

Programme specification

BA (Hons) Christian Theology and Practice (level 6 progression route) Graduate Diploma Christian Theology and Practice

<i>School:</i>	Humanities, Religion and Philosophy
<i>Entry from:</i>	September 2019
<i>Awarding Institution:</i>	York St John University
<i>Teaching Institution:</i>	William Booth College, London
<i>Delivery Location:</i>	William Booth College, London
<i>Programme/s Accredited by:</i>	Not applicable
<i>Exit Awards:</i>	Graduate Certificate Christian Theology and Practice (for the Graduate Diploma only)
<i>UCAS Code / GTTR / Other:</i>	Not applicable
<i>Joint Honours Combinations:</i>	Not applicable
<i>QAA Benchmark Group(s):</i>	Theology and Religious Studies
<i>Mode/s of Study:</i>	BA Part-time over 2 years
<i>Language of Study:</i>	English

Introduction and Special Features

The BA (Hons)/Graduate Diploma Christian Theology and Practice at William Booth College is open to Salvation Army Officers who have completed two years of Salvation Army Officer training. Officers who have completed their Salvation Army Officer training within the last 5 years will be able to access the BA (Hons) Christian Theology and Practice programme. Officers who have completed their training more than 5 years ago will be able to access the Graduate Diploma Christian Theology and Practice programme.

The BA (Hons)/Graduate Diploma in Christian Theology and Practice aims to equip you for Christian discipleship and ministry in today's world. You will bring the resources of academic theology into conversation with the needs of contemporary Christian discipleship and ministerial practice. You will develop an informed understanding of Christian faith and practice that is willing to engage with hard questions in living, applying and sharing the Gospel today. Throughout your studies you will be actively reflecting on your ministerial context where you will undertake practical fieldwork tasks to resource your theological reflection. You will also have the opportunity to experience at least one church, ministry or mission context different from your usual one. Teaching will be delivered by practitioner theologians sensitive to the church environment who have a personal investment in the vitality of Christian faith and practice in critical times.

Some distinctive emphases arising from the focus on contemporary Christianity and the integration of theology with practice are:

- Biblical literacy. You will develop a good knowledge of the Bible and the skills to handle it responsibly and apply it to contemporary questions. Biblical Studies run through the different module subject areas as well as the designated 'Bible' modules.
- Practical Christian character and lifestyle. You will address traditional subject areas such as spirituality and ethics in relation to the core question of what it means to live as a Christian in today's social and cultural climate.

- Pastoral ministry and church leadership. Areas you will explore include the identification and use of spiritual gifts; engagement with pastoral and personal issues; social outreach and mission projects; relating to secular institutions.
- Contemporary Christian apologetics. You will engage in sociological and cultural exploration of 'postmodernity', in order to develop a contextual theology that engages in dialogue with the secular world, and articulates a distinctive Christian voice for today.
- Focus on church renewal. You will set current innovations in church life in a historical context of renewal and revival movements and radical new forms of church beyond the mainstream, and apply the lessons of history to the challenges of on-going development.

Admissions Criteria

You must meet the University's general entry criteria for [undergraduate](#) study.

If your first language is not English, you will need to take an IELTS test or have an equivalent qualification accepted by the University (see <https://www.yorks.ac.uk/international/how-to-apply/english-language-requirements/>).

BA (Hons) Christian Theology and Practice

As a level 6 progression route from a Foundation Degree, this programme will have specific entry requirements:

- Successful completion of the Foundation Degree Christian Theology and Practice;
- or
- Successful completion of Diploma in Higher Education in Salvation Army Officer Training validated by the University of Gloucestershire;
- or
- Successful completion of a cognate programme where the nature of the academic experience is deemed by the University to be equivalent to that of level 4 and level 5 of the Foundation Degree;
- and
- Identification within the aforementioned programme of where and how the work-based learning elements articulated within the Foundation Degree have been satisfied;

Where the programme has no demonstrable work-based learning element, the applicant will be asked to take one level 5 work-based learning module as an access module.

You may be able to gain direct entry to level 6 if you have completed 240 credits (with a pass in a minimum of 100 credits at level 4 and level 5) as part of a higher education validated ministerial training programme.

Graduate Diploma Christian Theology and Practice

Direct access to level 6 is also possible through the Graduate Diploma for applicants who are unable to meet the entry requirements for the BA (Hons) but have either a degree in another subject or an appropriate professional qualification and either lay or ordained ministerial experience.

Statement on work-based learning in relation to entry

Your ministerial context will provide a resource for your engagement on the programme. There may be times during the programme when you are encouraged or required to engage in a contrasting context to widen your experience of Christian contexts.

Programme Aims

The aims of the programme are set out in a way that highlights the integration of theology and practice. You will develop knowledge and skills of three kinds:

- Foundational knowledge for the subject area of Christian Theology;
- Contextualized practical knowledge and skills enabling theological reflection on Christian practice;
- Generic skills that you will be able to apply in other areas of your life.

Subject-specific foundational knowledge

The programme aims:

1. to provide a foundational understanding of Christian Theology and Practice with particular reference to the contemporary context;
2. to explore the biblical and doctrinal foundations of Christian Theology and Practice with specific reference to students' chosen traditions and/or denominations;
3. to promote academic engagement with the challenges and opportunities created for Christian Theology and Practice by contemporary social and cultural change;
4. to enable academic and practical engagement with a range of contemporary expressions of Christian Theology and Practice within emerging patterns of church life.

