

MTR290.9 THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

Name of Unit 1 (Unit Code 1)

Theological Reflection (MTR290.9)

SECTION 1 – GENERAL INFORMATION

Administrative details

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

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 in 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 <i>Example: 10 credit points</i>	Total course credit points <i>Example: 320 credit points</i>
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

SECTION 2 – ACADEMIC DETAILS

Brief description of the content of the unit (key topics):

This integrative unit introduces students to the lifelong craft of theological reflection as responsible, contextual and vital meaning-making from experience in relation to faith. It connects strongly with the formation domain *Engaging Stories Together Through Reflection* in Tabor MTC's curriculum paradigm. Key topics covered include: what is theological reflection?; theological reflection for holistic Christian formation; resources for theologically reflecting upon experience, including spirituality and personhood, contextual ministry, and sources of theology; *shalom* as the goal of theological reflection for formation; conversation, discernment and embodiment as basic movements in theological reflection; practising theological reflection for formation with self and with others; comparing and contrasting approaches to theological reflection; preparing for a Supervised Field Education placement.

Learning outcomes for unit:

- 1) Evaluate components and processes involved in theological reflection, and explain their understanding to a non-specialist audience
- 2) Apply theological reflection knowledge and skills to significant experiences in a group setting
- 3) Critically evaluate their reflective practice, with reference to their holistic formation and emerging vocational direction, and their facilitation of others' development in similar reflective practice
- 4) Critically analyse approaches to theological reflection in contemporary scholarship

Assessment tasks

Type	Learning Outcome/s assessed	When assessed	Weighting
1. Critical Review: Students critically review and apply learnings from a theological reflection text. (1,000 words)	3, 4	Week 5	20%
2. Critical Experience Reports: Students present 2 x critical experience reports in which they theologically reflect upon a chosen experience from life/ministry, and critically analyses their own reflective capacity. (3,000 words, 1,500 words each)	1-3	Week 6/7 and Week 10/11	50%
3. Oral Presentation: Students present their e-portfolio, evaluating their reflective practice, holistic formation and emerging vocational direction in light of their program of study, and their nurturing of others' reflective practice. (1,000 words equivalent)	1, 3	Week 12/13	15%
4. Creative Resource: Students prepare a popular article explaining theological reflection and its value to a lay audience. (1,000 words)	1, 3	Week 14	15%

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:

Graham, Elaine, Heather Walton, and Francis Ward. *Theological Reflection: Methods*. 2nd Ed. London: SCM, 2019.

Recommended Reading:

Blodgett, Barbara J., and Matthew Floding, eds. *Brimming with God: Reflecting Theologically on Cases in Ministry*. Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications, 2015.

Cameron, Helen, John Reader, and Victoria Slater. *Theological Reflection for Human Flourishing: Pastoral Practice and Public Theology*. London: SCM, 2012.

Cooper-White, Pamela, and Michael Cooper-White. *Exploring Practices of Ministry*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2014.

Collins, Helen. *Reordering Theological Reflection: Starting with Scripture*. London: SCM, 2020.

Foley, Edward. *Theological Reflection across Religious Traditions: The Turn to Reflective Believing*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2015.

Heywood, David. *Kingdom Learning*. London: SCM Press, 2017.

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

Hulme, Bruce. "A Vision for the Good Life: *Shalom* as a *Telos* for Christian Formation in Teaching Theological Reflection." *Wondering About God Together: Research-Led Learning & Teaching*. Edited by L. Ball and P.G. Bolt. Sydney: SCD Press, 2018.

Killen, Patricia, and John De Beer. *The Art of Theological Reflection*. New York, NY: Crossroad, 2014.

Kreider, Glenn R., and Michael J. Svigel. *A Practical Primer on Theological Method: Table Manners for Discussing God, His Works, and His Ways*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Academic, 2019.

Nash, Sally, and Paul Nash. *Tools for Reflective Ministry*. London: SPCK, 2012.

Thompson, Judith, Stephen Pattison, and Ross Thompson. *SCM Studyguide to Theological Reflection*. 2nd ed. London: SCM, 2019.

Walton, Heather. *Writing Methods in Theological Reflection*. London: Hymns Ancient & Modern Ltd, 2014.

Wilson, Jim, and Earl Waggoner. *A Guide to Theological Reflection: A Fresh Approach for Practical Ministry Courses and Theological Field Education*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2020.