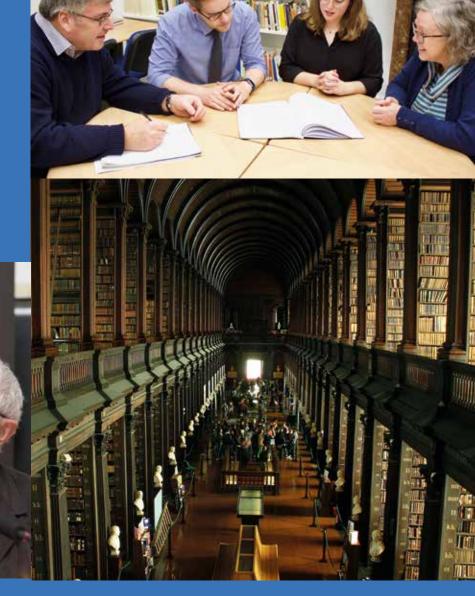
# MPhil in Christian Theology

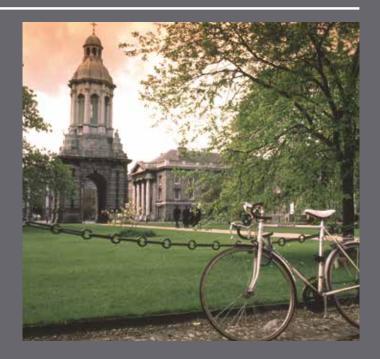




## Trinity College, The University of Dublin

Trinity College Dublin is recognised internationally as Ireland's leading university and as one of the leading universities in the world. Trinity was founded in 1592, and today the university is a cosmopolitan community of students from around the world. Its bustling 47 acre campus, in the heart of Dublin, is the ideal environment for studying, learning, relaxing and living.

Trinity's main campus of cobbled squares, historic buildings and green playing fields also includes state-of-the-art modern facilities for teaching and research and a Sports Centre with a climbing wall and swimming pool. The Trinity Library is one of the world's great research libraries. Community is a key element in the Trinity education and every student can benefit from a wide variety of extracurricular activities which broaden and reinforce the experience of a Trinity graduate.



## Loyola Institute

The central concern of the Loyola Institute, Trinity College is the creative intersection of theology, Church and society. The Loyola Institute is establishing itself as a vibrant centre for discussion of theological studies, hosting conferences and lectures with contributors who are world leaders in their fields. Speakers at recent events hosted by the Loyola Institute have included Professor Terry Eagleton (Lancaster University), Professor John O'Callaghan (Notre Dame University), Professor William T. Cavanaugh (De Paul University), Professor Bernard McGinn (University of Chicago) and Cardinal Marx, Archbishop of Munich and Freising.

At the Loyola Institute at Trinity you will find a lively and welcoming community. Our small classes offer ample opportunity for questions and vibrant discussion.

Loyola Institute staff have worked internationally in universities such as Yale, Edinburgh and Cambridge. They are regular contributors to the media and also sit on the boards of various educational and not-for-profit organisations.

The Loyola Institute is a part of the Confederal School of Religions, Peace Studies and Theology in Trinity College.

"Studying Christian theology lays before me two millennia of thinking about God; it presents me with new questions and it challenges me with new concerns. In seeking answers and in addressing concerns, I am drawn ever closer to God."

**Patrick Logue** 



"I am doing this MPhil so I can be a better teacher and develop resources to help young people grow in their faith."

**Leslie Flores** 



# **MPhil in Christian Theology**

Religious issues are an important part of public debate in contemporary pluralist societies. Many crucial social and political matters are affected by religious concerns. Key policy debates require expertise and literacy in religious and theological concepts, their traditions and practices. This MPhil in Christian Theology will enable participants to gain an in-depth knowledge of core issues in contemporary Christian theology — issues such as Church and Ministry, Theology of the Bible, Rights and Responsibilities. Students are introduced to historical scholarship and to rigorous

contemporary theological investigation. Seminar-style learning is an important pedagogy in the programme. A written dissertation is a key part of the MPhil. This enables participants to engage in advanced study of a particular topic of interest in the field. Throughout the process of writing, participants are offered one-to one academic supervision. Participants in this MPhil will learn research skills, as well as analytic, written and verbal communication skills. These are highly valued and effective in a great variety of careers.

