

# **Oak Hill College**

## **Taught Postgraduate Programmes in Theological & Pastoral Studies**

### **Admission regulations, programme requirements & descriptions 2011/12**

This booklet provides details of the entrance regulations and programme requirements for Oak Hill's Master of Arts (MA) and Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip) in Theological & Pastoral Studies (TPS). Also included are brief descriptions of the modules available in these programmes. The main Brochure gives information about the overall ethos of our programmes.

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## **Admission Regulations**

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### **MA and PGDip in TPS**

The normal entrance qualification is an Honours Degree in Theology at a Lower Second standard. Exceptions to this requirement are rarely made. The Academic Dean, advised by the Postgraduate Course Leader, will be responsible for ensuring that prospective students have the background and ability to maintain the required 2.2 standard throughout the programme.

Normally, broader degrees in Religious Studies and other subjects will not be an adequate grounding for these programmes. Students without a degree in theology *may* qualify for admission if they are able to demonstrate both academic ability and sufficient other theological background, for example, by having completed a degree in a cognate field and a diploma in theology. Students wishing to take certain modules in New Testament or Old Testament must have a knowledge of Greek or Hebrew at least to the standard of Oak Hill modules (GK1.2 or HB1.1 respectively) or their equivalents.

Applications should be made to the Dean (through the Admissions Officer at the College), who may consult with the Postgraduate Course Leader before deciding that a candidate is qualified for admission.

### **Programme Requirements**

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Each academic year's work is divided into three terms, which normally run from September to November, November to February and March to June respectively.

Each taught module:

- lasts for one term
- has six contact hours per week (this includes time for both lecture input and seminars)
- allows time for regular personal tutorials
- is worth 30 credits (towards the total of 180 required for the MA or 120 for the PGDip)

### **Masters-level modules**

Masters-level modules are of two types, and are indicated with the code numbers 5 and 6 (for example, codes CW5.6 or DW6.2). Those with the code 5.x are termed 'Enhanced BA'; this is because the module is based on one taught at 'BA level 2' but with adjustments to make it appropriate for Masters level. Those modules with the code 6.x are termed 'Specialist Masters-level'. Classes for Enhanced BA modules may be shared with BA(Hons)-level students; Specialist M-level modules involve Masters-level students only.

There are four main subject areas for Level 4 modules, along with hybrid codes for modules which encompass two subject areas.

#### Subject Areas

BS – Biblical Studies  
DH – Theology & Church History  
CW – Church & World  
RP – Research & Projects

#### Codes for modules encompassing Two Subject Areas

BD – Biblical Studies and Theology & Church History  
BW – Biblical Studies and Church & World  
DW – Theology & Church History and Church & World

#### **Specialist M-level Modules:**

##### Biblical Studies

BS6.1 Theology in the Old Testament and Today  
BS6.5 The Old Testament in Scripture  
BS6.9 The Theology of the Book of Acts

##### Church & World

CW6.1 Christian Theology of World Religions

##### Biblical Studies and Theology & Church History<sup>1</sup>

BD6.1 Christology in the Bible and in Christian Doctrine

##### Biblical Studies and Church & World<sup>1</sup>

BW6.1 Pauline Spirituality

##### Theology & Church History and Church & World<sup>1</sup>

DW6.2 Doctrine of Grace

##### Dissertations and Projects

RP6.2	Short Dissertation (Masters-level); max 7,500 words	30 credits
RP6.3	Short Project (Masters-level); max 7,500 words	30 credits
RP6.4	Long Dissertation (max 15,000 words) (3 terms)	60 credits

#### **Enhanced BA Modules:**

##### Biblical Studies

BS5.3 Hebrew Psalms & Poetry – *this module requires prior study in Hebrew*  
BS5.9 General Epistles – *this module requires prior study in Greek*

##### Theology & Church History

DH5.1 The Doctrine of God

##### Church & World

CW5.2 Establishing Churches across Cultures  
CW5.3 Apologetics for Mission  
CW5.6 Advanced Christian Leadership

##### Biblical Studies and Theology & Church History<sup>1</sup>

BD5.1 Justification in the Bible & in Christian Doctrine

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<sup>1</sup> Such modules may count in *either* subject area but not *both*.

## Theology & Church History and Church & World <sup>1</sup>

DW5.1 Puritan Perspectives in Ministry

DW5.3 Theology in the Non-Western World

### **PGDip TPS Programme Requirements**

To be awarded a PGDip in TPS, students must pass four taught modules of which one module must be from each of the three subject areas: Biblical Studies, Theology & Church History, and Church & World.

Students must take at least three Specialist M-level modules (6.x). The remaining module can also be taken from the specialist M-level list, or from the list of Enhanced BA modules.

Students can discuss their particular choice of modules with the Postgraduate Course Leader and/or Academic Registrar.

### **MA TPS Programme Requirements**

To be awarded an MA in TPS, students must pass four taught modules of which one module must be from each of the three subject areas: Biblical Studies, Theology & Church History, and Church & World plus **either** a long dissertation RP6.4 **or** a short dissertation RP6.2, and a short project RP6.3.