Subject-specific practical contextualized knowledge and skills

The programme aims:

5. to facilitate theological reflection on Christian Theology and Practice within both formal and informal ministerial roles, through dialogue and observation;
6. to enable students to acquire a theoretical and practical understanding of Christian Theology in mission and ministry contexts through fieldwork and work-based learning;
7. to foster the development of skills for engaging in and reflecting on Christian mission, ministry and leadership through fieldwork and work-based learning;
8. to enhance the development of practical and personal Christian living within and beyond the Church community.

Generic and transferable skills

The programme aims:

9. to enable students to acquire competence in oral and written communication with appropriate use of academic conventions and employment of a range of media;
10. to develop students' skills for independent learning and basic research competence;
11. to provide opportunities to engage in open, rational and disciplined study with respect and tolerance for people in their diverse traditions and practices;
12. to facilitate students' exploration of personal and vocational pathways within a caring and supportive environment.

Programme Learning Outcomes

The lists below set out the learning outcomes you are expected to achieve at each academic level of the programme. The outcomes follow the same pattern as the aims in the preceding section: subject-specific foundational knowledge, subject-specific practical contextualized knowledge and skills, and generic skills. These overall programme outcomes feed into the individual learning outcomes for each module, in which they are expressed in a more specific way appropriate to the module topics. There are three outcomes of each type, and the basic content of these recurs as you move through the academic levels, so that your learning deepens as you revisit the principal subject areas at each level.

Level 6 / FHEQ L6: BA (Hons) Christian Theology and Practice / Graduate Diploma in Christian Theology and Practice

Upon successful completion of level 6 a student will be able to:

Subject-specific foundational knowledge

- 3.1 critically analyse a range of theological concepts in relation to the practice of Christian faith in church, ministry and leadership
- 3.2 identify, utilise and apply research methodologies and skills in the field of Christian Theology and Practice;
- 3.3 articulate strategies for the communication of Christian faith in response to significant intellectual and cultural challenges;

Subject-specific practical contextualized knowledge and skills

- 3.4 engage with a wide range of academic literature and research to develop critical analysis and evaluation of contextual Christian practice;
- 3.5 demonstrate critical awareness of issues for Christian leadership in diverse social and religious environments;
- 3.6 critically apply theoretical knowledge of areas within Christian mission and ministry in work-based contexts;

Generic and transferable skills

- 3.7 proficiently access, organise, evaluate and critique information and ideas acquired independently from a range of sources;
- 3.8 demonstrate effective communication skills using information technologies in both the capture of appropriate resources for the subject and the presentation of work;
- 3.9 plan and carry out independent research using a range of research strategies and primary and secondary sources.

Programme Structure

Modules for the Programme

Code	Level	Term	Title	Credits	Status of Module	Work-based learning hours
3TP001	3	1,2,3	Contemporary Biblical Interpretation	20	C	20
3TP002	3	1,2,3	Emerging Churches in Cultural Context	20	C	20
3TP004	3	1,2,3	Currents in Contemporary Christian Theology	20	C	20
3TP005	3	1,2,3	Christian Engagement with Ethical issues	20	C	20
3TP007	3	1,2,3	Spirituality in Postmodernity	20	C	20
3TP009	3	1,2,3	Independent Study	20	C	20

C: Compulsory;

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Teaching and learning

The Christian Theology and Practice tutors aim to provide you with a secure and supportive environment in which you can achieve your potential, both intellectually and personally. We will aim to get to know you, and you will work with a range of module tutors who are experts in their field. The William Booth Centre Tutor and the York St John University Head of Programme will have oversight of your journey through the programme and you will be allocated a designated personal academic tutor who will guide and support you through your degree programme. We will help you to build on your existing strengths, and find ways to help you to become confident in developing both academic and vocational skills.

You will typically spend a total of 24 hours for each module in teaching and learning sessions with your tutors. The emphasis of the BA programme will be on enhancing your skills in critical engagement with a wide range of academic resources and practical contexts. You will have the option of undertaking an independent study on a subject of your choice.

The tutors will use a variety of learning and teaching methods in their sessions which are tailored both towards the subject and different approaches to learning (for example, lectures, seminars, group activities, visiting speakers, media, visits to relevant places of interest.) You will be given opportunities to participate actively in the teaching sessions and to develop your confidence through learning activities such as group discussion and presentations. This will enable you to develop both independence and collaborative skills as you learn both with and from your peers. Your tutor will guide you in preparing for these activities.

You will also engage in independent study outside of the contact hours. This will include guided reading, research tasks, engaging with electronic resources, preparation for teaching sessions and work on assignments.

Assessment

You will encounter a range of ways of assessing your learning throughout the programme. These are designed to help you to enhance existing skills and build confidence in developing new ones. During the taught sessions there will be formative assessments (developmental tasks for which you receive feedback but not a mark) in the form of individual and group activities, and tutorial time to help you with your written assignments. Summative assessments for which your work will be marked and receive a grade will include essays, oral presentations, reflective writing, case studies and portfolios. You will develop written, oral and visual communication skills, which you will be able to build on in the future. Assessments for each module are spread throughout the academic year. Tutors will build in opportunities for you to work on drafts and receive feedback before you submit your final piece of work for assessment. There are no written examinations on the programme.

Progression and Graduation Requirements

The University's [general regulations for undergraduate awards](#) apply to this programme.

Any specific modules that must be passed for you to gain the award are indicated in the full list of modules in the Programme Structure section above.

Internal and External Reference Points

This programme specification was formulated with reference to:

- [University Mission Statement](#) [see page two]
- [Strategic Plan 2015-20](#) [see page four]
- [QAA subject benchmark statement](#)
- [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- 3T

Further Information

Further information on the programme of study may be obtained from:

- Admissions entry profile (Admissions)
- Programme validation document (Registry – Academic Quality Support)
- Regulations (Registry – Academic Quality Support)
- Student programme handbook (school)
- Module handbooks (school)