teaching staff

Ken Scott LTh MA MLitt PhD [Director of Studies]

Campbell Hamilton BA BD MTh

Cross-Cultural Christian Mission

Maurice Dowling BA BD MTh PhD

History of Christian Missions A Study of Islam

David McMillan BSc DipTh MPhil

Preaching

Theological Reflection and Ministry

Hamilton Moore BD MTh PhD

Exegesis of New Testament

Tom Vance CertEd DipTheol DipPE MTh ALBC Dorothy McMillan BEd MEd PhD

Introduction to Study

Patrick Roche MA

Rationality of Religious Belief Understanding God in Contemporary Theism

about the Irish Baptist College

The Irish Baptist College was founded in 1892 in Dublin. It relocated to Belfast in 1964 and moved to its new purpose-built facilities near Moira in June 2003. IBC, which is the College of the Association of Baptist Churches in Ireland, is renowned for excellence in teaching at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. High academic standards are coupled with careful Biblical and Theological study and research. The MA degree in partnership with the University of Chester is an invaluable part of the IBC curriculum, particularly relevant to those already in ministry wishing to engage in postgraduate theological study.

about the University of Chester

Founded in 1839, The University of Chester was England's first purpose-built institution for the professional training of teachers. It now has 14,000 students studying a wide range of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. The Irish Baptist College is offering the MA course in partnership with the University of Chester, Department of Theology and Religious Studies (TRS). TRS Chester has developed significant research and teaching strengths notably in practical theology, ethics and the study of religion in the contemporary world.

www.chester.ac.uk/trs

the college campus at Moira

The Irish Baptist College is located in The Baptist Centre near Moira, just 15 miles from Belfast. It is a modern, well equipped facility in the quiet and attractive surroundings of Co. Down, an ideal place to study. There is easy access from the M1, the International Airport, and the neighbouring city of Lisburn. Trains and buses serve the local town of Moira.

applications should be sent to:

The Registrar
Irish Baptist College
The Baptist Centre
19 Hillsborough Road
Moira BT67 0HG

Phone: (028) 9261 9267

Email: info@irishbaptistcollege.co.uk

Find us on the web at www.irishbaptistcollege.co.uk

The Irish Baptist College is a department of the Association of Baptist Churches in Ireland



University of

Chester

MA in theology

In partnership with the University of Chester

A programme of post-graduate study specially designed for in-service completion





the modules offered

All modules carry a 20 credit rating.
The dissertation earns 80 credits.
180 credits are required for the award of the MA.

Modules:

Module 1 -Study Skills [Compulsory]

An introduction to/refresher course in study and research skills with particular emphasis on presentation.

Module 2 - Exegesis of Pastoral Epistles [Compulsory]

Detailed examination of content, structure & theology of the Pastoral Epistles and their relevance for today.

Module 3 - Theological Reflection and Ministry

An introduction to models of critical theological reflection including the use of Scripture, tradition, the social sciences and culture as they relate to the practice of theology. The practitioner will be assessed as to personal strengths and weaknesses in the process of critical reflection and will engage with examples drawn from Northern Ireland and beyond.

Module 4 - Contextualization/Cross Cultural Mission

A study of the challenges and problems raised in attempting to communicate the Christian faith across cultural boundaries, with a critical examination of the various approaches undertaken to meet these.

Module 5 - Preaching

An examination of the study and practice of preaching as a relevant vehicle of communicating Christian truth in contemporary society.

Module 6 - History of Christian Missions

A study tracing the understanding and practice of mission by different Christian traditions through the ages.

Module 7 - Rationality of Religious Belief

A consideration of current approaches [particularly Reformed epistemology] to the justification/rationality of belief in the existence of God and an assessment of contemporary post-Holocaust approaches to theodicy.

Module 8 - Understanding God in Contemporary Theism

A philosophical, theological and biblical assessment of the challenge presented by 'open theism' to the classical the theistic understanding of God as omniscient and eternal.

Module 9 - A Study of Islam

An examination of the history, theology and practices of Islam, and the significance of Islam in the modern world.

Module 10 - The Johannine Writings

An examination of the issues surrounding these NT books and the doctrinal and theological themes treated in them.

Module 11 - The Epistle to the Romans

Detailed examination of the major theological themes in the epistle and its contribution to the theology of the Apostle Paul.

Module 12 - The Epistle to the Hebrews

Detailed examination of the major theological themes in this epistle, and the insights it gives into the character and thought world of the early Christian Community.

Module 13 – A Biblical Theology of Womanhood

Details to follow, module not finally approved at date of going to press.

Dissertation

A dissertation of 16-20,000 words (80 credits) on a theme related to one or more of the modules undertaken.

organisation of the course

The course is constructed to allow students a degree of flexibility in personal organisation of their studies. It is normally offered part-time over a total of three years. In the first two years students complete 100 credits by taking five modules.

In September, January, and May of each academic year teaching blocks take place in the College. Students attend lectures/seminars and are involved in tutorials. Assessment tasks are set, to be completed and submitted at the next teaching block.

After completion of the taught modules, students will complete a dissertation. Titles and subject areas will be chosen in consultation with the teaching staff. Students may exit the course at different stages, Post Graduate Certificate (60 credits, 3 modules) or Post Graduate Diploma (120 credits, 6 modules).

admission criteria

A relevant undergraduate degree and/or professional experience.

costs and registration

Costs are set on an annual basis. Payment is in advance, in three installments if desired. Full time students pay their fees in one year, part time students over three years. Contact the college registrar for details of fees.

Application for registration should be made through the Irish Baptist College. Application forms are available from the College and should be returned to the Registrar at the address overleaf.