

SCHOLARSHIPS  
AVAILABLE

# MPhil in Christian Theology



**Trinity College Dublin**  
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath  
The University of Dublin

**The Loyola Institute**  
TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN

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## Trinity College, The University of Dublin

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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 extra- curricular activities which broaden and reinforce the experience of a Trinity graduate.



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## Loyola Institute

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The Loyola Institute is situated in the School of Religion in Trinity College Dublin. The School continues a tradition of scholarship that goes back to the very foundation of Trinity College Dublin.

The particular academic mission of the Loyola Institute is teaching and research in the Catholic Christian tradition.

Since its establishment in 2012, the Loyola Institute has attracted expressions of interest in postgraduate study from a great variety of people, in Ireland and internationally. The Loyola Institute offers degrees in theology at postgraduate level, both taught and via research. Regular research seminars are part of our post-graduate offering.

The Institute is a vibrant centre for discussion of theology and its contribution to current debates. One of our particular areas of excellence is the creative intersection of theology, Church and society. We regularly organize and host international conferences.

Each year, to facilitate the dissemination of theological debate to a wider audience, we organize the interdisciplinary Loyola Lecture series.

In addition to our postgraduate degrees we also offer modules at undergraduate level in the School BA in Religion, as well as short courses for adult learners.

For more information on our activities see our website or our newsletter.



MPhil students Dorothy Glennon, Lian Gu, Sophia White, chatting over wine and pizza after one of the research seminars.



The MPhil class 2017/18 on a field trip to Glendalough with Dr Fainche Ryan Director of the M.Phil and Dr Con Casey Associate Director of the Loyola Institute

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## MPhil in Christian Theology

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This Masters in Christian Theology will enable participants to gain an in-depth knowledge of core issues in contemporary Christian theology. Students are introduced to historical scholarship and to rigorous contemporary theological investigation.

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. In 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.

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## Course Structure and Assessment

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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 via written contributions for each module.

**Some of the modules on offer include:**

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

*\* Modules shared with the MPhil in Intercultural Theology and Interreligious Studies.*

*Note: Not all modules are offered each year.*

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## Who is this course for?

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- For graduates in theology (or other related disciplines) the MPhil offers a structured programme of study at an advanced level.
- For those who have an interest in theological questions this degree will help them become better informed and more articulate in Christian theology.
- 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 theological issues at a deeper level so benefiting you and 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.

“From delving into Scripture and reading the great theologians/philosophers to exploring Glendalough and debating the modern challenges at the intersection of theology, church and society, the MPhil offers an excellent range of modules. The diversity of students and expertise of staff also contributed greatly to my enjoyment of the course. Based on my experience, I highly recommend the MPhil in Christian Theology at Loyola Institute.”

**Eoin Walshe**

MPhil in Christian Theology 2017/2018



“The MPhil in Christian Theology turned out to be everything I was looking for. As someone very much living in the world I wished to be inspired by theological writings which would not only broaden my Christian outlook, but equally challenge me to engage with cultural issues. The MPhil is a journey into and through a theological landscape which continues to re-shape and re-form my concept and understanding of Christianity. It is deeply relevant to our times. The course’s emphasis on cultural, social and political concerns in conversation with contemporary Christianity, was never anything but challenging, always seeming to demand that I go further, dig deeper, think harder. I wouldn’t have it any other way!”

**Edith O’Nuallain**

MPhil in Christian Theology 2017/2018



## 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 (12 months) 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.

## Course Director

Dr Fáinche Ryan, Director of the Loyola Institute is the course Director of the MPhil and leads the team of academics who deliver the MPhil.

Dr Ryan can be contacted by email at [faryan@tcd.ie](mailto:faryan@tcd.ie)



Course Director Dr Fáinche Ryan with MPhil student Sean Brady, recipient of the Religious Education Teacher scholarship funded by the Loyola Trust.

## How to Apply

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

Closing Date 31st July 2019.

For details of scholarships available see our website.

Email: [Loyola@tcd.ie](mailto:Loyola@tcd.ie)

Ph: +353 1 896 4790

W: [www.tcd.ie/loyola-institute](http://www.tcd.ie/loyola-institute)

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