Students must take at least three Specialist M-level modules (6.x). The remaining module can also be taken from the specialist M-level list, or from the list of Enhanced BA modules.

Students can discuss their particular choice of modules with the Postgraduate Course Leader and/or Academic Registrar.

### **Length of Study Period**

The normal length of study for the PGDip is three terms (full-time) or six terms (part-time).

The normal length of study for the full-time MA is 12 months, comprising three academic terms and one summer period. A full-time student studies the four taught modules over the three terms, together with dissertation preparation, and then completes the dissertation package during the summer period. This completes the 12-month programme, normally September to August inclusive.

The MA can also be studied part-time by students in two broad categories:

- 1) Anglican Ordinands who are already Theology graduates. Normally, their overall programme is technically full-time, lasts two academic years, and comprises
  - a) the MA part-time
  - b) modules from the FdA in TPS set, to provide specific Anglican training
- 2) Those who have a good first degree in theology, ordained or lay, whose programme is 'truly' part-time; i.e. they are doing no other Oak Hill study alongside the MA

The normal length of study for a part-time Category 1) student is 22 months (September to June inclusive), comprising six academic terms and one summer period. The student studies the four taught modules over the six terms, together with dissertation preparation. Intensive dissertation work is allowed by the intervening summer period, but completion of the dissertation package is only *required* by the end of the sixth term.

The normal length of study for a part-time Category 2) student is 24 months (normally September to August inclusive), comprising six academic terms and two summer periods. The student studies the four taught modules over the six terms, together with dissertation preparation. Intensive dissertation work, and finalisation, is allowed by the end of the second summer period.

### **Dissertations (applicable to MA only)**

The requirements for dissertations are:

- the dissertation or project should reflect a mature grasp of theology. It will be expected to show the ability to assess views and theories critically, to review evidence, validate conclusions and demonstrate competence in the chosen field of scholarship. It is not required to make a significant, original contribution to theology, but to show independence in pursuing relevant lines of enquiry.
- the dissertation or project offers the opportunity for study in Church ministry or practice, or of wider issues of theological import. This would involve researching and analysing Church experience, ministerial formation or cultural challenge.
- students have the opportunity to present a dissertation in the form of a practical-based project. Any such project will have an outcome: this may be a change in Church practice or vision, a pastoral initiative, some recommendations or proposals in ministerial or church formation.

There are strict requirements governing preparation of the dissertation package, summarised by the following tables.

#### **Full-time students:**

<b>Action Required</b>	<b>Timing</b>
Proposal Form, signed by the Dissertations Co-ordinator and potential Supervisor, passed on to External Examiner for approval.	By end of January; exact deadline will be notified
At least first two (of three) Supervisions (organising and recording Supervisions is the student's responsibility).	Before end of term three (June)
Third (last) Supervision.	During a week over the summer period, arranged with the supervisor (at the second Supervision at the latest).
Submission of dissertation and project where applicable.	By end of August; exact deadline will be notified

**Part-time Category 1) students:**

Action Required	Timing
Proposal Form, signed by the Dissertations Co-ordinator and potential Supervisor, passed on to External Examiner for approval.	By Term 3 (June) of 1 <sup>st</sup> year; exact deadline will be notified
At least first two (of three) Supervisions (organising and recording Supervisions is the student's responsibility).	By end of spring term (February) of 2 <sup>nd</sup> year exact deadline will be notified
Submission of dissertation and project where applicable.	By term three (June) of 2 <sup>nd</sup> year; exact deadline will be notified

**Part-time Category 2) students:**

Action Required	Timing for September start	Timing for February start
Proposal Form, signed by the Dissertations Co-ordinator and potential Supervisor, passed on to External Examiner for approval.	By term three (June) of 1 <sup>st</sup> year exact deadline will be notified	By February exact deadline will be notified
At least first two (of three) Supervisions (organising and recording Supervisions is the student's responsibility).	By end of spring term (February) of 2 <sup>nd</sup> year; exact deadline will be notified.	By end of August; exact deadline will be notified
Third (last) Supervision.	Before the end of term three (June) of 2 <sup>nd</sup> year; exact deadline will be notified.	By end of autumn term (December) of 2 <sup>nd</sup> year; exact deadline will be notified
Submission of dissertation and project where applicable.	By end of August of 2 <sup>nd</sup> year; exact deadline will be notified.	By February; exact deadline will be notified

**Masters-level Modules**

Please note that not all modules are on offer every year.

**Specialist Masters-level Modules****BD6.1 Christology in the Bible and in Christian Doctrine**

Lecturers: C. Anderson, M. Ovey

Examination of key biblical texts relating to Christology; the historical development of the doctrine of Christology; different accounts of Christology; applying and communicating the doctrine of Christology in contemporary cultural contexts.

### **BS6.1 Theology in the Old Testament and Today**

Lecturer: TBC

The history and development of OT Theology; the contemporary situation; study of a number of biblical-theological themes on the basis of chapters from Brueggemann's *Theology of the Old Testament*; concluding discussion.

