

MA in Christian Leadership

Programme Specification



1. Programme title	MA in Christian Leadership
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	St Mellitus College
4. Details of accreditation by professional/statutory/regulatory body	Ordination in the Church of England (for some students only)
5. Final qualification	MA in Christian Leadership PG Dip Christian Leadership PG Cert Christian Leadership
6. Year of validation	2012
Year of amendment	2017
7. Language of study	English
8. Mode of study	Full-time or part-time

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

Extract from the College's Admissions Policy with respect to MA students. The full policy can be found [here](#).

- Applicants must be 18 by the time they enrol.
- Sympathy with and willingness to engage fully with the worshipping life of the Centre at which they are studying.
- Willingness to engage appropriately with the rest of the student body and staff team at both their own centre of study and, where relevant, the wider SMC student body.
- Evidence of maturity of character suitable for Christian ministry and theological study.
- Evidence of involvement in and commitment to the mission of a local church, which would normally be part of a member denomination of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland and/or the Evangelical Alliance.
- Involvement in ministry and preferably leadership in a local church or church-

related context, or sense of vocation to be a Christian presence in a secular workplace.

- Evidence of good interpersonal skills on a one to one basis.
- Evidence of ability to work collaboratively as part of a group.
- Potential for growth into future leadership or leadership positions within the church.
- Desire to study the breadth of topics covered by the course.
- Adequate ability to understand and communicate in written and oral English.
- Fit of the student with the ethos of the College and suitability for cohort and group participation and involvement
- Submission of a degree level academic paper of no less than 2,000 words, which must demonstrate the candidate's aptitude for postgraduate level study.
- A 2.1 degree is normally required for direct entry to MA.
- The College will look to satisfy itself at interview as to whether the candidate has adequate preparation and grounding for study at MA level.
- Where there are more than 20 applicants per centre per programme per year, applicants may be invited to join a waiting list. Final decisions will be made on the basis of the aptitude of students for the course relative to one another, based on the criteria set out above.

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to:

- enable students to relate Christian theology to the practice of leadership in a particular sector of society today.
- nurture theological learning that will help students in their development both as Christians and leaders within their vocational setting.
- enable students to contribute towards research in the field of Christian leadership in their particular field of interest.

11. Programme outcomes

A. Knowledge and understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of:

- 1) contemporary models of leadership and the challenges these understandings present to the Christian way of life;
- 2) the resources afforded by the Bible, the Christian tradition and the insights of appropriate social and behavioural

Teaching/learning methods

Students gain knowledge and understanding through:

- interactive and participative class-work with reference to Biblical, theological and other resources as facilitated by staff members;
- directed preparatory reading and exercises;
- wider reading and independent

<p>sciences, humanities and arts for reaching, constructing, articulating and defending a Christian understanding of leadership;</p> <p>3) the way Christians understand the exercise of power amidst the complex negotiations of society;</p> <p>4) the impact Christian identity has on the exercise of power in their vocational field;</p> <p>5) good leadership practice on the basis of self-awareness.</p>	<p>research;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • appropriate input in class, sometimes supported by audio-visual material; • preparation of assigned individual work; • reflection on their own discipleship and leadership experience; • project work, and the creation of individual presentations. <p>Students are expected to take their own initiative in the research of appropriate materials through books, articles, websites etc, and to draw critically on their own experience in leadership by way of theological reflection.</p> <p>Assessment methods Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by coursework essays and a final dissertation.</p>
<p>B. Cognitive (thinking) skills On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <p>1) think independently, critically and analytically, appreciating, evaluating and interpreting a variety of standpoints and challenging and confronting stereotypes;</p> <p>2) observe, juxtapose, synthesise and expound facts and data, and contextualise issues logically and coherently, and make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, particularly as related to the life and faith of Christian leaders;</p> <p>3) engage in scholarly debate by constructing arguments marked by coherent theoretical, objective, lateral thinking and creative originality in the pursuit of new hypotheses;</p> <p>4) bring theological understanding and personal experience to bear in appropriate ways to help them assume positions of leadership within a specific vocational field.</p>	<p>Teaching/learning methods Students learn cognitive skills through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interactive and participative class-work with reference to Biblical, theological and other resources, facilitated by staff members; • directed preparatory reading and exercises; • wider reading and independent research; • appropriate input in class, sometimes supported by audio-visual material; • preparation of assigned work; • project work and the creation of individual presentations. <p>Students are expected to take their own initiative in researching appropriate materials through books, articles, websites etc, and to draw on their own experience in theological reflection.</p> <p>Assessment methods Students' cognitive skills are assessed by coursework essays and a final dissertation.</p>
<p>C. Practical skills On completion of the programme the</p>	<p>Teaching/learning methods Students learn practical skills through:</p>

