

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

1. Programme title and designation		Graduate Diploma Theology and Religious Studies			
		Single honours	Joint	Major/minor	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Final award					
Award	Title	Credit Value	ECTS equivalent	Any special criteria	
Graduate Diploma	Theology & Religious Studies	120	60	N/A	
3. Nested awards					
Award	Title	Credit Value	ECTS equivalent	Any special criteria	
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
4. Exit awards					
Award	Title	Credit Value	ECTS equivalent	Any special criteria	
Postgraduate Certificate	Theology and Religious Studies	60	30	A classified PG Certificate may be offered in cases where a total of 60 credits of any combination of modules have been achieved.	
5. Level in the qualifications framework			6		
6. Attendance					
			Full-time	Part-time	Distance learning
Mode of attendance			X	X	No
Minimum length of programme			1 year	2 years	N/A
Maximum length of programme			3 years	4 years	N/A
7. Awarding institution/body		King's College London, University of London			
8. Teaching institution		King's College London, University of London			
9. Proposing department		Department of Theology & Religious Studies			

PAF Originally Approved by QA&AA: 26 June 2007
 PAF modified by ASQ re: exit awards: 25th May 2010
 PAF finalised for 2010/11: 15 October 2010
 PAF finalised for 2011/12: 26 October 2011
 PAF modified by QAS for 2012/13: 5th March 2012
 PAF finalised for 2012/13: 6 September 2012
 PAF modified by QAS for 2014/15: 30th October 2013
 PAF finalised for 2014/15: 9th April 2015

10. Programme organiser and contact details	Dr Katherine Swancutt, Department of Theology & Religious Studies; email: katherine.swancutt@kcl.ac.uk
11. UCAS code (if appropriate)	N/A
12. Relevant QAA subject benchmark/professional and statutory body guidelines	Theology & Religious Studies
13. Date of production of specification	Original PAF: January 2004 CFPAF: April 2007
14. Date of programme review	2019/20

16. Educational aims of the programme

This programme is designed as an introductory programme for graduates in subjects other than Theology & Religious Studies; it may provide a bridge to further study of Theology & Religious Studies at MA level.

- To further develop existing analytical and logical skills acquired at the BA level as these come to be focused specifically through theological and religious concerns; to assess evidence, to exercise judgement, and to reach reasonable conclusions, through the study of courses of high intellectual content;
- To train students to develop a sympathetic and critical understanding of the sources and development of Christianity and thereby to foster empathetic engagement with both familiar and unfamiliar viewpoints;
- To meet the needs of employers and the wider community for adaptable, intelligent and articulate employees and citizens who can think for themselves;
- To provide education for people from a wide range of cultural and educational backgrounds;
- To provide the theological or religious background and content necessary for studies at the MA level in Theology and Religious Studies.

17. Educational objectives of the programme/programme outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

The programme provides a **knowledge and understanding** of the following:

A general understanding in one or several of the following areas:

1. Modern approaches to religious texts (Christian, Jewish or Muslim) and a more specialised knowledge of a range of key texts;
2. A general understanding of historical method and specialised knowledge of one or more periods in the history of Christian Church;
3. A general understanding of modern approaches to the study of systematic theology and a specialised knowledge of key doctrines in the Christian tradition;

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

- A mix of lectures, classes, seminars, tutorials (especially associated with assessed coursework and other essays) and supervisions (especially in relation to the Independent Study Project);
- Students will undertake a range of oral and written presentation in classes and seminars;
- Throughout, students will be engaged in a course of directed private study both in preparation for seminars and coursework and to broaden their individual knowledge and understanding of the subject;

