

Centre for Catholic Studies

# MA in CATHOLIC THEOLOGY by Distance Learning



# MA in Catholic Theology by Distance Learning

This exciting new venture led by the Centre for Catholic Studies (CCS) and the Department of Theology and Religion is designed so that participants can work through material at their own pace, studying equally well in any time zone and in many different life situations, alongside work, ministry, family or caring obligations.

#### What are the aims of the MA?

We are committed to making the highest quality academic study of Catholic Theology accessible to people in a whole range of situations, in different parts of the world, in different life situations. We expect some of our students to be exploring the possibility of doctoral study, while others may be pursuing long-held interests in theology for personal or professional reasons or for ongoing formation in Religious life. We aim to provide an interesting and academically serious programme which is also friendly and supportive.

#### Who is the MA intended for?

This MA is designed both for those who have studied Theology before and for those who have a background in a related discipline such as Philosophy, Classics, History or English. If you are not sure whether your background would qualify you, please do get in touch.

#### How and what will I study?

Teaching will be through a combination of written and recorded material, together with tutorials which we will fit around your schedule, and optional online seminars. You will work through modules at your own pace, completing the core module, 3 other modules of your choice, and a dissertation.

You will study:

- Catholic Theology: A Preliminary Tour (Core module);
- Conceiving Change in Contemporary Catholicism;
- Twentieth Century Catholic Theology;
- Catholic Social Thought:
- The Thought of Thomas Aguinas in Context;
- High Medieval Franciscan Theology;
- Faith and Reason.



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#### How will I meet my module convenors?

All modules will have tutorials and optional online seminars. Teachers will also be available to be contacted online in office hours, and to answer questions as they arise by email or in online discussion spaces. They will give feedback on pieces of writing that do not "count" for the final marks as well as on those that do. The annual 2-3 day Residential in Durham (not required but we really recommended you come if you can) will combine a range of stimulating lectures with a chance to meet teachers and fellow students in person.

#### How will I meet other students on the MA?

Interaction amongst students will be facilitated in various ways throughout the programme, including through the optional online seminars, through discussion boards and attendance at the Residential in Durham. We will encourage students to form a cohort, and seek ways to enable online social spaces as well.

#### Why Durham?

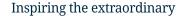
Durham University is a globally outstanding centre of teaching and research excellence. Durham's Department of Theology and Religion has been ranked between 3rd and 7th in the last few years' QS World University Subject rankings. The CCS, established in October 2007, is a major research and teaching centre explicitly focussed on the study of Catholic Theology and Catholic Studies with world leading scholars.

Charlotte Bray, MA student 2017-18, PhD student 2018-22 says "It was a joy to explore diverse thinkers within the Catholic tradition that I wouldn't otherwise have encountered. Studying the MA enabled me to think critically about contemporary issues within both the Catholic Church and wider society through a theological lens. It also gave me the skills, knowledge and confidence necessary to enable me to progress to a PhD."



Gareth Rowe, CAFOD-Durham Research Fellow, MA student 2019-21 says "Studying for the MA at Durham has been a real privilege. I completed the course over two years part-time whilst working and studying to be a deacon in the Catholic church. The course has added a real theological depth to my diaconal formation and given me the confidence to talk about my faith and the church. The support from tutors has been outstanding and I have really enjoyed the range of expertise."







#### Centre for Catholic Studies

### Contact

If you have any questions about this exciting opportunity please contact the CCS Administrator Dept of Theology & Religion Abbey House, Palace Green Durham, UK DH1 3RS

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E: theresa.phillips@durham.ac.uk

#### Apply

Apply online at durham.ac.uk

Recruitment and Admissions Office Mountjoy Centre Holly Wing - Ground Floor Stockton Road Durham DH1 3LE E: study@durham.ac.uk

# Further Information

For full details please visit the website: durham.ac.uk/study/courses/v8k807

For details about the Centre for Catholic Studies visit: centreforcatholicstudies.co.uk

#### durham.ac.uk

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