<p>successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) make imaginative and creative use of the resources of the Bible, the Christian tradition and related fields of enquiry to interpret established patterns of leadership in the context of human communities, and the church in particular; 2) reflective creatively on Christian leadership, and communicate the Christian vision of leadership effectively. 3) consider how they might best offer leadership in ways most appropriate to their setting and be able to plan and implement tasks at a professional level. 4) demonstrate expertise in presenting sustained and persuasive written arguments in the field of Christian leadership, and make use of IT resources to communicate effectively and professionally. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interactive and participative class-work, facilitated by staff members; • directed exercises and supervised project work; • preparation of assigned work; • and the creation of individual presentations. <p>Students are also expected to take their own initiative in reflecting on their own competencies and forming strategies for appropriate development in conjunction with their peer group, supervisors and support networks. They are expected to identify their own needs for skills development, and to draw on their own experience in theological reflection.</p> <p>Assessment methods Students' practical skills are assessed formatively by individual presentations and their contributions to class discussion and debates. Summative assessment is via assigned essays and dissertation.</p>
<p>D. Graduate skills</p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) use a range of techniques and research methods applicable to advance research in this field; 2) use their initiative and take responsibility for their own research project; 3) communicate effectively and display skills in solving problems in innovative ways 4) continue to learn independently and to develop professionally. 	<p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>Students acquire graduate skills through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the teaching and learning of individual modules • class-work seminars, tutorials and independent study <p>Assessment methods Students' graduate skills are assessed by their written work and tutorial supervision.</p>

12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)

12. 1 Overall structure of the programme

PART TIME MODE

Year 1			Year 2 including second summer vacation	
Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 1	
CM1 Contemporary Christian Leadership 30 credits at level 7	CM2 Theology of Power 30 credits at level 7	EM* Elective Module: Christian Theology in the Context of ... 30 credits at level 7	EM* Elective Module: Christian Theology in the Context of ... 30 credits at level 7	
FM1 Christian Theology 30 credits at level 7		Note on Elective Modules: only ONE Elective Module is taken. Most Electives run in Year 1 Term 3 but some run in Year 2 Term 1.		
Initial scoping, discussion and agreement of Dissertation topic and title			DM1 – Dissertation 60 credits at level 7	

FULL TIME MODE

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Summer vacation
CM1 Contemporary Christian Leadership 30 credits at level 7	CM2 Theology of Power 30 credits at level 7	EM* Elective Module: Christian Theology in the Context of ... 30 credits at level 7	
FM1 Christian Theology 30 credits at level 7			
Initial scoping, discussion and agreement of Dissertation topic and title	DM1 – Dissertation 60 credits at level 7		

The MA in Christian Leadership is assessed at credit level 7. Students will typically complete it part-time over two calendar years, although it is also possible to complete it full-time within one calendar year.

Students choose one Elective Module, as set out below.

In the event that a student is unable to complete their programme, it is possible to 'exit' with either a Postgraduate Certificate or Postgraduate Diploma in Christian Leadership. For the Postgraduate Certificate, 60 credits are needed, consisting of passing any two of the taught modules i.e. any two of CM1, CM2, FM1 and an Elective Module. For the Diploma, 120 credits are needed which means that the student must have passed all four of CM1, CM2, FM1 and an Elective Module.

12.2 Levels and modules		
Level 7		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
<p>Students must take all of the following:</p> <p>CM1 – Contemporary Christian Leadership</p> <p>CM2 – Theology of Power</p> <p>FM1 – Christian Theology</p> <p>DM1 – Dissertation</p>	<p>Students must also take 1 from the following:</p> <p>EM1 – Christian Theology in the Context of Leadership: Science</p> <p>EM2 – Christian Theology in the Context of Leadership: Business and Economics</p> <p>EM3 – Christian Theology in the Context of Leadership: Arts and Culture</p> <p>EM4 – Christian Theology in the Context of Leadership: Church</p> <p>EM5 - Christian Theology in the Context of Leadership: Spirituality</p> <p>EM6 – Christian Theology in the Context of Leadership: Politics</p> <p>EM7 – Christian Theology in the Context of Leadership: Medicine</p>	<p>CM1 is a prerequisite for taking CM2.</p> <p>FM1 and CM1 and 2 are prerequisites for taking the Elective Modules (EM1-7).</p> <p>FM1, CM1 and CM2 are prerequisite for taking DM1.</p>

12.3 Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)	
Module level	Module code

7	CM1
7	CM2
7	Any Elective Module
7	DM1

These modules are non-compensatable because of their 'special contribution to the achievement of programme learning outcomes' (Postgraduate regulations, E10.vi). Each module assesses programme Learning Outcomes which are not assessed by any other module (see page 10 below).

13. Curriculum map

See 12.1, page 5 above.

14. Information about assessment regulations

The College follows the Postgraduate Regulations as laid down by the University.

15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)

Where students are taking the MA as part of their training for ordination in the Church of England, they will be placed in an appropriate church context in keeping with the College's usual arrangements for placements. At admission, one of the points assessed with respect to students who are not training for ordination is whether they have an appropriate Christian leadership context in which to apply their learning and practice on which to reflect and are not admitted unless the College is satisfied that they have this. However, these are not placements as such, and the programme does not require or assess placement-based work.

