

BA Module Descriptors

Level 1

Level 2

Level 3

1BA01 Introducing Biblical Theology

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology by providing a broad biblical and theological foundation for subsequent study. It aims to introduce students to biblical theology and to understand selected doctrines within the Bible's story-line. Students will develop their understanding of how the doctrines examined can apply to more effective ministry practice and personal spirituality.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- i. describe the overall story of the Bible;
- ii. identify and discuss selected doctrines within the context of the Bible story-line and how they can apply to ministry practice and personal spirituality;
- iii. discuss how the good news of Jesus Christ (the gospel) fits within the overall Bible story.

Indicative Content

- Understanding the 'big story' of the Bible
- How some of the main themes of Christian Theology fit into that story
- How do we know the story? (Scripture)
- Who is the author of the story? (God's character; God as a Trinitarian community)
- Creation, image of God and the fall
- Story of salvation: Israel, the incarnation, kingdom of God, the cross, resurrection
- The ministry of the Spirit
- Eschatology and future hope

1BA02 The Life and Teaching of Jesus

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology. Given the central place of Jesus for all Christian thought and praxis, students need to develop their understanding of the sources, content and context of Jesus' life and teaching. This module aims to enable students to advance their understanding of these areas with particular emphasis on the kingdom of God, within the religious, social and political context of first century Palestine.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- i. demonstrate knowledge of the political and religious context of Jesus' lifetime;
- ii. discuss the content and significance of the kingdom of God within Jesus' teaching and ministry;
- iii. reflectively apply the personal implications of following Jesus for a contemporary Christian.

Indicative Content

- Chronological survey of the life and ministry of Jesus
- An introduction to synoptic issues and the gospels as literature
- Jesus and the kingdom of God
- Jesus as teacher, prophet and miracle worker
- 'Who is Jesus?' in light of the crucifixion and resurrection according to the gospel writers
- Contemporary significance of Jesus' life and teaching

1BA03 Overview of the Old Testament

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology. An appreciation of the 'big story' of the Old Testament Scriptures assists students in their other biblical and theological studies by laying a foundation for authorship and chronological arguments, appreciation of various literary genres and their need for

careful interpretation. This creates an important foundation on which to further develop the students' process of analysis and critical thinking in subsequent years of the course. It aims to enable students to develop an understanding of the historical, geographical, religious and cultural context of the Old Testament. It also aims to introduce the student to the various genres of Old Testament literature.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- i. identify the historical, geographical, religious and cultural context of the Old Testament;
- ii. describe the purpose, themes and context of selected OT books.

Indicative Content

- An introduction to the Old Testament
- Canonical History
- associated OT Disciplines
- The Literature and Genre of the Old Testament
- The Old Testament Covenants and Redemptive History
- The Pentateuch, The History of Israel
- The Prophets, The Post-Exilic Era
- The New Covenant
- The Messiah
- The Writings, The Psalms
- The Wisdom Literature
- Application of the Old Testament to the modern context

1BA04 Ministry and Personal Development 1

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology. Students studying for an applied theology award (or one of the related strands) need to develop the skills to integrate the various aspects of their learning (cognitive, affective, behavioural) to ensure that their learning is applied to both their own ministry contexts and their own personal lives. This module is designed to facilitate that learning and development. Students will be enabled to use the skills of reflective practice to demonstrate how they are applying what they are learning in their other IBI modules. It will also aim to facilitate the spiritual and personal growth of students and encourage them to reflect on their own spiritual practice and development. It provides opportunities for peer/pastoral evaluation of the student's use of his/her gifts and/or abilities in Christian ministry. As part of the module students will be required to find a mentor. The student is required to develop a practical ministry portfolio, aided by staff and his/her mentor.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- i. describe and reflect on their perceptions of personal strengths and weaknesses;
- ii. identify their gift(s) and abilities;
- iii. discuss their own development through IBI and their ability to integrate theory with practice.