PAF Originally Approved by QA&AA: 26 June 2007

PAF modified by ASQ re: exit awards: 25th May 2010

PAF finalised for 2010/11: 15 October 2010

PAF finalised for 2011/12: 26 October 2011

PAF modified by QAS for 2012/13: 5th March 2012

PAF finalised for 2012/13: 6 September 2012

PAF modified by QAS for 2014/15: 30th October 2013

PAF finalised for 2014/15: 9th April 2015

4. A critical understanding of the origins and truth claims in the Christian tradition;
5. Key topics in the history and contemporary study of the philosophy of religion;
6. Some of the main theories and concepts of ethics;
7. Key issues in selected areas of practical ethical discussion;
8. By a combination of study in both the humanities and social sciences to illuminate the complex relationships between religion and society;
9. The variety of contemporary religious expressions that shape and are shaped by groups and societies, and by global cultural and political trends;
10. Appropriate personal and professional conduct in the context of the discipline.

- In a number of modules, these teaching and learning strategies are further supplemented by site visits which make use of the unique resources of London, for example, the collections of the British Museum.

Assessment:

Learning outcomes are tested through a combination of:

- assessed coursework;
- prior disclosure and unseen examination;
- assessed project work.

Assessed coursework is principally in the form of essays. Class presentations develop oral communication and are a continuous part of the teaching process but are not formally assessed.

Skills and other attributes

Intellectual skills:

1. Can analyse more abstract texts, evidence, etc without guidance, using a range of approaches and techniques appropriate to the subject;
2. With minimum guidance can critically assesses secondary literature and important ideas to develop an argument;
3. Can critically evaluate material to support conclusions, reviewing its reliability, validity and significance. Can investigate contradictory information/identify reasons for contradictions;
4. Is confident and flexible in identifying and defining complex issues within the discipline and can apply appropriate knowledge and skills in addressing them.

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

- A mix of lectures, classes, seminars, tutorials (especially associated with assessed coursework and other essays) and supervisions (especially in relation to the Independent Study Project);
- Students will undertake a range of oral and written presentation in classes and seminars;
- Throughout, students will be engaged in a course of directed private study both in preparation for seminars and coursework and to broaden their individual knowledge and understanding of the subject;
- In a number of modules, these teaching and learning strategies are further supplemented by site visits which make use of the unique resources of London, for example, the collections of the British Museum.

Assessment:

Learning outcomes are tested through a combination of:

- assessed coursework;
- prior disclosure and unseen, examination;
- assessed project work.

Assessed coursework is principally in the form of essays. Class presentations develop oral communication and are a continuous part of the teaching process but are not formally assessed.

Practical skills:

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

PAF Originally Approved by QA&AA: 26 June 2007
 PAF modified by ASQ re: exit awards: 25th May 2010
 PAF finalised for 2010/11: 15 October 2010
 PAF finalised for 2011/12: 26 October 2011
 PAF modified by QAS for 2012/13: 5th March 2012
 PAF finalised for 2012/13: 6 September 2012
 PAF modified by QAS for 2014/15: 30th October 2013
 PAF finalised for 2014/15: 9th April 2015

1. Can operate in complex and unpredictable contexts, requiring selection and application from a wide range of methods and activities;
2. Able to act autonomously, with minimal supervision or direction, within agreed guidelines.

All students receive guidance on identifying, locating and using material in libraries and elsewhere. Comprehensive bibliographies are provided for each module at the outset, as are module descriptions and essay titles.

Assessment:

These skills are primarily assessed through assessed coursework, required for most modules and final examinations.

Generic/transferrable skills:

1. Can interact effectively within a team/learning group, recognise, support or be proactive in leadership, negotiate and manage conflict;
2. With minimum guidance can manage own learning using full range of resources for the discipline(s);
3. Is confident in application of own criteria of judgement and can challenge received opinion. Can seek and make use of feedback;
4. Can select and manage information, competently undertaking reasonably straightforward research tasks with minimum guidance;
5. Can take responsibility for own work and can criticise it;
6. Can engage effectively in debate in a professional manner and give detailed and coherent presentations;
7. Is confident and flexible in identifying and defining complex issues and can apply appropriate knowledge and skills in addressing them.

