



CHRISTIAN HERITAGE COLLEGE

JM503

SCHOLARSHIP AND THE MINISTRY LEADER

This sample unit outline is provided by CHC for prospective and current students to assist with unit selection.

Elements of this outline which may change with subsequent offerings of the unit include Content, Required Texts, Recommended Readings and details of the Assessment Tasks.

Students who are currently enrolled in this unit should obtain the outline for the relevant semester from the unit lecturer.

Unit code	JM503	
Unit name	Scholarship and the Ministry Leader	
Associated higher education awards	Master of Ministry Leadership	
Duration	One semester	
Level	AQF Level 9	
Unit coordinator	Dr Stephen Beaumont	
Core/elective	Core	
Weighting	Unit credit points: 10cp	Total course credit points: 80cp
Student workload	Face-to-face on site	External
	Timetabled hours: 40	Directed study hours: 40
	Reading and study hours: 60	Readings and study hours: 60
	Assignment preparation hours: 50	Assignment preparation hours: 50
	Total hours per unit: 150	Total hours per unit: 150
	Students requiring additional English language support are expected to undertake an additional one hour per week	
Delivery mode	Face to Face on site External	
Pre-requisites/ co-requisites/ restrictions	Prerequisites: Nil Co-requisites: Nil Restrictions: Nil	
Rationale	<p>In a complex world there exists a plethora of dissonant voices and viewpoints as well as sources of knowledge. Within Christianity there further exists a plurality of biblical interpretations and a diversity of theological positions. Ministry leaders, on a daily basis, are presented with such differing epistemological views and are required to engage with them appropriately and responsibly. Therefore there is an increasing need for them to develop an integrative approach to scholarship and thinking.</p> <p>Anselm initiated a premise from which scholarship for ministry leadership can develop such a paradigm for the pursuit of and engagement with knowledge: <i>“For I do not seek to understand in order to believe but I believe in order to understand. For I believe even this: that I shall not understand unless I believe.”</i> (Proslogion 1)</p> <p>This Anselmian premise provides opportunity for ministry leaders to recognise the place of biblical perspectives in informing inquiry; to critically evaluate sources of knowledge; to interact with rational and empirical approaches; and to appreciate their contribution within an integrative approach to scholarship.</p>	

Prescribed text(s)	<p>Cresswell, J 2014, <i>Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Method Approaches</i>, SAGE, Thousand Oaks, CA.</p> <p>Vyhmeister, NJ 2014, <i>Quality Research Papers: For Students of Religion and Theology</i>, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, MI.</p>
Recommended readings	<p>Cartledge, MJ 2012, <i>Practical Theology: Charismatic and Empirical Perspectives</i>, Wipf & Stock, Eugene, OR.</p> <p>Coghlan, D & Brannick, T 2014, <i>Doing Action Research in your own Organization</i>, 4th edn, Sage, London, UK.</p> <p>Creswell, JW 2013, <i>Qualitative Inquiry and Research Design: Choosing among Five Approaches</i>, 3rd edn, SAGE, Thousand Oaks, CA.</p> <p>Dane, FC 2011, <i>Evaluating Research: Methodology for People who need to Read Research</i>, SAGE, Thousand Oaks, CA.</p> <p>Fink, A 2010, <i>Conducting Research Literature Reviews: From the Internet to the Paper</i>, 3rd edn, SAGE, Thousand Oaks, CA.</p> <p>Graff, G & Birkenstein, C 2014, <i>They Say/I Say: The Moves That Matter in Academic Writing</i>, 3rd edn, W. H. Norton, New York, NY.</p> <p>Hesse-Biber, SN 2011, <i>The Practice of Qualitative Research</i>, 2nd edn, SAGE, Thousand Oaks, CA.</p> <p>Logan, I 2009, <i>Reading Anselm's "Proslogion": The History of Anselm's Argument and Its Significance Today</i>, Ashgate, Burlington, VT.</p> <p>Maxwell, JA 2012, <i>A Realist Approach for Qualitative Research</i>, SAGE, Thousand Oaks, CA.</p> <p>Miller-McLemore, BJ (ed.) 2012, <i>The Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Practical Theology</i>, Blackwell, Malden, MA.</p> <p>Rugg, G & Petre, M 2010, <i>A Gentle Guide to Research Methods</i>, 2nd edn, McGraw-Hill, Maidenhead, UK.</p> <p>Yin, RK 2014, <i>Case Study Research: Design and Methods</i>, SAGE, Thousand Oaks, CA.</p> <p>In addition to the resources above, students should have access to a Bible, preferably a modern translation such as <i>The Holy Bible: New King James Version (NKJV)</i>.</p> <p>This translation and many others may be accessed free on-line at http://www.biblegateway.com. The Bible app from LifeChurch.tv is also available free for smart phones and tablet devices.</p>
Specialist resources requirements	Nil
Content	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A ministry leadership approach for scholarly enquiry – ‘Faith seeking understanding’ 2. Biblical perspectives in informing scholarly inquiry 3. Theological methods for engaging knowledge – Wesley’s Quadrilateral, Hermeneutics, Pneumatological revelation 4. Epistemological approaches and sources 5. Critical reading and thinking – assess and evaluate assumptions, similarities and differences of positions 6. Critical reading and thinking – identify, evaluate and revise arguments, knowledge, opinions and claims 7. Critical reading and thinking – evaluate the quality and sufficiency of evidence 8. Critical communication – advocacy of ideas, synthesis and revision of arguments and findings, the formulation of multiple conclusions and peer review

Learning outcomes	<p>On completion of this unit, students should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contextualise and delineate the role of faith in scholarship; 2. Critically evaluate the strengths and limitations of epistemological approaches and methods; 3. Demonstrate the application of higher order critical analysis, thinking, reading and communication skills; 4. Critically reflect on the implementation and evolution of their own critical thinking, reading and communication within ministry leadership contexts; and 5. Communicate at an appropriate tertiary standard with special attention to correct grammar, punctuation, spelling, vocabulary, usage, sentence structure, logical relations, style, referencing and presentation.
Assessment tasks	<p>Task 1: Reading Reflections</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 5x300 words and forum interactions 5x150-250 words</p> <p>Weighting: 40%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 1-5</p> <p>Assessed: Weeks 1-5</p> <p>Task 2: Positional Paper and Personal reflection</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 6,000 words</p> <p>Weighting: 60%</p> <p>Leaning Outcomes: 1-5</p> <p>Assessed: Week 13</p>
Unit summary	<p>This unit develops advanced critical analysis, thinking, reading, and communication skills toward the mastery of the ministry leader's engagement with epistemological sources and scholarship.</p>