

**PROGRAMME APPROVAL FORM  
SECTION 1 – THE PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION**

<b>1. Programme title and designation</b>		MA Christianity and the Arts		
<b>2. Final award</b>				
<b>Award</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credit Value</b>	<b>ECTS equivalent</b>	<b>Any special criteria</b>
MA	Christianity & the Arts	180-200	90- 100	N/A
<b>3. Nested awards</b>				
<b>Award</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credit Value</b>	<b>ECTS equivalent</b>	<b>Any special criteria</b>
<b>4. Exit awards</b>				
<b>Award</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credit Value</b>	<b>ECTS equivalent</b>	<b>Any special criteria</b>
Postgraduate Diploma	Christianity & the Arts	120	60	An unclassified PG Diploma may be offered in cases where a total of 120 credits of any combination of modules have been achieved.
Postgraduate Certificate	Christianity & The Arts	60	30	An unclassified PG Certificate may be offered in cases where a total of 60 credits of any combination of modules have been achieved.
<b>5. Level in the qualifications framework</b>			7	
<b>6. Attendance</b>				
	<b>Full-time</b>	<b>Part-time</b>	<b>Distance learning</b>	
Mode of attendance	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Minimum length of programme	1 year	2 years	2 years	
Maximum length of programme	3 years	4 years	2 years	

<b>7. Awarding institution/body</b>	King's College London
<b>8. Teaching institution</b>	King's College London
<b>9. Proposing department</b>	Department of Theology and Religious Studies
<b>10. Programme organiser and contact Details</b>	Professor Ben Quash Room 3.27, Virginia Woolf Building King's College London 22 Kingsway London WC2B 6LE  020 7848 2336

ASQ Approved: 21 January 2010

PAF modified by ASQ re: exit awards: 26<sup>th</sup> May 2010

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	ben.quash@kcl.ac.uk
<b>11. UCAS code (if appropriate)</b>	N/A
<b>12. Relevant QAA subject benchmark/ Professional, statutory and regulatory body guidelines</b>	N/A
<b>13. Date of production of specification</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> May 2009
<b>14. Date of programme review</b>	2013/14, to be included in departmental review

**15. Educational aims of the programme**

*i.e what is the purpose of the programme and general statements about the learning that takes place over the duration of the programme*

The MA in Christianity and the Arts will blend e-learning with face-to-face learning, and will be based around privileged access to the National Gallery's collection (both online and *in situ*).

The MA will take as a key organising theme the twin importance of (1) Christianity as a medium for art; and (2) art as a medium for Christianity.

*Christianity as a Medium for Art*

In its module entitled *The Devotional Use of Art in Christianity* the MA will look closely at the ways in which different Christian environments and needs have helped to foster particular kinds of art. This will require art-historical and church-historical input; a knowledge of the history of religious ideas and devotional practices, of the aspirations of patrons as well as of popular piety, and of how all these things shaped artistic commissions and objects.

*Art as a Medium for Christianity*

In its module entitled *Art as a Theological Medium* the MA will look at how art has acted as a means of expressing and developing religious ideas; a way to make theological points that has its own status alongside the academic treatise, the sermon, or the ecclesiastical pronouncement. It will investigate how pictures have both transmitted and innovated on religious tradition, and will ask whether there are distinctive things that the visual arts can achieve which other modes of theological communication cannot manage so easily (if at all).

Alongside these two modules, there will be a core module of a more theoretical kind - which will run permanently - as well as a dissertation component. The core module will be on *The Idea of Beauty in Western Theology*. It will trace the sustained and rich discussion of the theme of the beautiful in the West which runs through every century of its history, and has often provoked fierce contention (as in the Reformation). It will introduce students to this tradition, tracing its debts to classical models of the relationship between beauty and goodness, through the medieval discussions of beauty as a transcendental, to the theological influence on philosophical aesthetics in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries (including the observation of a distinctively British tradition in Coleridge, Ruskin, Hopkins and others), and will conclude with the major works in the area of theological aesthetics that have been produced since the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

There will also be two modules - entitled *The Christian Text* and *Christianity and Literature* respectively - which will look at how Christian theology has been influenced by, and expressed in, literary writings.