## **Course Structure and Assessment**

The course incorporates both taught and research components. Students must take six taught modules (10 ECTS each) comprising three core and three optional modules, and write a 15,000 word dissertation (30 ECTS).

Students are assessed on written contributions for each module.

#### Modules at a Glance

#### The three core models are:

- Method and Theory in the Study of Theology
- Violence and Grace in the Human Narrative
- The First Words: Theology/ies of the Bible

#### The elective models are:

- Rights and Responsibilities: A Theological Engagement
- Readings in Classical Theological Texts
- Theology and the Arts
- Christianity of the Celtic World (600-1000 AD)
- The Role of Church in a Pluralist Society
- Ministry and Church in a Challenging Era
- Authority, Tradition and Experience: Ecumenics as Intercultural Theology\*
- Nature, Grace and the Triune God\*
- Developing Dogma: Identity and Change in Christian Tradition\*

The elective modules offered each year will vary.

\*Modules are shared with the MPhil in Intercultural Theology and Interreligious Studies, Irish School of Ecumenics.

## Who is this course for?

- For graduates in theology (or other related disciplines) the MPhil offers a structured programme of study at an advanced level.
- For those who have a curiosity about theology and want to learn more
- For Chaplains, pastoral workers, and others engaged in Church ministry, the MPhil will serve as an ideal opportunity for further in-depth reading, writing and study of the core disciplines of theology, in a way that furthers professional development.
- For teachers of religious education this degree provides an excellent opportunity to explore thoroughly areas which interest you. It will both widen and deepen your knowledge of theology, so benefiting your students.
- While the MPhil is designed to be complete in itself, it can serve as preparation for those wishing to proceed to further research in the field.

"I am very impressed at the variety of people doing the course. I'm very much enjoying the different perspectives and all the discussions." **Eoin Walshe** 



"It's a dream come true to be able to study theology in Trinity College. I've been interested in the subject for many years and am so pleased to have the opportunity to do this MPhil."



**Edith O'Nuallain** 

## **Admission Requirements**

Admission to this course is at graduate level.

Applicants will normally hold a good honours degree in theology from a recognized university. Applicants who have a primary degree in other disciplines will be considered.

Exceptional cases where applicants do not fully meet the above criteria but make a reasonable case for admissions otherwise will be considered by the Dean of Graduate Studies.

## **Course Times**

The course is delivered full-time over one year or part-time over two years. Lectures will normally be held on Monday and Thursday evenings. Some elective modules may be held during the day.

## **Staff**

The team of academics delivering the MPhil will include:



**Dr Fáinche Ryan**MPhil Course Director
Director Loyola Institute
e: faryan@tcd.ie



Professor Siobhán Garrigan Loyola Chair of Catholic Theology Head of Confederal School of Religions, Peace Studies and Theology e: garrigs@tcd.ie



**Dr Cornelius J Casey** Associate Director e: cocasey@tcd.ie



**Dr Katie Dunne**Assistant Professor in Theology in the Catholic Tradition
e: kdunne5@tcd.ie



Jacob Erickson Assistant Professor of Theological Ethics e: ericksoj@tcd.ie



**Dr David Shepherd**Assistant Professor
in Hebrew Bible/Old Testament
e: shepherd@tcd.ie

For details of the expertise and interests of each please see www.tcd.ie/loyola-institute/staff

# **How to Apply**

If you are interested in applying for this programme please apply online at: www.tcd.ie/courses

The closing date for applications is 30th June 2018.

For details of scholarships available see our website.

Email: Loyola@tcd.ie

**Ph:** +353 1 896 4790

W: www.tcd.ie/loyola-institute

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