### **BS6.5 The Old Testament in Scripture**

Lecturer: P. Woodbridge

The relationship of the OT to the NT; Jewish methods of exegesis in the first century AD; the re-interpretation of Biblical traditions with the OT and the NT; the NT use of OT texts (especially Matthew, John, Acts, Paul, Hebrews); use of OT today in various hermeneutical traditions and their application to preaching and teaching.

### **BS6.9 The Theology of the Book of Acts**

Lecturer: M. Sleeman

Luke's theological enterprise, unity, structure and emphases. Narrative-critical approaches to the study of Acts. Salvation and eschatology in Acts. The Christology of Acts. The use of Scripture in Acts. The role of the apostles in Acts. Mission and witness in Acts. The work of the Holy Spirit in Acts. Jews and Gentiles and the plan of God. The doctrine of the Church in Acts. The preaching of Peter in Acts. The preaching and defence of Paul in Acts. The purpose of Acts.

### **BW6.1 Pauline Spirituality**

Lecturers: M. Raikes, P. Woodbridge

Introductory definitions, concepts and methodology; textual work on key passages (eg Romans 7, selected Pauline prayers); selected Pauline themes (eg. imitation of Christ; union with Christ; spiritual growth, 'mysticism', imagery, prayer); the views, texts and theories associated with selected historical and contemporary authors (eg. Luther, Gorman, Fee).

### **CW6.1 Christian Theology of World Religions**

Lecturer: D. Strange

Survey of historical and theological Christian approaches to other religions looking in particular at soteriology and revelation. Analysing several representative theologians. Focusing on recent evangelical theologies of religions. Using biblical theology and systematic theology to construct a theology of religions with the study of two Dutch Reformed missiologists, Hendrik Kraemer and J.H. Bavinck. Examine a number of common missiological themes concerning evangelism, dialogue, contextualisation and possible co-belligerence.

### **DW6.2 Doctrine of Grace**

Lecturer: M. Ovey, P. Sanlon

Examination of key biblical texts relating to the doctrine of grace; the historical development of the doctrine of grace; in-depth consideration of grace in relation to the immanent Trinity, creation, revelation and redemption with its implications for Christian relationships; different accounts of grace; applying and communicating the doctrine of grace in contemporary cultural contexts and in the life of church.

## **Enhanced BA Modules:**

### **BD5.1 Justification in the Bible and in Christian Doctrine**

Lecturers: M. Ovey, P O'Brien

Examination of key biblical texts relating to the doctrine of justification; the historical development of the doctrine of justification; different accounts of the doctrine of justification; applying and communicating the doctrine of justification in contemporary cultural contexts.

### **BS5.3 Hebrew Psalms & Poetry**

Lecturers: S. Byun

Hebrew Poetry; Methods of Classification; Translation, Exegesis and Theology of selected Psalms from different genres; Formation and Message of the book of Psalms; Theological topics arising from the book of Psalms with particular attention to Christology; Contemporary use of the Psalms.

### **BS5.9 General Epistles**

Lecturers: C. Anderson, M. Sleeman

Introduction to set texts and study of them in exegetical seminar format (amounting to about 230 verses); examination of key theological themes; study of advanced Greek grammar

### **CW5.2 Establishing Churches across Cultures**

Lecturer: R. Porter

This module will investigate missiological ecclesiologies biblically and historically. The practices of denominational and non-denominational missions in establishing overseas churches will be studied. Comparisons will be drawn with other social structures in specific countries and an evaluation made of the contextualisation of the ecclesiastical structures. Pastoral styles as related to cultures will be studied and practical issues of working in a church with differing cultural backgrounds will be addressed and analysed.

### **CW5.3 Apologetics for Mission**

Lecturer: K. Birkett

Biblical foundations for apologetics in mission; examination of beliefs as systems of thought and value; analysis of prominent contemporary systems of thought (especially aspects of postmodernism); techniques of appropriation from non-Christian systems of thought; deployment of argument in local church settings.

### **CW5.6 Advanced Christian Leadership**

Lecturer: C. Green

Leadership and management theory and skills, secular and Christian, teams, coaching, small group structures, Cell Church, Church Growth theories, urban, suburban and rural church patterns, denominational habits of growth and decline, critiques of vision, strategy and planning, with particular examples. Study involves audio/video tapes.

### **DH5.1 The Doctrine of God**

Lecturers: N. Tucker, P. Sanlon

The doctrines of classical theism, the Holy Trinity, their alternatives, development and biblical basis. Particular attention will be paid to at least one major historical primary text on the doctrine of the Trinity.

### **DW5.1 Puritan Perspectives on Ministry**

Lecturer: G. McGrath

Historical background. Introduction to the life and thought of leading seventeenth century puritan divines. Puritan perspectives on aspects of Christian life and ministry such as family life, civil government, work and leisure, spirituality, church government, and worship.

### **DW5.3 Christian Theology in the Non-Western World**

Lecturer: R. Porter

Investigation of the writings of major non-Western theologians. These will include theologians from a variety of dogmatic and cultural backgrounds. Particular attention will be given to Japanese, Chinese, Indian, African and Latin American theologians of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. There will be a study of creeds that have been produced to meet the cultural and religious questions of non-Western nations. Students will examine these theologies in the light of scripture and assess their contribution to the world church