Indicative Content

This module is designed to function as an integrative Level 1 module.

- Reflective practice skills
- Integrating theory and practice as an IBI student
- Spiritual gifting
- Spiritual disciplines for personal growth
- Time management
- Personal challenges of theological study
- Mentoring

1BA05 Interpreting and Applying the Bible

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology. The Bible is a critical document for the church, for theology and for ministry within the church. Students need to be aware of the issues that Bible interpretation raises and how these relate both to other areas of study on this programme and to their own ministry practice. This module will serve as an introduction to this area of study. This module aims enables students to develop a better understanding of how the Bible and its literature functions and as a consequence be engaged in a more responsible approach to Bible reading and interpretation. Students will be encouraged to use their learning to enhance their ability to relate the Bible to the rest of their studies in IBI, to their personal and ministry situations as well as to the life situation of others. Students will apply the range of skills learned in the module to writing discussion Bible studies.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- i. identify the characteristics of a range of biblical genres and the implications these have for interpretation;
- ii. evaluate how the literary and cultural context of a given text affects interpretation;
- iii. apply a “read, explore, respond” model of interpretation to construct a Bible study for a Bible discussion group.

Indicative Content

- The need for interpretation
- Aims in interpretation: moving towards more responsible interpretation
- Translations
- Bible reading: the big picture
- Contexts for reading: historical and literary
- Literary genre and its implications for study: a survey of literary genres found in the Bible
- Application: examining the difficulties of moving from “there and then” to “here and now”
- ‘Observation-interpretation-application’ (read-explore-respond) methodology as a means to construct discussion Bible studies
- Workshops on constructing Bible studies
- The Spirit and interpretation

1BA11 The Story of the Church

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology. This is a foundational module that will enable students to understand the “big picture” of church history and the major flow of events and main characters within that story. The module aims to equip the student how to study history and to appreciate the importance of Christian history in understanding the contemporary church.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- i. Identify the key developments in the church from the 1st Century to modern times;
- ii. outline significant theological, political and cultural issues that shaped the historical development of the church;
- iii. describe and assess the contemporary significance of one selected figure from church history.

Indicative Content

- The study of history
- Beginnings of the church A.D. 70-312
- The age of the Christian Roman Empire 312-590
- The Christian Middle Ages 590-1516
- The age of the Reformation 1517-1648 (Martin Luther, John Calvin, the Radical Reformation)
- The age of reason and revival 1648-1789

- The age of progress 1789-1914
- Reflection on contemporary significance

1BA12 Introduction to Pastoral Caring

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology. Pastoral caring in local churches needs to recognise the potential of a caring community and the effectiveness of one on one listening and caring. The emphasis of this module is to encourage students to reflect on their involvement in community-based care and to provide them with a range of basic caring skills. It enables students to have a biblically informed understanding of pastoral care and the role of the local church in this care. Students will be able to differentiate between pastoral care and counselling. It will aim to deepen students' understanding and practical empathy in specific pastoral care situations. The module will emphasise the importance of authenticity and examine the role of Christian character involved in pastoral care.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- describe the impact of several common pastoral care issues;
- articulate the attitudes and skills needed to help others deal with various pastoral care issues;
- evaluate their own listening skills.

Indicative Content

- Understanding of the character traits described in the Bible expected for all Christians and their specific implications for caring for others
- Introductory knowledge of the causes and symptoms of some of the most common 'people problems': depression, low self esteem, bereavement, conflict, long-term and terminal illness, singleness and spiritual dryness
- Listening skills (theory and practice)
- Counselling and pastoral care: comparisons and contrasts
- The role of the church in pastoral care
- Caring for carers
- Pressures of caring for others

1BA13 Discipleship

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology by allowing students to explore Christ's historical commission to make disciples which is central to the Christian faith. This module provides students, who are interested in this subject, an opportunity to examine the "Great Commission" as it related to the church as a whole and themselves individually. The module enables students to engage with concepts of discipleship and the processes of discipleship as seen in the ministry of Christ. The module will help students personally formulate an understanding of important characteristics of a mature Christian disciple. Students will develop self-awareness of their own journey of Christian discipleship, better appreciate the importance of God in the disciple-making process and develop a practical understanding of how best they can engage in discipleship within a ministry context.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- articulate their own understanding of the key characteristics of a mature disciple;
- explain key aspects of disciple making in the ministry of Jesus;
- reflect on and outline a personal strategy for developing disciples.