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

- A mix of lectures, classes, seminars, tutorials (especially associated with assessed coursework and other essays) and supervisions (especially in relation to the Independent Study Project);
- Students will undertake a range of oral and written presentation in classes and seminars;
- Throughout, students will be engaged in a course of directed private study both in preparation for seminars and coursework and to broaden their individual knowledge and understanding of the subject;
- In a number of modules, these teaching and learning strategies are further supplemented by site visits which make use of the unique resources of London, for example, the collections of the British Museum.

Assessment:

Learning outcomes are tested through a combination of:

- assessed coursework;
- prior disclosure and unseen examination;
- assessed project work.

Assessed coursework is principally in the form of essays. Class presentations develop oral communication and are a continuous part of the teaching process but are not formally assessed.

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

The Theology & Religious Studies Benchmark Statement recognises that the field of Theology & Religious Studies is characterised by rich diversity of providers and academic frameworks. It notes in particular programmes will touch on most of the following and focus on some of them:

PAF Originally Approved by QA&AA: 26 June 2007

PAF modified by ASQ re: exit awards: 25th May 2010

PAF finalised for 2010/11: 15 October 2010

PAF finalised for 2011/12: 26 October 2011

PAF modified by QAS for 2012/13: 5th March 2012

PAF finalised for 2012/13: 6 September 2012

PAF modified by QAS for 2014/15: 30th October 2013

PAF finalised for 2014/15: 9th April 2015

A broadly based core, together with the context required for the subject area programme in question and specialised study in depth of some aspects of the discipline or field;

The origin, history and developed or present character of one or more religions;
The reading, analysis and interpretation of texts (especially sacred texts) sometimes in the original languages;

Engagement with some of the major religious thinkers through their extant work or subsequent influence;

The application of a variety of critical methods of study;

The history of the particular discipline covered by the programme;

Ethics, morality and values.

This summary accurately characterises the Graduate Diploma in Theology & Religious Studies programme at King's.

19. Programme structure and award requirements (where relevant the information should also differentiate the particular requirements of pathways within a programme or linked/exit awards)

(a) numbers of compulsory and optional units to be taken in each year of the programme

Full time

120 credits earned through 1 x 30 credit compulsory dissertation and 90 credits of optional modules.

Part time

Year one

60 credits earned through optional modules.

Year two

60 credits earned through 1 x 30 credit compulsory dissertation and 30 credits of optional modules.

(b) range of credit levels permitted within the programme

Levels 45 and 6

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

30 credits

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

90 credits.

(e) progression and award requirements (if different from the standard)

Standard

PAF Originally Approved by QA&AA: 26 June 2007

PAF modified by ASQ re: exit awards: 25th May 2010

PAF finalised for 2010/11: 15 October 2010

PAF finalised for 2011/12: 26 October 2011

PAF modified by QAS for 2012/13: 5th March 2012

PAF finalised for 2012/13: 6 September 2012

PAF modified by QAS for 2014/15: 30th October 2013

PAF finalised for 2014/15: 9th April 2015

(f) maximum number of credits permitted with a condoned fail (core modules excluded)
30 credits.

(g) are students permitted to take a substitute module, as per regulation A3, 20.7?
Yes

(h) other relevant information to explain the programme structure
N/A

Programme approval 2006/07

Programme Structure

See Programme Handbook for modules to be taken.

20. Marking criteria

All modules will be marked in accordance with the Faculty's marking criteria where such exists, or else in accordance with the College's generic marking criteria.

PAF Originally Approved by QA&AA: 26 June 2007
PAF modified by ASQ re: exit awards: 25th May 2010
PAF finalised for 2010/11: 15 October 2010
PAF finalised for 2011/12: 26 October 2011
PAF modified by QAS for 2012/13: 5th March 2012
PAF finalised for 2012/13: 6 September 2012
PAF modified by QAS for 2014/15: 30th October 2013
PAF finalised for 2014/15: 9th April 2015