

BIRMINGHAM CHRISTIAN COLLEGE (BCC) OFFERS MA APPLIED THEOLOGY

BCC offers a unique taught Master's programme in Applied Theology that focuses on providing a solid biblical, theological and missional understanding of the church's role and the responsibility of Christians in God's transforming activities in the world. Following successful completion of the programme, graduates will be able to analytically address a range of current questions in their chosen pathways, apply advanced and critical understanding, and interpret a range of knowledge sources, using various tools and systematic methods from the discipline to address issues in churches, society and the marketplace.

MASTERS IN APPLIED THEOLOGY – 3 PATHWAYS

MA Pentecostal/Charismatic Missions

MA Pastoral Theology and Leadership

MA Strategic Leadership in Christian Ministry

AVAILABLE AWARDS:

Master of Arts (MA): Awarded upon the successful completion of six modules within a chosen track and a dissertation.

Post Graduate Diploma (PgDip): Awarded upon successful completion of six modules within a chosen track.

Post Graduate Certificate (PgCert): Awarded upon successful completion of three modules within a chosen track.

Core Modules

All MA students are required to complete Research Methods and Study Skills in addition to their core modules in their chosen tracks.

BCM711 Research Methods and Study Skills

The module aims to ensure students are adequately prepared for Master's level study within their chosen subject area, which will include developing associated academic skills such as presentation skills and referencing conventions. The module offers understanding of theological research skills and methods. It also aims to develop learners' ability to organise, manage and practise a range of learning approaches to improve their performance as self-directed learners in postgraduate studies, work or for further career development.

MA Pentecostal/Charismatic Missions

This course offers an analytical overview of the history of the global Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements. Particular attention is given to the examination of key issues that were responsible for the emergence of Pentecostalism and Charismatic movements. The contemporary relevance of the mission impetus and methods used by the Pentecostal movement will be evaluated. The module will examine some of the key players in Pentecostal history and the significance of their work in global Pentecostalism. Further attention will be given to the rise of the neo-Pentecostal and Charismatic movements.

BCU709 Pentecostal/Charismatic Theology

This Module offers students an analytical overview of the history and theology of the global Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements.

MA Pastoral Theology and Leadership

Pastoral Theology BCM707

This module will offer a systematic and critical analyses of the nature and approaches of pastoral ministry and an analytical evaluation of the pastor's role as leader, administrator, shepherd, counsellor, and trainer. It critically explores how gender roles, various diversities and vulnerabilities are handled in multicultural church settings and how useful psycho-social skills are employed in the processes. The module will offer skills for spiritual discernment of relevant pastoral care need and skills for evaluating such care practices.

BCM713 Theological Reflections

The aim of this module is to help students discover the insight that practical and theoretical experience offers on the theological issues that arise in mission and ministry. It will enable students to develop theoretical frameworks and essential practical skills required for ministry in diverse of settings. The focus will be to provide critical knowledge and understanding of how theological reflection fits into the pastoral cycle by showing how reflecting theologically on situations and contexts of pastoral care is essential for effective ministry that brings growth.

MA Strategic Leadership in Christian Ministry

BCU712 Strategic Leadership in Christian perspectives

Through an analytical evaluation of contemporary strategic leadership theories and practices, this module offers understanding and critical leadership skills needed for God's mission in the world.

BCU718 Strategic Management in Christian Ministry

This module takes a particularly Christian perspective on human nature and uses management theories to provide students with understanding and skills for managing God's people and resources.

Optional Modules

BCU705 Missions and Migration in Contemporary Context

This module offers students skills to critically analyse the challenges and opportunities involved in doing multicultural ministry, with a particular focus on multicultural ministry in diaspora contexts.

BCU714 African Diaspora Christianity

This module offers an understanding and theoretical framework for examining the origin and nature of African Diaspora Christianity and its role in shaping the identity, values, worldviews, and Christian practices of African diasporic communities.

BCU716 Organisational Behaviour in Christian perspectives

The module offers students analytical skills for understanding organisational behaviour and practical skills for guiding the Church's mission in the world.

BCU719 Managing Change in Christian contexts.

The module integrates a biblical view of transformation with extant change management theories to equip the student with knowledge and skills for initiating and driving effective change in churches and other organisations.

BCU703 Contemporary Religions

The module gives an overview of contemporary world religions and examines the relationship between religion and social integration, social morality, gender, sexuality and environmental care.

BCU704 Generations and missional Leadership

This module is intended to help students understand the missionary context of Europe, particularly in the area of intergenerational and multicultural church leadership. It explores the issues surrounding multicultural ministry in Europe and the challenges involved in cross cultural and multicultural mission in multifaith Europe. The module also discusses the role, importance, and strategies in leading multi-cultural and intergenerational churches in the West.

BCM702 Contemporary Biblical Pneumatology

This module critically explores the person, nature and work of the Holy Spirit in the Old and New Testaments. This module is designed to engage students' awareness and to critically examine various descriptions and roles of the Holy Spirit in the Bible.

BCM708 Pastoral and Missional Hermeneutics

This module offers a critical understanding and practical skills for applying the principles of biblical interpretation in the context of pastoral and missional leadership. It covers the hermeneutical principles applied in historical-cultural, theological and contextual analysis. Analyses of theological material, lexical syntax and special literary forms provide the student with the relevant critical skills necessary for applying the Bible from its historical contexts to the contemporary multi-cultural environment.

BCM706 Missions and Social Transformation

This module aims to equip students with the required tools for critical study and evaluation of how Christian missions and ministry achieve social transformation through programmes of practical compassionate service in cross-cultural and urban settings. Some economic and social development initiatives and activities of certain Christian organisations will be evaluated in light of their relevance for Christian missions today.

Duration

Course duration: 1 year full-time or up to 4 years part-time.

Entry Requirements

Evidence of candidates' academic ability to work in the area of theological and ecclesiological praxis at an appropriate level and their potential to complete the programme may be provided in one of the following ways:

- A second class (or above) degree in Biblical Studies, Religious Studies, Theology or a cognate subject. A second class (or above) degree in another subject area, together with certificated learning (e.g. a Graduate Diploma) in

Biblical Studies, Religious Studies, Theology or a cognate subject or a BCC Pre-Masters course.

- At least two years' professional experience in a senior position in a Church or Mission context. In such cases, where candidates do not have formal academic qualifications, an access module or written assignment may be used to help assess suitability for the programme. A transparent policy will be followed to ensure equity and parity with regard to student admissions.
- Accredited RPL/RPeL and in some cases where the RPL/RPeL is certificated will be considered for students wishing to transfer into the scheme with previously obtained part or intermediate qualifications from other UK HE institutions or their equivalent. This will follow the rules and processes for RPL/RPeL set out by Newman University, which allows for 90 credits of RPL for Master's degrees.

International Admissions:

Those applicants with overseas qualifications in place of the standard academic entrance requirements will be assessed using UK ENIC and UCAS Guides to International Qualifications. Such qualifications would need to be of a standard equivalent to a second-class honours degree or above in order to ensure parity. Overseas students might also be admitted on the basis of professional experience.

English Language Requirements:

All students must provide evidence of appropriate competency in written and spoken English. For students whose first language is not English, and who have not studied in English up to at least Level 3, the normal requirement will be IELTS 6.5, TOEFL 575 or equivalent.