Indicative Content

- Understanding the gospel
- What is discipleship?

- Jesus' strategy for making disciples
- The 'Great Commission'
- The 'Great Commandment'
- Importance of community
- The process of discipleship
- Characteristics of a mature biblical disciple
- God in the disciple-making process
- Practical aspects of disciple making
- A personal strategy for discipleship development within a ministry context

1BA14 Communicating the Bible

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology by teaching students principles of effective communication, so that those who are interested in the subject can be better equipped to apply and communicate the knowledge they learn through the programme. The module enables students to understand the principles of effective communication within numerous settings and using a variety of means. These means include learning how to plan, prepare, deliver (and self-assess) the oral communication of a Bible passage or Christian related theme in a public setting. Students will develop in the skill of how to apply knowledge and understanding to practice within the specific context of group Bible study. It will offer a broad and integrative approach to practical and theoretical issues surrounding Christian communication in a variety of contexts.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- identify and apply the issues relating to preparing and orally communicating a short presentation in a Christian context;
- outline the different ways in which Scripture can be communicated and how they can assist others in understanding and applying its contemporary significance;
- evaluate how they and others communicate the Bible and identify ways to develop in the skill of good communication.

Indicative Content

- What is communication?
- Communication styles and knowing your own
- Non-verbal aspects of communication
- The 'do's' and 'don'ts' of effective public speaking
- Goals of communication
- The communicator
- Principles of how people learn
- Communication covering a variety of settings
- How to plan, prepare and lead a group bible study
- Ways to give useful feedback

1BA17 Pentecostal History

Rationale and Aims

The rise of Pentecostal/Charismatic movements has been significant in the Irish context and for students who have an interest in this particular sphere of Christianity the module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology by equipping the student to achieve a broad understanding of the formation and the development of the Pentecostal and Charismatic movements. It aims to focus on the roots of Pentecostalism, the Azusa St revival, key figures in the movement the expansion of various denominations, along with the history of the Charismatic Renewal Movement and appreciate the influence this history has had in contemporary Ireland.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">i. explain how Pentecostalism fits within its historic context;ii. discuss the impact of Azusa Streetiii. identify key figures in the movement;iv. outline the particular story of Pentecostal history in Ireland. |
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Indicative Content

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pentecostalism in its historic context• Theological roots of Pentecostalism• The key factors contributing to the beginnings of Pentecostalism• The Azusa Street outpouring as a catalytic event in the spread of Pentecostalism• Significant figures in the movement• The emergence of the Pentecostal movement within Ireland• The Charismatic Movement and its impact in Ireland• The global significance of Pentecostalism |
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2BA01 Ministry and Personal Development 2

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology. Students studying for an applied theology award (or one of the related strands) need to develop the skills to integrate the various aspects of their learning (cognitive, affective, behavioural) to ensure that their learning is applied (to both their own ministry contexts and their own personal lives). This module is deliberately designed to facilitate that learning and development. This module will enable students to use the skills of reflective practice to critically reflect on how they are applying their learning in their other IBI modules. This module builds on learning acquired through 1BA04. It aims to develop the student's ability to self-critically reflect on their learning in IBI and its application to personal and ministerial growth. Students will be involved in a mentoring relationship in which they will receive feedback from a respected colleague and/or leader on various personal/practical issues.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- i. identify areas for personal development;
- ii. plan a personal response to areas for personal development;
- iii. critically reflect on their integration of IBI learning to ministry practice.