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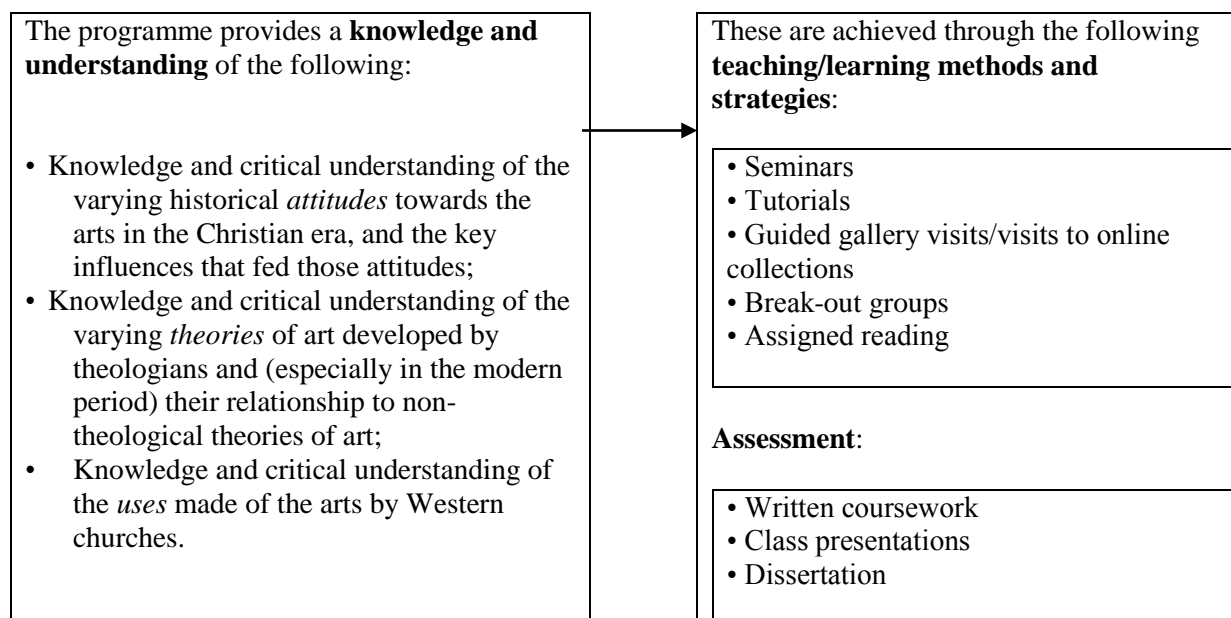
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- The MA will enable students to work across disciplinary and specialism boundaries, and in particular to explore *simultaneously* the art-historical, church-historical and theological dimensions of Christian art – approaches which are generally pursued in isolation from one another.
- The MA will use rich cultural resources beyond the College – and specifically the artistic, human and web-based resources of the National Gallery.
- The MA will provide opportunities for students to learn outside the College, in the context of an art museum, with likely additional visits/links to institutions with related collections, like the Courtauld Gallery, and the Victoria and Albert Museum.
- The MA will enhance the experience of international students at the College by giving them a stimulating and privileged understanding of one of London’s (and the world’s) greatest treasuries of art.

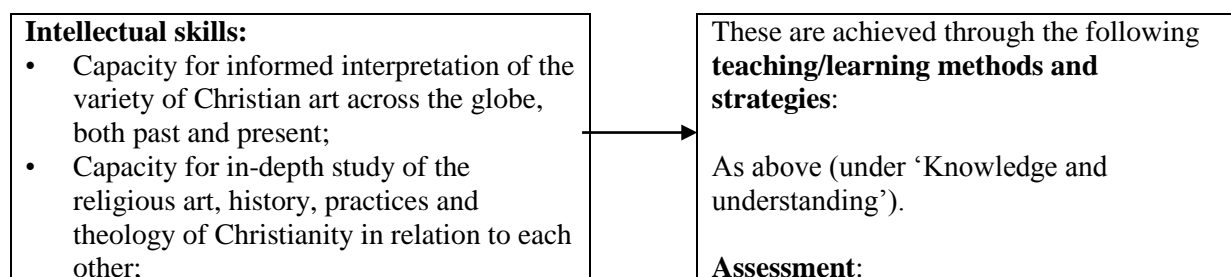
**16. Educational objectives of the programme/programme outcomes** (as relevant to the SEEC Credit Level Descriptors)

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding and skills in the following areas:

**Knowledge and understanding**



**Skills and other attributes**



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- Capacity to explore in an interdisciplinary way the interface between religion and theology
- on the one hand and literature, painting and aesthetic theory on the other;
- Capacity to make intelligent use of a variety of theories and methods of study and engage in critical analysis of relevant data and arguments;
- • Capacity to engage sensitively and critically with primary sources (works of art and literature as well as written theology/ aesthetic theory/art criticism

As above (under 'Knowledge and understanding').

**Practical skills:**

- Ability to access and analyse relevant secondary literature;
- Ability to summarise and present arguments in discussion and on paper;
- Ability to research, plan and present essays to specified deadlines.

These are achieved through the following **teaching/learning methods and strategies:**

As above (under 'Knowledge and understanding'), and especially in seminars, tutorials and assigned reading.

