



The University of Manchester



**School of Arts, Languages & Cultures, Faculty of Humanities
Course Unit Descriptor**

23.02.2016

GENERAL INFORMATION

Credit Rating	10
Course Unit Title	Pastoral Theory and Practice
Unit Code	163 (8163 distance learning version)
Unit Level	1
Contact Hours	22 (n/a for distance learning)
FHEQ Level	4
Teaching Period	Flexible delivery
Teaching Staff	Rev. Dotha N. Blackwood
ECTS	5

EXTERNAL FACING COURSE UNIT OVERVIEW

The unit is introduced from a basis of pastoral theology and a biblical framework for pastoral work in the local church. The underlying relationship between pastoral care and mission features. Examples of historical patterns of pastoral practice are considered and appraised. The contemporary cultural settings of pastoral care are examined, with particular focus on the mandate for the church to be a pastoral and caring community. The concept of small groups and the importance of leadership quality and training also feature in this unit. Questions about the nature and purpose of the pastoral task are raised, together with the relationship of pastoral care to public teaching, the sacraments, worship and the pastoral visit. Methods of organising and administering pastoral work are explored and consideration given to methods of training pastoral workers. There is opportunity for application of the teaching to the students' church ministry through reflection on their own current practice and the observation of others.

COURSE UNIT OVERVIEW

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current practice and the observation of others.

AIMS

To introduce the discipline of pastoral theology and practice, by reflecting on the work of the local church pastor or pastoral worker through biblical, historical and theological frameworks and to enable students to apply their learning in the local church or community context.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Knowledge and Understanding

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

- Demonstrate the relationship of pastoral theology to the pastoral task
- Demonstrate knowledge of past and present models of pastoral care and assess their relevance and appropriateness for their context(s)

Intellectual Skills

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

- Describe the dimensions of pastoral theology today
- Evaluate the importance of the key functions of pastoral leadership

Practical Skills

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

- Organise pastoral care in the context of a local church
- Employ basic pastoral skills in the context of Christian ministry

Transferable Skills and Personal Qualities

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

- Provide appropriate support in varying situations
- Assess best practice for pastoral care in their contexts

Employability Skills

This unit develops graduates skills in communicating, supporting, assessing, reflecting, mediating, negotiating and persuading others.

SYLLABUS

1. Pastoral theology and the pastoral task
2. Biblical sources for pastoral theology
3. Historical models of pastoral care
4. Pastoral care as the body of Christ
5. Boundaries and Power – The limits of pastoral care
6. Worship as a pastoral event
7. Communion as a pastoral event
8. Preaching as pastoral encounter
9. The pastoral visit
10. The art of pastoral conversation
11. Pastoral oversight, (Integrity and good practice in pastoral care)

TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS

163: Interactive lectures and group exercises
8163: Distance learning

Unit materials are available at Spurgeon's Online to support student learning

ASSESSMENT METHODS

Assessment task	Length	Weighting within unit
Formative:		
• 163: Examination of case studies on the concepts and theories presented	n/a	n/a
• 8163: Examination of case studies on the concepts and theories presented	Notional 500 words	n/a
Summative:		
• 163: A theological reflection	2000 words	100%
• 8163: A theological reflection and a learning journal*	2000 words	100% Pass/fail*
* Distance learning students are required to pass this element. So long as this element has been passed, they will be eligible for compensation if the overall unit mark is within the compensation zone (30-39%), and the compensatable credit allowance as set out in the Degree Regulations has not been exceeded.		

FEEDBACK METHODS

- Oral feedback in class (163 only)
- Written feedback on formative and summative written submissions within 15 working days

REQUISITES

Available on which programme(s)?	BA in Theology
Available as Free Choice (UG) or to other programmes (PG)?	Available as Free Choice (UG)
Pre-requisite units	n/a
Co-requisite units	n/a

RECOMMENDED READING

Carson, D.A., *Becoming Conversant with the Emerging Church* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005)

Donahue, B., *Leading Life-Changing Small Groups* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002)

Goodliff, Paul, *Care in a Confused Climate* (London: Darton, Longman & Todd, 1998)

Litchfield, K., *Tend my Flock* (Norwich: Canterbury Press, 2006)

Oden, Thomas, *Pastoral Theology: Essentials of Ministry* (San Francisco: Harper San Francisco, 1983)

Percy, M., *Shaping the Church: The promise of implicit theology* (Farnham: Ashgate, 2010)

Pickard, Stephen, *Theological Foundations for Collaborative Ministry* (Farnham: Ashgate, 2009)

Richter, P., and L. Francis, *Gone for Good?: Church leaving and returning in the twenty-*

first century (Peterborough: Epworth, 2007)
 Tidball, Derek, *Skilful Shepherds. Explorations in pastoral theology* (Leicester: IVP, 1986; Leicester: Apollos, 1997)
 Tidball, Derek, *Ministry by the Book* (Leicester: Apollos, 2008)
 Whipp, Margaret, *SCM Study Guide to Pastoral Theology* (London: SCM press, 2013)
 Willimon, William H., *Pastor: The Theology and Practice of Ordained Ministry* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2002)

SCHEDULED ACTIVITY HOURS

22 contact hours (n/a for distance learning version)

PLACEMENT HOURS

n/a

INDEPENDENT STUDY HOURS

78 hours (100 for distance learning version)

ADDITIONAL NOTES

APPROVAL

Date approved by UGC	
Valid from Date (Publishing Date)	