Indicative Content

- Reflective practice skills
- Reflecting on theological study
- Research informed ministry/action
- Benefitting from a mentor; being a mentor
- Personal growth
- Developing a practical ministry portfolio
- Ministry challenges
- Development of ministry skills

2BA11 New Testament Christology

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology. Given the central importance of Jesus to all Christian theology and ministry, students require in-depth familiarity with critical questions of Christology. This module aims to facilitate students to engage in depth with NT Christology through examination of specific Christological texts. Students will engage with diverse theological perspectives, historical and modern, reflecting critically on their contemporary significance.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- i. demonstrate critical understanding of selected NT Christological texts and reasons for different interpretations of those texts;
- ii. reflect critically on how the various pictures of Jesus in the New Testament contribute to an overall NT Christology;
- iii. reflect self-critically on how subjects examined contribute to ministry practice and personal spirituality.

Indicative Content

- Contested Christologies: ancient
- Contested Christologies: modern (quests for the historical Jesus)
- Christology of the synoptic gospels
- Jesus the Logos
- Pauline Christology; selected themes
- Christology of Hebrews
- Christology of Revelation

- Contemporary significance

2BA13 Old Testament Narrative

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology. This module builds on the foundational module 1BA03 (Introduction to the Old Testament) in the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology. Since the narrative genre is used extensively in the Old Testament, covering historical and prophetic aspects of the text, it is important that students are able to extend their foundational knowledge and understanding, cognitive and key transferable skills achieved through 1BA03 in order to critically apply key methods in biblical and Christian theology. This module, together with 3BA53 (Poetry and Wisdom in the Old Testament) is required to enable the students to achieve the necessary ability to interpret biblical texts and apply them in a contemporary context. It aims to enable students to study selected Old Testament narrative texts in the Pentateuch and the former prophets. Specific exegetical work will be augmented by consideration of the biblical theological significance on narrative texts, and the development of appropriate strategies for reading narrative texts in the contemporary context.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- recognise and demonstrate knowledge of specific characteristics of OT narrative;
- demonstrate an ability to interpret and apply biblical narrative texts.

Indicative Content

- The genre of narrative in the Old Testament
- The nature, purpose and form of Hebrew narrative
- OT narrative, geography and archaeology
- OT narrative, history and culture
- OT narrative exegesis
- The place and contribution of historical narrative in the progress of revelation.
- Application of biblical narrative to the contemporary needs facing Christians today

2BA21 The Story of the Irish Church

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology by building on the level 1 module of the story of the church and encourages the students to become conscious of how Ireland fully entered recorded history with the coming of Christianity in the fifth century AD. Irish achievements in literature, art and religion were recognised across Western Europe, to such an extent that Ireland became known as the Island of Saints and Scholars. This module aims to further develop the student's awareness of the history of the church in Ireland between 400-1600. It will focus, in particular, on St. Patrick and his role in Irish Christianity, Celtic culture, Irish Monasticism, the significant milestones in Irish Church history and the impact of the reformation on Ireland.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- identify and evaluate key developments in Irish church history;
- evaluate the relationship between Irish church history and general history of Ireland;
- assess possible lessons of Irish church history to modern church life.

Indicative Content

- Key events in Irish Church History
- Understanding Ireland before Christianity
- The coming of Christianity including Patrick and his mission
- The land of Saints and Scholars
- The golden era in Ireland and the spread of Celtic Christianity in Europe
- Anglo-Normans in Ireland and attempted reforms of the religious orders
- The Reformation in Ireland

2BA22 Christian Ethics

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology. Christian ethics, which involves decision-making and living in the contemporary world, is an area where issues of Bible, experience, tradition, moral frameworks and contemporary culture need to be considered and evaluated. This module offers students who have an interest in this subject area an opportunity to engage and reflect on their own ethical frameworks as well as addressing contemporary ethical issues. The module will enable students to gain an empathetic understanding of how people make decisions and how choices are influenced. It will also explore some of the ways in which the Bible is used in ethical decision-making and its role in informing (and building) moral character. Students will develop their ability to think biblically and theologically about ethical issues, and be encouraged to utilise and apply learning from other parts of the programme. Students will also be given the opportunity to reflect on an ethics code for a ministry they are or will be involved in.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- i. present and evaluate a range of responses to specific ethical issues;
- ii. evaluate the ways in which the Bible can be used in Christian ethics;
- iii. develop a personal code of ethics for ministry.