**Assessment:**

As above (under 'Knowledge and understanding'), and especially in written coursework and the dissertation.

**Generic/transferable skills:**

As appropriate to a Level 7 qualification:

- self-discipline;
- self-direction;
- independence of mind and initiative;
- capacity for reflexive learning;
- commitment to lifelong learning;
- capacity to modify, suspend or otherwise change position when warranted;
- ability to gather, evaluate and synthesise different types of information;
- analytical ability and the capacity to formulate questions and solve problems;
- presentation skills, both oral and written;
- IT skills, including word-processing, communicating by email and using the web, accessing information from electronic as well as non-electronic sources;
- writing skills, including accurate referencing and clarity of expression;

These are achieved through the following **teaching/learning methods and strategies:**

As above (under 'Knowledge and understanding').

**Assessment:**

These will be assessed through all aspects of the programme, and particularly through the written assignments and the dissertation.

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- ability to attend closely to the meaning of written documents.

**17. Statement of how the programme has been informed by the relevant subject benchmark statement(s)/professional, statutory and regulatory body guidelines**

The programme aims to meet the benchmark requirements laid out for Honours degree work in Theology and Religious Studies, but at a level appropriate to Level 7 study; namely that students should learn to:

- communicate information, ideas, arguments, principles, theories, and develop an argument by a variety of means, for example essays of various lengths and dissertations which are clearly and effectively organised and presented;
- communicate information, ideas, principles and theories and develop an argument effectively by appropriate oral and visual means, and relate materials to an intended audience;
- identify, gather and analyse primary data and source material, whether through textual studies or fieldwork;
- attend to, reproduce accurately, reflect on and interact with the ideas and arguments of others;
- engage with empathy, integrity and critical reflection with the convictions and behaviours of others;
- work collaboratively as a member of a team or group in a way which allows each individual's talents to be utilised effectively;
- undertake independent/self-directed study/learning (including time management) and reflect on one's strengths and weaknesses as a learner;
- make discriminating use of a full range of library resources in order to identify appropriate source material, compile bibliographies, inform research and enhance presentations;
- use IT and computer skills for data capture, to identify appropriate source material, support research, and enhance presentations;
- show independence in thought, and critical self-awareness about one's own beliefs, commitments and prejudices.

**18. In cases of joint honours programmes please provide a rationale for the particular subject combination, either educational or academic**

Which is the lead department and/or Faculty?

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<b>19. Programme structure</b>
See Programme Handbook for modules to be taken.
<b>If a Masters programme, are level 6 credit levels permitted within the programme?</b> Yes, only graduate level Language modules.
<b>Maximum number of credits permitted with a condoned fail (core modules excluded)</b> 30 credits, as per College regulations
<b>Are students permitted to take any additional credits, as per regulation A3; 5.10?</b> Yes, students are permitted to take up to 20 credits of level 7 language modules in the Modern Language Centre (MLC) as part of their programme. The normal criteria for admission to the MLC language modules apply.
<b>Are students permitted to take a substitute module, as per regulation A3, 20.7? Yes</b>
<b>Are there any exceptions to the regulations regarding credits, progression or award requirements?</b> (where relevant the information should also differentiate the particular requirements of pathways within a programme or nested/exit awards)  Exit Award provision  A classified PG Diploma may be offered in cases where students have gained 120 credits from taught modules (as identified on the nested award) Includes condoned fails  An unclassified PG Diploma may be offered in cases where a total of 120 credits of any combination of modules have been achieved. Includes condoned fails  <i>An unclassified PG Certificate may be offered in cases where a total of 60 credits of any combination of modules have been achieved. Includes condoned fails</i>
<b>Other relevant information to explain the programme structure</b>

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*Please note that new students enrolling on the information provided on this section of the PAF will have these regulations stipulated throughout their programme of study. The only exception to this will be if there are changes made by Professional, Regulatory or Statutory Bodies that are noted to this programme.*

If students choose a spread of modules other than 80 credits in year one, and 100 credits in year two, candidates should seek the permission of their programme convenor.

*Programme structure:*

***Full time***

180-200 credits earned through 1 x 40 credit core module, 80-100 credits of optional modules and 1 x 60 credit core dissertation module.

20 credits of level 7 graduate language modules can be taken as part of the programme

***Part-time***

Year one:

60-120 credits earned through

Up to 4 x 20 credit optional modules and 1 x 40 core module

Subject to programme co-ordinator approval, students may substitute up to 40 credits of modules from the available options list with up to 40 credits at Level 7 outside the Department.

20 credits of graduate language level 6 modules can also be taken.

**AND**

Year two:

1 x 60 credit core dissertation module

0-60 optional modules, depending on the credits taken in year one.

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20 credits of graduate language level 7 modules can also be taken if not taken in year one.

