

Fundamental Moral Theology

Section A: Headline Information	
Module title	Fundamental Moral Theology
Module NFQ level (only if an NFQ level can be demonstrated)	7/8
Module number/reference	TBC
Module Co-ordinator	Michael Sherman
Parent programme(s)	BA (Honours) in Arts and Humanities
Stage of parent programme	3
Semester (semester1/semester2 if applicable)	1
Module credit units (FET/HET/ECTS)	ECTS
Module credit number of units	5
List the teaching and learning modes	Lectures
Entry requirements (statement of knowledge, skill and competence)	Successful completion of Stage 2 of the programme or equivalent is required.
Pre-requisite module titles	N/A
Co-requisite module titles	N/A
Is this a capstone module? (Yes or No)	No
Specification of the qualifications (academic, pedagogical and professional/occupational) and experience required of staff (staff includes workplace personnel who are responsible for learners such as apprentices, trainees and learners in clinical placements)	Module co-ordinators, lecturers and tutors must have a minimum Level 9 qualification in Theology.
Maximum number of learners per module	60
Duration of the module	1 Semester
Average (over the duration of the module) of the contact hours per week (see * below)	2
Module-specific physical resources and support required per centre (or instance of the module)	Lecture Hall, Computer, Projector, White Board.
Analysis of required learning effort	
*Effort while in contact with staff	

Classroom and demonstrations		Mentoring and small-group tutoring		Other (specify)		Directed e-learning (hours)	Independent learning (hours)	Other hours (specify)	Work-based learning hours of learning effort	Total effort (hours)
Hours	Minimum ratio teacher/learner	Hours	Minimum ratio teacher/learner	Hours	Minimum ratio teacher/learner					
24	1: 10						56 (directed and independent study)	45 (Exam prep. and continuous assessment prep.)		125 hours
Allocation of marks (within the module)										
				Continuous assessment	Supervised project	Proctored practical examination	Proctored written examination	Total		
Percentage contribution				40%			60%	100%		

Section B: Module Descriptor

Rationale for Inclusion of the Module in the Programme and its Contribution to the Overall IPLOs	Moral Theology is major branch of Theology that is concerned with ethics, moral values, decision making and the moral life. This module introduces learners to the concepts of Christian morality with a particular emphasis on the development of moral theology following the Second Vatican Council. It complements the study of systematic theology and scripture as well as being an important conversation partner with moral philosophy and philosophical psychology. The module builds on theology modules offered in previous Stages of the programme by deepening the learners' knowledge of core texts through developing the skills of reading, analysis, and insight. In particular, this module meets the following IPLO's: 1, 3, 4, and 5.
Module Aims and Objectives	The aim of this module is to examine and explore fundamental principles of moral theology. This will be done by providing learners with an overview of key themes within the development of moral reasoning and by exploring the difference between a moral life that draws from faith and philosophical ethics. Learners will study topics including: the role of scripture in moral theology, the development of conscience, catholic social teaching, and issues of social justice.

Minimum Module Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this module learners should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify and discuss key themes in fundamental moral theology. (MIPLO 1) 2. Critically assess the historical nature of moral theology and demonstrate critical awareness of different viewpoints on Christian morality. (MIPLO 3) 3. Read and critically interpret texts from contemporary moral theologians. (MIPLO 4) 4. Examine the role of scripture as a dynamic source for Moral Theology. (MIPLO 5).
Information Provided to Learners about the Module	<p>College Prospectus specifies module name, stage and ECTS.</p> <p>College website and programme handbook to contain (in addition to above) short description of module content, module learning outcomes, prerequisite modules, and assessment mechanisms.</p> <p>Module handbook to contain (in addition to above) schedule of classes and topics, detailed assessment information with titles and submission dates, full bibliography and list of learning resources.</p> <p>Diploma Supplement contains module name, code, stage and ECTS.</p>
Module Content, Organisation and Structure	<p>Fundamental Moral Theology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sources for Moral Discourse (Scripture, Tradition, and commentary disciplines); - Philosophical and Christian Ethics; - Formation of Conscience; - Moral Theology and the Magisterium; - Moral Theology after Vatican II <p>Organisation and Structure:</p> <p>This course is delivered through lectures. It introduces learners to the fundamental concepts and themes in moral theology, enables them to explore the similarities and differences between philosophical and Christian ethics, and examines the development of moral reasoning. The lectures are primarily used for the delivery of content and group discussions.</p>
Module Teaching and Learning Strategy	<p>While the content is delivered in lecture format with the lecturer mapping out the various themes and arguments, learner contribution to discussion and constructive criticism is encouraged.</p>
Work-Based Learning and Practice-Placement	<p>N/A</p>
E-Learning	<p>N/A</p>
Specifications for Module Staffing Requirements	<p>Staff:Learner ratio is typical of the overall programme approach with a maximum of 60 learners</p> <p>Staffing requirements: 1 lecturer with teaching and/or research competence in the relevant area.</p>

	<p>However, as a cross-programme module, additional staff will be required where the maximum number of learners exceed the resources available.</p>
<p>Module Summative and Formative Assessment Strategy</p>	<p>Continuous Assessment: 40% (10% class-quizzes, 30% 800-word written piece/class presentation). An 800-word written piece will be assigned to be submitted at the end of week 10 (MIMLO 1 and 3). There will be two short quizzes throughout the module to encourage engagement with course material throughout the duration of the module. All forms of the continuous assessment will be summative and formative.</p> <p>Proctored Written Exam 60% (MIMLO 1, 2, and 3).</p>
<p>Sample Assessment Materials</p>	<p>Sample Essay Titles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Relationship between Conscience and Church Authority - Intuition in the Moral Tradition <p>Sample Exam Question:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outline and critique the difference between <i>Superego</i> and <i>Conscience</i>. In your answer refer to the three senses of moral conscience in the theological tradition.
<p>Reading Lists and Other Information Resources</p>	<p>Essential Reading:</p> <p>Gula, Richard, <i>Reason Informed by Faith: Foundations of Catholic Morality</i> (New York: Paulist Press, 1989)</p> <p>Hannon, Patrick, <i>Moral Theology: A Reader</i> (Dublin: Veritas, 2006)</p> <p>Hoose, Bernard, <i>Christian Ethics: An Introduction</i> (London, New York: Continuum, 1998)</p> <p>Other Reading:</p> <p>Harrington, Donal, <i>What is Morality?</i> (Dublin: Columba, 1996)</p> <p>McCabe, Herbert, <i>The Good Life</i> (London, New York: Continuum, 2005)</p> <p>McDonagh, Enda, and Vincent MacNamara, <i>An Irish Reader in Moral Theology: The Legacy of the Last Fifty Years</i> (Dublin: Columba Press, 2013)</p>
<p>Module Physical Resource Requirements</p>	<p>Lecture Hall, Computer, Projector, White Board.</p>