Indicative Content

- Using the Bible in ethical reflection: goals and strategies
- Developing Christian character, ethics as discipleship
- Ethics and pastoral practice
- The Bible and ethics: literary genre and ethical authority
- OT and NT ethics
- Ethics and the Law (Jesus and Paul)
- Specific ethical issues and case studies
- Responding to ethical issues raised in the media
- Evaluating and developing a code of ethics

2BA24 Faith in Contemporary Culture

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology by providing an opportunity for students to develop in their understanding and critical awareness of how Christian faith is shaped by and critiques contemporary culture. Building on a survey of recent developments in Irish culture, it aims to enable students to develop skills to analyse and evaluate contemporary culture from a theological perspective via the particular lens of consumerism. They are encouraged to reflect on the implications of the material studied for personal life and ministry.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- i. identify, analyse and evaluate beliefs and values associated with specific examples of contemporary day-to-day consumerism;
- ii. develop a theological response to contemporary consumerism;
- iii. reflect self-critically on implications for ministry practice.

Indicative Content

- What is culture?
- Survey of recent shifts in Irish culture and identity:
 - Christendom / post-Christendom
 - modernism / post-modernism
 - nationalism / post-nationalism

- Analysis of consumerism as a dominant feature of contemporary Western culture:
 - beliefs and narrative of consumerism
 - biblical and theological critiques of consumerism
 - consumerist Christianity

2BA26 Developing Leadership

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology and to the Christian Leadership strand by enabling students in the Christian leadership strand and others interested in the subject matter to understand elements of biblical leadership principles and general leadership theory so as to intergrate them and improve their leadership practice. The module aims to enables students to develop in knowledge, skills and attitudes in order to apply theory to practice in their own context. Students will interact with general leadership theory and reflect on it along side biblical principles of leadership as seen in specific biblical characters and the general tenor of the biblical texts. The module aims to allow students to grow in self-awareness of leadership gifts and advance in practical leadership capacity. They will consider their own leadership styles and abilities/gifts as they reflect on their own ministry context.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- i. appraise significant issues raised by Christian leadership and apply that knowledge, skills and understanding to contemporary practice;
- ii. evaluate biblical characteristics of leadership and means of evaluating the same;
- iii. critically reflect on their awareness of their leadership strengths, weaknesses and styles.

Indicative Content

- Definitions of Leadership
- Factors that affect Leadership within ministry situations
- Characteristics of Leadership
- Biblical images of Leadership
- Biblical and secular models of leadership
- Integrity and leadership
- Personality and leadership skill analysis.
- Self-awareness of leadership gifts and abilities
- Time management and self-leadership

2BA27 Christian Mission in Contemporary Ireland

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology. Christian mission is integral to the identity of the Church and also a contested idea in an increasingly pluralist cultural context. This module aims to enable students to engage with biblical and theological perspectives on the practice of Christian mission, to think about different models of Christian mission and consider some contemporary implications of mission in specific contexts. Students will be encouraged to consider aspects of constructive engagement with other worldviews.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- i. formulate a biblical framework for Christian mission;
- ii. identify and discuss insights from other worldviews in a pluralist context;
- iii. apply critical awareness of Christian mission to specific context(s).

