

MTO140.8 FORMATION AND VOCATION

Name of Unit 1 (Unit Code 1)
Formation and Vocation (MTO140.8)

SECTION 1 – GENERAL INFORMATION

Administrative details

Associated higher education awards	Duration	Level	Unit Coordinator
Graduate Certificate Graduate Diploma Masters	One semester	Introductory	Bruce Hulme

Core or elective unit

Indicate if the unit is a

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

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	24 / 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

SECTION 2 – ACADEMIC DETAILS

Brief description of the content of the unit

This unit introduces Christian formation and vocation, particularly in the theological education context. It connects strongly with the formation domain *Engaging Our Stories* in Tabor MTC's curriculum paradigm. *Formation and Vocation* aims to orientate students by framing their studies in terms of how they are being shaped, what they might be shaped for, and critical linkages between formation and vocation. Key topics include: Orientation to theological education; evaluating holistic Christian formation in its communal context; an introduction to theological reflection, discernment, praxis, and ethics; practices for holistic formation; evaluating the nature and basis of Christian ministry; exploring vocation using various discernment tools.

Learning outcomes for the unit

- 1) Explain the nature and basis of Christian formation, ministry and vocation with reference to the biblical text, the Christian tradition and contemporary scholarship
- 2) Analyse their holistic formation and integration, particularly through engagement with formational practices, and identify growing edges for further development
- 3) Organise and evaluate the contribution of others to an understanding of their own formation, integration and vocational directions
- 4) Evaluate their possible vocational directions and subsequent areas of interest for learning in their course
- 5) Explain the interface between Christian formation and vocation

Assessment tasks

Type	Learning Outcome/s assessed	When assessed – year, session and week	Weighting
1. Critical Review Students critically review and apply learnings from a text on formation and vocational discernment (1,000 words)	1, 5	Week 5	20%
2. Research Essay Students research an aspect of Christian formation and ministry (1,500 words)	1	Week 8	25%
3. Oral Presentation Students present their formation e-portfolio, analysing practices for holistic formation in study, life and ministry, towards their possible vocation (1,000 words equivalent)	2	Week 12	20%
4. Discernment Project Students prepare a vocational discernment project that articulates the student's possible vocational directions through a vocational discernment tool such as 'SHAPE'. This will involve the development (and evaluation) of a "reflective team," which will help the student undertake this self-analysis in a communal setting. (2,000 words).	1-5	Week 14	35%

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:

Buxton, Graham. *Dancing in the Dark: The Privilege of Participating in God's Ministry in the World*. Revised ed. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2016.

Recommended reading:

Barton, Ruth Haley. *Life Together in Christ: Experiencing Transformation in Community*. Downers Grove: IVP Books, 2014.

Brown, Jeannine K., Dahl, Carla M. and Reuschling, Wyndy C. *Becoming Whole and Holy: An Integrative Conversation about Christian Formation*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2011.

Chandler, Diane J. *Christian Spiritual Formation: An Integrated Approach for Personal and Relational Wholeness*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2014.

Ferris, Robert W., Lillis, John R. and Enlow Jr, Ralph E. *Ministry Education That Transforms: Modeling and Teaching the Transformed Life*. Langham Global Library, 2018.

Hamon, Jane. *Discernment: The Essential Guide to Hearing the Voice of God*. Minneapolis, MN: Chosen, 2019.

Hegeman, Johan, Margaret Edgell, and Henk Jochemsen. *Practice and Profile: Christian Formation for Vocation*. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2011.

Horsfall, Tony. *Attentive to God: Being Aware of God's Presence in Daily Life*. Singapore: Graceworks, 2019.

Lowe, Stephen D., and Lowe, Mary E. *Ecologies of Faith in a Digital Age: Spiritual Growth through Online Education*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2018.

McHugh, Adam S. *The Listening Life: Embracing Attentiveness in a World of Distraction*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2015.

McKnight, Scot. *Pastor Paul: Nurturing a Culture of Christofromity in the Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press, 2019.

Pinches, Charles R., and Paul J. Wadell. *Living Vocationally: The Journey of the Called Life*. Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2021.

Sayers, Mark. *Reappearing Church: The Hope for Renewal in the Rise of Our Post-Christian Culture*. Chicago, Ill: Moody, 2019.

Schwehn, Mark R., and Dorothy C. Bass, eds. *Leading Lives That Matter: What We Should Do and Who We Should Be*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2020.

Sherman, Amy L. *Kingdom Calling: Vocational Stewardship for the Common Good*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2011.

Thompson, Cameron M. *Handbook of Human Formation: A Resource for the Cultivation of Character: Essential Foundations of the Art & Science of Human Formation for University, College, and Seminary Staff*. Acropolis Scholars, LLC, 2014.