-of-year interview or subsequently.

Theology Graduates are advised to think carefully about whether you wish to complete the MA (which comprises 4 taught or supervised modules and a 15,000 word dissertation) or the Diploma (4 taught or supervised modules without the dissertation.) You also need to decide whether you wish to undertake the placement or independent learning module instead of one of the taught modules.

Important questions to ask yourself include:

- Do I wish to do the placement module as part of the MA/Diploma (approximately five weeks, combining it with the placement you are required to do), or do I wish to take 4 other MA/Diploma modules *plus* the required 4 week placement?
- Where there is a choice, do I wish to take a 'core' subject area such as Ethics through the MA or the BA in Christian Theology?
- Am I aiming to complete the dissertation within my two years at college or during the first years of my curacy? (Experience has taught us that many people find it difficult to complete a dissertation once they have left college unless they make very clear plans and exercise a great deal of willpower!)

All first year ordinands attend the Focus on Prayer weekend. Independent students are also welcome.

The MA in Pastoral Theology can be completed as a full-time course in one year, or taken as a part-time course over two or more years. The course requires the acquisition of 180 units, 60 of which are gained through the writing of a dissertation and 120 by the completion of four modules, one of which must be the core module, Pastoral Theology in History and Practice. As well as the versions of the core module listed below, there is also the Summer School version which runs in the last week of July. Modules generally comprise 10 two-and-a-half-hour sessions of lectures and interactive seminars beginning in either Semester 1 (start of the Michaelmas term) or Semester 2 (early February). A few of the modules are taught through individual supervision and reflection on practice.

The following outline indicates the modules available to be taken in 2008-9; not all modules are offered every year. Modules likely to be on offer in 2009-10 include Psychology, Faith and Church Life (A414), Ecumenism in Theory and Practice (A418), Preaching in a Pastoral Context (A423), Interfaith Dialogue (A424), Word and Image (A428) and Christian Leadership (A438).

MODULE TITLE	SEMESTER	DAY/TIME	CREDITS	ASSESSMENT
Pastoral Theology in History and Practice (A421) REQUIRED	Group A - 1 <i>Or</i> Group B - 1 <i>or</i> Group C fortnightly - 1 & 2 <i>or</i> Group D	M/12-1; 1.45-3.15 T/12-1; 1.45-3.15 T/12-1; 1.45-3.15 tbc	30	3500-5000 word essay + 1500 literature review
Christian Ethics (A410)	2	T/12-1; 1.15-3.45	30	1500 word essay; 3500 word essay; presentation
Pastoral Placement (A411)	Any		30	1500 word report; 4500 word essay; supervisor's report
Christianity in a Scientific Culture (A412)	2	T/12-1; 1.15-3.45	30	4500 word essay or project; seminar presentation
African Perspectives on Mission and Dialogue (A413)	2	M/12-1; 1.45-3.15	30	6000 word essay
Christian Worship and Human Community (A415)	1	W/12-1; 1.45-3.15	30	4-5000 word essay + 1-2000 word seminar presentation
Contemporary Spirituality and its Sources (A416)	Fortnightly - 1 & 2	T/12-1; 1.45-3.15	30	
Literature and Pastoral Theology (A419)	2	M/7.00-9.30	30	4-5000 word essay + 1-2000 word seminar presentation
An Orthodox Approach to Pastoral Life (A420)	1	W/12-1; 1.45-3.15	30	4500 word research project; 1500 word essay
Postgraduate Research Methods (A422)	2	T/12-1; 1.45-3.15	30	Individually negotiated project
Health Care Chaplaincy (A426)	1	M/7-9.30	30	6000 word essay or project
Pastoral Reflective Practice in Health Care Chaplaincy (A427)		Placement experience	30	Verbatim report; 4000 word essay; supervisor's report
Modernity, Postmodernity and the Gospel (A436)	2	tbc	30	4500 word essay; seminar presentation
Biblical Hermeneutics (A437)	2	T/12-1; 1.45-3.15	30	6000 word essay or two 3000-word essays
Feminist Perspectives on Pastoral Theology (A439)	1	T/12-1; 1.45-3.15	30	1000 word exegesis; 5000 word research project
Postgraduate Independent learning (A496)	Any	225 hours study	30	6500 word essay
Masters Dissertation/Project (A498)	After 4 modules	3 hrs research tuition + 6 hrs supervision	60	15000-25000 words (normally 15000)

The following outline indicates the core of MA students' in-house pastoral studies programme.

YEAR ONE	COURSE NAME/NUMBER	TERM			COURSE DETAILS; ASSESSMENT
Pastoral Studies	Life and Service 1	M	L	E	1 triple session/week; 1 2000 word essay
	Federation Intensive Courses Ridley Intensive Courses Parish Attachment Parish Mission (or year 2 or 3) Introduction to Pastoral Skills and Spiritual Direction (or in year 2)	M M M	L L L	E E E	2 January courses; self-assessment forms to be completed End of each term; self-assessment forms to be completed Weekly involvement; supervisor's report +self-assessment Up to 8 days around Easter, July or Sept + preparation; report 1 term of 8 double sessions; self-assessment; offered twice
	Social Context Placement (1 in first year, 1 in final year if under 30; 1 in <i>either</i> first or final year if over 30)				Various forms of assessment; usually report + essay

YEAR TWO	COURSE NAME/NUMBER	TERM			COURSE DETAILS; ASSESSMENT
Pastoral Studies	Life and Service 2	M	L	E	1 triple session/week; 1-2000 word essay
	Federation Intensive Courses Ridley Intensive Courses Parish Attachment Parish Placement (if not done as MA module)	M M	L L	E E	2 January courses; self-assessment End of each term; self-assessment form to be completed Weekly involvement; supervisor's report + self-assessment 4 weeks during previous summer; seminar presentation
	Introduction to Pastoral Skills and Spiritual Direction (if not in year 1)	M	L		1 term of 8 double sessions; self-assessment; offered twice