Indicative Content

- Biblical basis of Christian mission
- Pluralist, inclusivist and exclusivist perspectives on Christian mission

- Christian mission in a pluralist context
- Study of alternative views, e.g. Islam, secularism
- Applied models of developing a strategy for mission in specific contexts

2BA52 NT Text: Hebrews

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology. Students will take at least one NT book and a maximum of two in the degree. Such book-focused study develops important exegetical and hermeneutical skills. This module aims to enable students to conduct exegetical study of the letter, its theological message, literary structure and historical context. Students will be encouraged to consider how the letter might apply in the contemporary church setting.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- i. demonstrate an understanding of the book of Hebrews;
- ii. research and write critically on the literary structure of Hebrews;
- iii. critically discuss aspects of the book can be used to develop an applied theology in the modern context.

Indicative Content

- Genre
- Providence
- Authorship and date
- Literary structure
- God's revelation through His Son
- Wilderness wandering motif
- The Christology of Hebrews
- Pilgrimage: the Christian's faithfulness in a challenging world
- Unique contributions of Hebrews

3BA01 Ministry and Personal Development 3

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology by building on learning acquired through 2BA01. It is designed to function as an integrative module that enables and facilitates a deliberate engagement of theory and practice in the degree year (Level 3). It aims to enable students to develop as reflective practitioners who are able to relate biblical and theological concepts to praxis. As part of the module students will be encouraged self-critically to evaluate their learning at IBI.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- i. self-critically analyse aspects of their learning journey at IBI and how that has impacted personal growth and development of ministry.

Indicative Content

- Reflective practice skills
- Reflecting on theological study
- Continuing learning beyond IBI; research informed ministry/action
- Adjusting to life after IBI
- Living with integration: examples from tutors

3BA02 Dissertation

Rationale and Aims

This module is compulsory within the BA Honours degree in Applied Theology and provides opportunity for the student to integrate critical thinking and research skills developed in the programme around a chosen topic. It aims to enable the student, under the guidance of a supervisor, to demonstrate and develop their independent research and writing skills within a longer piece of written work, which can be in essay form or a research project.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- i. critically select and apply appropriate research tools and conceptual frameworks to an issue of applied theology;
- ii. critically apply a range of appropriate biblical and theological resources to the research issue/topic;
- iii. demonstrate a critical rigour in the execution of their research and in the analysis of information and data;
- iv. critically reflect on the research issue/topic identifying academic, professional and personal outcomes.

Indicative Content

This module gives students an opportunity to research and critically reflect on a topic or area of study in which they have a particular interest. He/she will be introduced to a variety of research methodologies. The student will have the choice of completing the module with either a formal written dissertation or a written up action research project. In either the dissertation or project, students are expected to show a critical grasp of the issues and (as appropriate) their implications for contemporary Christian ministry.

3BA11 New Testament Christology

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology. Given the central importance of Jesus to all Christian theology and ministry, students require in-depth familiarity with critical questions of Christology. This module aims to facilitate students to engage critically with NT Christology through examination of specific Christological texts. Students will engage with diverse theological perspectives, historical and modern, reflecting critically on their contemporary significance. An underlying theme will be the relationship of NT Christology with monotheism and the doctrine of God.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- i. exegete and evaluate critically, selected NT Christological texts;
- ii. discuss and assess the theological implications of NT Christology
- iii. demonstrate a critical awareness of how the subjects examined relate to ministry practice and personal spirituality

Indicative Content

- Contested Christologies: ancient
- Contested Christologies: modern (quests for the historical Jesus)
- Christology of the synoptic gospels
- Jesus the Logos
- Pauline Christology; selected themes
- Christology of Hebrews
- Christology of Revelation
- Contemporary significance