16. Future careers (if applicable)

The MA in Christian Leadership is recognised by the Church of England as a route into full-time paid ministry. Students from a wide range of professional and ministerial backgrounds also undertake it as a form of in-service professional or ministerial development, because of the opportunity it affords to reflect on practice in a rigorous and theological way and the scope for focussed study on an area of particular interest.

17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

Every student has a personal tutor who monitors and supports his or her progress and can be consulted about any aspect of the programme. There is also a Graduate Tutor who oversees Masters programmes and is available to all postgraduate students.

Class work is supported via Moodle, an online virtual learning environment (VLE), providing core texts, handouts and audio-visual material.

Study skills support is made available to all students in workshops on topics such as research methods and dissertation writing. Students are also encouraged to consult staff at the preparation stage of submitting assignments.

Individual supervision is arranged with a member of the College's academic staff for the dissertation.

Additional support is offered for students who are dyslexic and dyspraxic. Full details of this support and how to access it are in the College's Dyslexia Policy.

18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)	V600 50% V610 25% V621 25%
19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)	Theology and Religious Studies

20. Reference points
In addition to the Subject Benchmark Statement referenced above:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• QAA Master's Degrees Characteristics Statement (2015);• The Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies (2014) especially 4.17, 'descriptor for a higher education qualification at level 7 ...: master's degree', pp. 28-29.• Subject Benchmark Statement for Theology and Religious Studies.• MU Postgraduate Regulations;• Relevant Church of England papers on ordination training, including the Formation Criteria for ordained ministry (May 2014).• St Mellitus College Student Handbook.• St Mellitus College Admissions Policy.• The Quality Code.

21. Other information
Please note that in our London teaching centre only, teaching for the module FM1 Christian Theology takes place in a group which includes students on another MA programme offered by the College, all of whom are normally theology graduates.

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

Curriculum map for MA in Christian Leadership

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding		Practical skills	
A1	Of contemporary models of leadership and the challenges these understandings present to the Christian way of life;	C1	Ability to make imaginative and creative use of the resources of the Bible, the Christian tradition and related fields of enquiry to interpret established patterns of leadership in the context of human communities, and the church in particular
A2	Of the resources afforded by the Bible, the Christian tradition and the insights of appropriate social and behavioural sciences, humanities and arts for reaching, constructing, articulating and defending a Christian understanding of leadership;	C2	Ability to reflect creatively on the student's role as a Christian leader, and communicate a Christian vision of leadership effectively.
A3	Of the way Christians understand the exercise of power amidst the complex negotiations of society;	C3	Ability to identify the leadership most appropriate to their setting and to plan and implement tasks at a professional level.
A4	Of the impact Christian identity has on the exercise of power in their vocational field;	C4	Ability to present sustained and persuasive written and oral arguments in the field of Christian leadership, and make use of IT resources and creativity to communicate effectively and professionally.
A5	Of good leadership practice on the basis of self-awareness.		
Cognitive skills		Graduate Skills	
B1	Ability to think independently, critically and analytically, appreciating, evaluating and interpreting a variety of standpoints and challenging and confronting stereotypes	D1	Ability to use a range of techniques and research methods applicable to advance research in this field.
B2	Ability to observe, juxtapose, synthesise and expound facts and data, and contextualise issues logically and coherently, and make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, particularly as related to the life and faith of Christian leaders	D2	Ability to use their initiative and take responsibility for their own research project
B3	Ability to engage in scholarly debate by constructing arguments marked by coherent theoretical, objective, lateral thinking and creative originality in the pursuit of new hypotheses	D3	Ability to communicate effectively and display skills in solving problems in innovative ways.
B4	Ability to bring theological understanding and personal experience to bear in appropriate ways to help them assume positions of leadership within a specific vocational field.	D4	Ability to continue to learn independently and to develop professionally.

Programme outcomes

A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	B1	B2	B3	B4	C1	C2	C3	C4	D1	D2	D3	D4
Highest level achieved by all graduates																
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7

Module Title	Module Code by Level	Programme outcomes																
		A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	B1	B2	B3	B4	C1	C2	C3	C4	D1	D2	D3	D4
Christian Theology	FM1		▲				▲	▲										
Contemporary Christian Leadership	CM1	▲	▲				▲	▲										
Theology of Power	CM2		▲	▲			▲	▲										
Dissertation	DM1						▲	▲	▲					▲	▲	▲		▲

Christian Theology in the Context of Leadership: ...

... Science	EM1				▲	▲	▲	▲		▲	▲	▲	▲	▲				▲
... Business and Economics	EM2				▲	▲	▲	▲		▲	▲	▲	▲	▲				▲
... Arts and Culture	EM3				▲	▲	▲	▲		▲	▲	▲	▲	▲				▲
... Church	EM4				▲	▲	▲	▲		▲	▲	▲	▲	▲				▲
... Spirituality	EM5				▲	▲	▲	▲		▲	▲	▲	▲	▲				▲
... Politics	EM6				▲	▲	▲	▲		▲	▲	▲	▲	▲				▲
... Medicine	EM7				▲	▲	▲	▲		▲	▲	▲	▲	▲				▲