**Please note that: Subject to programme co-ordinator approval, students may substitute up to 40 credits of modules from the available options list with up to 40 credits at Level 7 outside the Department.**

**(b) range of credit levels permitted within the programme**

6 & 7

**(c) maximum number of credits permitted at the lowest level**

20 credits

**(d) minimum number of credits required at the highest level**

160 credits

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## **20. Marking criteria**

The assessment criteria follow the College's general criteria for the assessment of M-Level programmes.

## **21. Particular features of the programme which help to reduce the barriers experienced by disabled students and ensure that the programme is accessible to all students who meet the entry requirements**

### *Structure*

The programme may be offered part-time.

### *Publicity and programme handbook*

These will clearly communicate the key skills that will be required during the programme, the content of each module, the intended teaching methods to be used and the module's status (core/compulsory/optional).

### *Teaching methods*

A wide range of teaching methods are to be utilised including: handouts in alternative formats, electronic resources placed on the website

### *Assessment*

Action will be taken in line with advice from the Equality and Diversity Department to ensure assessment methods do not unfairly discriminate against students with disabilities. The College's Special Examination Arrangements Committee (SEAC) considers requests for adjustments to assessment to take account of learning and/or physical disabilities. Module outlines specify the assessment methods that will be used and explain that SEAC will need to be notified about requests for alternative assessment methods.

### *Feedback*

Feedback on programmes will regularly be collected from students, including information from students with disabilities about their learning experience. The information collected will be used towards the on-going development and improvement of programmes.

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**PROGRAMME APPROVAL FORM**  
**SECTION 3 – SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

Not all of the information in this section will be relevant for all programmes and for some programmes this section will not be relevant at all

**1. Programme name**

MA in Christianity and the Arts

**2. Is this programme involved in collaborative activity?**

Yes

No

If yes what type of Collaborative Provision is it (*tick appropriate box*)?

Does the programme have an access/feeder Programme for entry into it?

Does the programme have an articulation/ progression agreement for entry into it?

Dual Award

Franchised Provision

Joint Award

Partnership Programme

Recognition of Study or Award of Credit through off-campus study or placement

Staff and student exchange

Validated provision

Have the relevant stages and appropriate paperwork been approved and the paperwork forwarded onto QA&AA Office?

Yes

No

Not applicable

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**3. If the programme is a joint award with an institution outwith the University of London, validated provision or franchised provision, has the necessary approval been sought from College Education Committee?**

Yes

No

Not applicable

√

Please attach a copy of Part 1 of the Partner Profile and checklist submitted to the College Education Committee

**4. Partnership programme - in cases where parts or all of the programme are delivered away from one of the College campuses by a body or bodies external to the College please provide the following details**

Name and address of the off-campus location and external body

The National Gallery  
Trafalgar Square  
London  
WC2N 5DN

Percentage/amount of the programme delivered off-campus or by external body

17 %

Nature of the involvement of external body

Provision of access to the National Gallery collection.  
Tutoring by curatorial staff at the National Gallery and/or  
Tutoring by individual Guides to the National Gallery collection (paid per hour).

Description of the learning resources available at the off-campus location

World-class collection of Christian art.  
Website, and online educational resources (to be developed and enhanced in conjunction with this MA).

What mechanisms will be put in place to ensure the ongoing monitoring of the delivery of the programme, to include monitoring of learning resources off-site or by the external body?

The Programme Director and Course Tutor (if applicable) will work closely with the Director and curatorial staff of the National Gallery to tailor relevant parts of the MA to particular features of the collection (e.g. altarpieces) and ensure these are available for viewing and study in any given year. Podcasts may be created (subject to funding) to enable students to be guided in their encounters with the art. E-learning materials will be designed under the supervision of the Programme Director that draw from and link to the National Gallery's website and will be used by the students in the preparation of their assessed course work. The assessment of coursework and dissertation will permit the ongoing evaluation of the quality and value of the off-site learning.

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**5. Recognition of study or award of credit through off-campus study or placement - please indicate how the time will be spent, the length of time out, the amount of credit and whether it is a compulsory or optional part of the programme**

Year abroad

Year in employment

Placement

Other (please specify)

Time spent: At the student's discretion. Credit amount: Not assessed

Compulsory/optional: not applicable

**6. Please provide a rationale for any such time outside the College, other than that which is a requirement of a professional, statutory or regulatory body**

See (4) above. The use of the National Gallery's collection by students for up to 10 hours in each of their three modules (guided as appropriate by podcasts and e-learning resources) will enhance their understanding and appreciation of the art through direct encounter.

**5. Please give details if the programme requires validation or accreditation by a professional, statutory or regulatory body**

Name and address of PSB

N/A

Frequency of validation/ accreditation    Date of next validation/ accreditation

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