3BA13 Old Testament Narrative

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology. This module consolidates the knowledge and understanding, cognitive and key transferable skills commenced in the foundational module 1BA03 (Introduction to the Old Testament) and further developed by 2BA53 (Poetry and Wisdom in the Old Testament) in the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology. Since the narrative genre features extensively in the Old Testament, covering historical and prophetic aspects of the text, it is important that students are able to extend and enhance their knowledge and understanding, cognitive and key transferable skills achieved through 1BA03 and 2BA53 in order to engage critically with significant exegetical, literary, theological and hermeneutical issues raised by the range of Old Testament literature. It aims to enable students to study selected Old Testament narrative texts in the Pentateuch and the former prophets. Specific exegetical work will be augmented by critical reflection on the biblical theological significance on narrative texts, and the development of appropriate critical strategies for reading narrative texts in the contemporary context.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- i. critically engage with significant historical issues raised by the narrative literature of the Old Testament.
- ii. analyse and critically discuss the specific characteristics of OT narrative;
- iii. critically engage with significant exegetical, theological, and hermeneutical issues raised by the narrative literature of the Old Testament.

Indicative Content

- The genre of narrative in the Old Testament
- The nature, purpose, significance and form of Hebrew narrative
- OT narrative geography and archaeology
- OT narrative history and culture
- OT narrative exegesis
- The exegetical, historical, theological, and hermeneutical difficulties raised by the narrative literature of the Old Testament.
- The place and contribution of historical narrative in the progress of revelation.
- Application of biblical narrative to the contemporary needs facing Christians today

3BA21 The Story of the Irish Church

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology by building on the level 1 church history

module by equipping the students to become cognizant of how Ireland fully entered recorded history with the coming of Christianity in the fifth century AD. Irish achievements in literature, art and religion were recognised across Western Europe, to such an extent that Ireland became known as the Island of Saints and Scholars. This module aims to facilitate students to be aware and evaluate the history of the church in Ireland between 400-1600. It aims to focus, in particular, on St. Patrick and critiquing his role in Irish Christianity, analysing Celtic culture, Irish Monasticism, and assess significant milestones in Irish Church history and evaluate the impact of the reformation on Ireland.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- i. identify and critically assess key developments in Irish church history;
- ii. critically analyse and discuss the relationship between Irish church history and general history of Ireland;
- iii. discuss the possible lessons of Irish church history for our contemporary context.

Indicative Content

- Key events and milestones in Irish Church History
- Understanding Ireland before Christianity
- The coming of Christianity including Patrick and his mission
- The land of Saints and Scholars
- The golden era in Ireland and the spread of Celtic Christianity in Europe
- Anglo-Normans in Ireland and attempted reforms of the religious orders
- The Reformation in Ireland.

3BA22 Christian Ethics

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology. Christian ethics, which involves decision-making and living in the contemporary world, is an area where issues of Bible, experience, tradition, moral frameworks and contemporary culture need to be critically examined and evaluated. This module offers students who have an interest in this subject area an opportunity to critically engage with and reflect on a range of ethical frameworks as well as their own. The module will also provide an opportunity to critically engage with contemporary ethical issues. The module enables students to be able to develop critical understanding of how people make decisions and the factors that influence those choices. Students will critically examine the ways in which the Bible is used in ethical decision-making and its role in informing (and building) moral character.. They will be encouraged to develop a critical perspective (both biblical and theological) on a range of ethical issues, utilising and applying learning from other parts of the programme. Students will also be given the opportunity to critically reflect on an ethics code for a ministry they are or will be involved in.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- i. critique and engage with a range of responses to specific ethical issues;
- ii. critically evaluate ways in which the Bible can be used in Christian ethics;
- iii. critically evaluate a personal code of ethics for ministry.

