

MTG231.9 Theology in Context: Christ and the Kingdom

Name of Unit 1 (Unit Code 1)

Theology in Context: Christ and the Kingdom (MTG231.9)

SECTION 1 – GENERAL INFORMATION

Administrative details

Associated higher education awards	Duration	Level	Unit Coordinator
Graduate Diploma Masters	One semester	Advanced	Dr. Matthew James Gray

Core or elective unit

Indicate if the unit is a

- core unit
 elective unit
 other (please specify below):

Core: Master of Divinity
Elective: Graduate Diploma of Christian Studies

Unit weighting

Using the table below, indicate the credit point weighting of this unit and the credit point total for the course of study (for example, 10 credit points for the unit and 320 credit points for the course of study).

Unit credit points	Total course credit points
6 credit points	48 / 144 credit points

Student workload

Using the table below, indicate the expected student workload per week for this unit.

No. timetabled hours per week	No. personal study hours per week	Total workload hours per week
3	6	9

For those students requiring additional English language support, how many additional hours per week is it expected that they will undertake?

Additional English language support: 0 hours per week

Pre-requisites and co-requisites

Are students required have undertaken a prerequisite or co-requisite unit for this unit?

Yes No

If **YES**, provide details of the prerequisite or co-requisite requirements below.

Pre-requisite: MTG120.8 The Story of the Church, MTG130.8 Exploring the Christian Faith, MTR190.8 Developing Cultural Intelligence

SECTION 2 – ACADEMIC DETAILS

Brief description of the content of the unit

This unit develops the students' appreciation of the complexities surrounding Christology, soteriology and eschatology. It connects strongly with the MTC formation domain, *Engaging God's Story*. The unit aims to help students analyse these topics inter-textually: that is, alongside contemporary western evangelical scholarship, students will learn to effectively engage with theologians from various historical contexts (e.g. Patristics, Medieval Scholastics, Reformers), cultural contexts (e.g. indigenous, African, South American), ecclesiastical contexts (e.g. Orthodox, Catholic, Baptist), as well as other often-marginalised voices (e.g. women, African-Americans). In so doing, students will learn to synthesise key theological issues coherently. Key topics include: the incarnation, earthly ministry, death, resurrection, and heavenly session of Christ; sin, atonement, justification, and sanctification; other spiritual powers; personal and cosmic eschatology, including interpretations of revelation.

Learning outcomes for the unit

- 1) Analyse the historical and cultural developments within Christology, soteriology and eschatology
- 2) Evaluate various approaches to these doctrines cogently, with a view to effectively recommending them in various contexts the students may encounter
- 3) Justify their own position on key issues within one of the relevant theological topics, with reference to relevant scholarship
- 4) Synthesise various approaches to a relevant theological topic from across the historical trajectory of the Christian tradition, in order to create a coherent framework for the given topic.

Assessment tasks			
Type	Learning Outcome/s assessed	When assessed – year, session and week	Weighting
1. Class Discussion Papers on Assigned Readings: Describe various theological positions and contexts for each week’s topic, based on the readings under discussion each week. (2000 words equivalent)	1, 2, 4	Weekly	35%
2. Historical Trajectory Textbook Analysis: Synthesise the various historical approaches to a relevant theological topic, so as to appreciate it more coherently. (1000 words)	2, 3, 4	Week 8	15%
3. Research Essay: Justify their position on one or two major issues within the unit’s various topics, with reference to relevant scholarship. (3000 words)	3, 4	Week 13	50%

2.1 Prescribed and recommended readings

Provide below, in formal reference format, a list of the prescribed and recommended readings for the unit.

Prescribed reading:

At least one of:

Frykholm, Amy. *Christian Understandings of the Future: The Historical Trajectory*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2016.

Jensen, David H. *Christian Understandings of Christ: The Historical Trajectory*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2019.

Recommended reading:

Bevans, Stephen B, and Katalina Tahaafe-Williams. *Contextual Theology for the Twenty-First Century*. Cambridge, UK: James Clarke, 2012.

Escobar, Samuel, and C. René Padilla. *In Search of Christ in Latin America: From Colonial Image to Liberating Savior*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2019.

Ezigbo, Victor I. *Re-Imagining African Christologies: Conversing with the Interpretations and Appropriations of Jesus Christ in African Christianity*. Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications, 2010.

Fiorenza, Francis Schussler, and John P. Galvin, eds. *Systematic Theology: Roman Catholic Perspectives*. 2nd Ed. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2011.

Gallus, Petr. *The Perspective of Resurrection: A Trinitarian Christology*. Heidelberg, DE: Mohr Siebeck, 2021.

Green, Chris E. W. *All Things Beautiful: An Aesthetic Christology*. Waco, TX: Baylor, 2021.

Green, Gene L., Stephen T. Pardue, and Khiok-Khng Yeo. *So Great a Salvation: Soteriology in the Majority World*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2017.

Greenman, Jeffrey P., and Gene L. Green. *Global Theology in Evangelical Perspective: Exploring the Contextual Nature of Theology and Mission*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2012.

Harrigan, John P. *The Gospel of Christ Crucified: A Theology of Suffering Before Glory*. Fayetteville, AR: Paroikos, 2019.

Jensen, David H. *Living Hope: The Future and Christian Faith*. Louisville, KN: Westminster John Knox Press, 2010.

Kärkkäinen, Veli-Matti. *Christology: A Global Introduction*. 2nd Edition edition. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Academic, 2016.

Lewis, Donald M., and Richard V. Pierard. *Global Evangelicalism: Theology, History and Culture in Regional Perspective*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2014.

McGrath, Alister E. *Historical Theology: An Introduction to the History of Christian Thought*. 2nd edition. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.

Migliore, Daniel L. *Faith Seeking Understanding: An Introduction to Christian Theology*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2014.