



The University of Manchester



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

26.08.2020

GENERAL INFORMATION

Credit Rating	10
Course Unit Title	Resurrection, Theology and Hope
Unit Code	334 (8334 for distance learning delivery)
Unit Level	3
Contact Hours	22 hours (n/a for distance learning delivery)
FHEQ Level	6
Teaching Period	Flexible delivery
Teaching Staff	Dr Joshua T. Searle
ECTS	5

EXTERNAL FACING COURSE UNIT OVERVIEW

The unit introduces the doctrine of the Resurrection and explores its implications for the church's participation in the *missio Dei*. The unit begins with a critical examination of popular conceptions concerning death, judgement, hell, heaven and eternal life. The unit highlights different understandings of the doctrine of the Resurrection from several perspectives, including evangelical, Catholic and Eastern Orthodox theology. It formulates a biblically-grounded understanding of heaven, hell and eternal life that will enable students to articulate responses to issues arising from pastoral experience as well as from contemporary culture. The unit considers the potential of the doctrine of the Resurrection to transform social reality and how a more explicit celebration of Easter could positively impact the church's witness to the world.

COURSE UNIT OVERVIEW

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AIMS

- To survey and analyse the doctrine of the Resurrection
- To explore its implications for pastoral ministry and the church's missional engagement with the contemporary world
- To formulate a meaningful and empowering gospel message of hope for the transformation of contemporary culture

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Knowledge and Understanding

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

- Articulate a biblically-based understanding of the meaning and significance of the doctrine of the Resurrection
- Critically evaluate the discrepancies between popular theological notions of 'soul immortality' and the biblical teaching concerning bodily resurrection
- Identify strengths and weaknesses of different teachings on the doctrine of the Resurrection from a variety of historical and confessional perspectives

Intellectual Skills

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

- Identify appropriate sources for the construction of a biblical understanding of the Resurrection
- Interpret relevant 'texts' from Scripture, tradition, experience and culture with critical insight
- Articulate a doctrine of Resurrection that connects transformatively with contemporary culture by combining cultural analysis and creative theological reflection

Practical Skills

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

- Use IT and computer skills to effectively support research
- Select from a range of sources those most relevant to an investigation in theology at level 6
- Critique sources and use independent judgement
- Present rigorous written work to a standard appropriate for level 6

Transferable Skills and Personal Qualities

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

- Contribute effectively to small group discussions
- Relate courteously to opinions and perspectives with which one disagrees
- Apply the concepts of Christian hope to personal life and (where applicable) to a variety of pastoral and ministerial contexts

Employability Skills

The graduates of this course will be able to offer clear and compassionate teaching and pastoral care within the Christian community in a manner which is informed by a coherent theological understanding of the concept of hope

SYLLABUS

1. Introduction to the doctrine of the Resurrection and the theology of hope
2. Soul immortality or bodily resurrection?
3. Biblical teaching on the doctrine of the Resurrection
4. The doctrine of the Resurrection in the history of the Church
5. Evangelical, Catholic and Orthodox teachings on Resurrection
6. Death and hope in contemporary culture
7. Understanding hell and heaven
8. Transforming culture through celebrating the Resurrection

9. The meaning and significance of the Kingdom of God
10. Resurrection and the mission of the Church: social, economic and environmental justice
11. Connecting individual salvation and cosmic redemption

TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS

334: Interactive lectures and seminars
 8334: Distance learning
 Unit materials are available at Spurgeon's Online to support student learning

ASSESSMENT METHODS

Assessment task	Length	Weighting within unit
Formative:		
• 334: Oral presentation	10 minutes	n/a
Book review draft	500 words	n/a
• 8334: A presentation on topic chosen for essay or transcript	10 minute recording or 750-1000 words	
Summative:		
• 334: Recording of oral presentation	15 minutes	50%
Book review article	2,500 words	50%
• 8334: An essay and a learning journal*	3000-3500 words	100%
		Pass/fail*

* Distance learning students are required to pass this element.

FEEDBACK METHODS

- Oral feedback in class
- 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

Bauckham, R., *Theology of Jürgen Moltmann* (London: Bloomsbury, 1995) – [available HERE](#)
 Craston, C., *Heaven, Science, and the Last Things* (Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 2011) –

[available HERE](#)

Deacy, C., *Screening the Afterlife: Theology, Eschatology, and Film* (London: Taylor and Francis, 2012) – [available HERE](#)

Finney, M., *Resurrection, Hell and the Afterlife: Body and Soul in Antiquity, Judaism and Early Christianity* (London: Routledge, 2016) – [available HERE](#)

Grudem, W., *Heaven and Hell* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2012) – [available HERE](#)

Hausoul, R., *The New Heaven and New Earth: An Interdisciplinary Comparison between Jürgen Moltmann, Karl Rahner, and Gregory Beale* (Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 2020) – [available HERE](#)

Huizenga, L. and S. Alkier, *The Reality of the Resurrection* *The New Testament Witness* (Waco, TX: Baylor, 2013) – [available HERE](#)

Jeanrond, W., *Reasons to Hope* (London: Bloomsbury, 2020) – [available HERE](#)

Loke, A., *Investigating the Resurrection of Jesus Christ: A New Transdisciplinary Approach* (London: Taylor and Francis, 2020) – [available HERE](#)

O'Donovan, Oliver, *Resurrection and the Moral Order* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1994) – [available HERE](#)

Searle, Joshua, *The Scarlet Woman and the Red Hand: Apocalyptic Belief in the Northern Ireland Troubles* (Eugene: Wipf and Stock, 2014) – [available HERE](#)

Wilson, J. (ed.), *A Physicist Examines Hope in the Resurrection: Examination of the Significance of the Work of John C. Polkinghorne for the Mission of the Church* (Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 2016) – [available HERE](#)

Wright, N.T., *The Resurrection of the Son of God* (London: SPCK, 2003) – [available HERE](#)

Wright, Tom, *Surprised by Hope* (London: SPCK, 2007)

SCHEDULED ACTIVITY HOURS

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

PLACEMENT HOURS

n/a

INDEPENDENT STUDY HOURS

78 hours (100 hours for distance learning version)

ADDITIONAL NOTES

APPROVAL

Date approved by UGC

Valid from Date (Publishing Date)