Indicative Content

- Using the Bible in ethical reflection: goals and strategies
- Developing Christian character, ethics as discipleship
- Ethics and pastoral practice
- The Bible and ethics: literary genre and ethical authority
- OT and NT ethics
- Ethics and the Law (Jesus and Paul)
- Specific ethical issues and case studies
- Responding to ethical issues raised in the media
- Evaluating and developing a code of ethics

3BA24 Faith in Contemporary Culture

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology by providing an opportunity for students to develop in their understanding and critical awareness of how Christian faith is shaped by and critiques contemporary culture. Building on a survey of recent developments in Irish culture, it aims to enable students to develop skills to analyse and evaluate contemporary culture from a theological perspective via the particular lens of consumerism. They are encouraged to reflect critically on the implications of the material studied for personal life and ministry.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- i. identify and develop a theological critique of selected consumerist 'cultural texts' of what comprises a 'good life'
- ii. engage critically with wider reading in developing a theological critique of contemporary consumerism
- iii. reflect self-critically on implications for ministry practice

Indicative Content

- What is culture?
- Survey of recent shifts in Irish culture and identity
 - Christendom / post-Christendom
 - modernism / post-modernism
 - nationalism / post-nationalism.
- Analysis of consumerism as a dominant feature of contemporary Western culture
 - beliefs and narrative of consumerism
 - biblical and theological critiques of consumerism
 - consumerist Christianity
 - Augustine and Desire

3BA26 Developing Leadership

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology and to the Christian Leadership strand within the BA by enabling students to develop critical thinking in areas of knowledge, skills and attitudes in order to apply sacred and secular leadership theory to practice in their own context. The module aims to challenge students to critically consider the model of "servant leadership" in relation to other models within general leadership theory and the biblical narrative. The module aims to allow students to enhance their self-awareness through tests, critical self reflection and engagement with others around their leadership abilities/gifts and leadership style. Students will also consider how their present ministry context aligns with their personality and abilities.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- i. evaluate servant leadership and other significant issues raised by Christian leadership and general leadership theory.
- ii. critically apply learned knowledge, skills and understanding to contemporary practice;
- iii. reflect critically on and articulate a self-awareness of their own leadership strengths, weaknesses and styles.
- iv. evaluate their own personal alignment and their most effective fit in Christian ministry

Indicative Content

- Definitions of Leadership
- Biblical images of Leadership
- Different Christian views on leadership
- Time management and self-leadership

- Integrity and leadership
- Personality and leadership skill analysis.
- Biblical and secular models of leadership
- Self-awareness of leadership gifts and abilities
- Factors that affect leadership within ministry situations
- Leadership vision

3BA27 Christian Mission in Contemporary Ireland

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology. Christian mission is integral to the identity of the Church and also a contested idea in an increasingly pluralist cultural context. This module aims to enable students to engage critically with biblical and theological perspectives on the practice of Christian mission, to evaluate different models of Christian mission and consider some contemporary implications of mission in specific contexts. Students will be encouraged to engage constructively with other worldviews.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- synthesise and critically apply a biblical and theological basis for Christian mission
- apply and engage with critical insights from other worldviews in a pluralist context
- apply critical awareness of Christian mission to specific context(s) via the development of a mission strategy

Indicative Content

- Biblical and theological nature and purpose of Christian mission
- Pluralist, inclusivist and exclusivist perspectives on Christian mission
- Christian mission in a pluralist context
- Study of alternative views, e.g. Islam, secularism
- Applied models of developing a strategy for mission in specific contexts

3BA52 NT Text: Hebrews

Rationale and Aims

This module contributes to the BA (Hons) in Applied Theology. Students will take at least one NT book and a maximum of two in the degree. Such book-focused study develops important exegetical and hermeneutical skills. This module aims to enable students to conduct exegetical study of the letter, its theological message, literary structure and historical context. Students will be required to engage critically with the text as well as various contemporary scholarly approaches.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- demonstrate a critical understanding of the book of Hebrews.
- research and write a hermeneutical and theological analysis of a text within Hebrews
- analyse and critically evaluate how aspects of the book can be used to develop an applied theology in the modern context

Indicative Content

- Genre
- Providence
- Authorship and Date
- Literary Structure
- God's revelation through His Son
- Wilderness wandering motif
- The Christology of Hebrews
- Pilgrimage: The Christian's faithfulness in a challenging world
- Unique contributions of Hebrews

