



**MA in CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY**  
(Validated by The University of Winchester)

**FURTHER INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS IN  
THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2011/12**

Please read the following carefully.

**Dates and Times**

The MA can be completed full-time over 12 months or part-time over a minimum of 11 months and a maximum of five years. Students at Sarum College usually study part-time and complete the degree within three years (two years for the taught part and a further year for the dissertation). Students who satisfactorily complete three taught modules (60 credits) obtain a Postgraduate Certificate. Students who satisfactorily complete six taught modules (120 credits) obtain a Postgraduate Diploma. Students who satisfactorily complete six taught modules and a dissertation (180 credits) gain an MA of The University of Winchester. Further details of student registration and progression are available in the University of Winchester's *Common Academic Regulations for Taught Masters Programmes*.

Most students begin the MA in September but a January start is also possible. Students attend six **3½ day intensive modules** at Sarum College supplemented by **preparatory reading, individual study, tutorial support**, and assessed **written work**. Students are also required to attend a **research skills training course** in their second year prior to beginning their dissertation.

All taught modules are worth 20 credits. Students are expected to complete the two Core Modules (compulsory) and four Optional Modules.

**CORE MODULE 1**

**Foundations and Forms of Christian Spirituality (20 credits)**

**Monday 10 – Thursday 13 October 2011**

An introduction to the study of Christian Spirituality through the medium of different spiritual traditions. The module investigates how Christian Spirituality may be studied as an academic discipline and considers the relevance of tradition for understanding Christian Spirituality. Students are also introduced to the general principles of interpretation applied to reading or using historical texts.

**CORE MODULE 2**

**The Contemporary Study of Christian Spirituality (20 credits)**

**Monday 16 – Thursday 19 January 2011**

An introduction to a variety of disciplinary approaches to the contemporary study of Christian Spirituality including theological, philosophical, political and aesthetic approaches. The module considers, in particular, the question of how contemporary Christian Spirituality is shaped by and responds to the post-modern condition.

**OPTIONAL MODULES**

The MA at Sarum College offers an exceptionally wide range of Optional Modules. Each module runs every other year and the dates of the Optional Modules will be available two years in advance to help students plan their programme of study. For an up-to-date list of module dates, visit [www.sarum.ac.uk](http://www.sarum.ac.uk)

**Art, Belief and Spirituality (20 credits)**

An exploration of the relationship between Christian art, experience, belief and practice. Case studies drawn from several different periods of art history are examined and their relevance for today's clergy and laity, theologians and artists evaluated.

**Celtic Spirituality (20 credits)**

An exploration of some basic themes in Celtic spirituality and the historical background against which they were set. The module investigates how the Celtic peoples viewed the world around them and assesses what that vision can mean for us today.

**Contemporary Spirituality (20 credits)**

An analysis of recent developments in Contemporary Spirituality, particularly in the light of various writing on the 'spirituality revolution' across a range of disciplines. Authors and texts will be studied from both Christian and non-Christian traditions in order to gain a broader perspective on the spiritual quest in the contemporary context.

**Embodying Wisdom (20 credits)**

An introduction to some key concepts within the psychological and philosophical debates of the past 100 years that have moulded and influenced our contemporary understanding of Christian spirituality. It also explores in more depth the work of Jung, Wittgenstein and Derrida and their influence on the contemporary understanding of spirituality.

**Green Faith (20 credits)**

An exploration of Christian spirituality in the context of the current environmental crisis. This module offers a critique of mainstream Christianity but also seeks to recover positive resources for today from within the Christian tradition. The module includes a visit to two Christian communities seeking to live out the connections between spirituality and sustainability.

**Literature and Spirituality (20 credits)**

Tracing the interconnections between literature and spirituality in a selection of novels and poetry from C17 to the present day, this module pays particular attention to the use of classical myth and the biblical theme of pilgrimage in modern English literature. Students are encouraged to give their own critical readings and to develop their own understanding of the relationship between the literary imagination and the spiritual quest.

**Medieval Spirituality (20 credits)**

An examination of the politics and cultural movements that affected the development of Christian spirituality during the Medieval period. The module considers the role of medieval women and assesses the impact of the Crusades on the development of relationships with Islam.

**Pastoral Ministry and Spirituality and Christian Spiritual Direction (20 credits)**

*It is important to note that this module is not a training course either in spiritual direction or in counselling*

An exploration of the nature of Christian ministry, broadly defined. This module addresses some central issues in pastoral ministry such as: faith development, aging, and death and dying and students are introduced to a variety of forms and traditions of spiritual guidance in the Christian tradition.

**Sexuality and Spirituality (20 credits)**

An examination of the interface between sexuality and spirituality. This module explores how sexuality has been viewed in the Christian tradition; the challenges presented by developments in contemporary philosophy and psychology; and the contribution Christian discourse can make to contemporary debates on sex, sexuality and gender.

**Western Christian Mysticism (20 credits)**

This module gives students an overview of the historical development of the Western Christian Mystical tradition, and identifies and analyses key historical figures and movements within that tradition. Students will be encouraged to examine both apophatic and cataphatic strands of the mystical tradition. Continental and English strands of the tradition will be compared and contrasted.

**GUIDED READING (OPTIONAL) MODULE****Guided Reading Module (20 credits)**

This module may count as one of the Optional Modules for the MA in Christian Spirituality. The module aims to provide students with the opportunity to pursue supervised study on a topic of their choice in any aspect of the field of Christian Spirituality which has been approved by the Programme Committee. It enables them to extend further the critical skills needed to interpret primary sources and/or to assess the judgements and interpretations of secondary sources. A reading schedule and essay question will be agreed with an assigned tutor and private study will be supported by tutorials.

**Additional Module Information**

All modules begin on Monday afternoon and then run from 9.30 am until 5.15 pm on each full day over the next three days. Students may be residential or non-residential. On the first afternoon there is an important induction session and the first class takes place on the Monday evening. On each of the following days there will be two classes in the morning and two in the afternoon, each lasting 1½ hours. Each intensive course will thus involve 18 classroom hours. During the course there will also be time for meeting with tutors and use of the library. There is an 80% attendance requirement at modules. Tutorial support (by visits, telephone or email) for each module will be available until the completion of the assessed written

work. Each module is completed over a three month period: three weeks of pre-course reading; the intensive at Sarum College and a further two months to complete the assignment.

*Please note:*

This course demands a real time commitment for individual reading, study and written work. This involves preparatory reading prior to each intensive and significant work afterwards to complete the additional reading and written work.

### **How to choose your Optional Modules**

Please note that apart from the Compulsory Modules, four Optional Modules are needed to complete the taught part of the MA course and qualify for a Postgraduate Diploma. These may be obtained in the following ways.

1. Choosing four of the Optional Modules offered at Sarum College.
2. Substituting an individually tailored Guided Study Module for one Optional Module.
3. Substituting an Optional Module from other MA Programmes at the University of Winchester.
4. Substituting an Optional Module from another compatible British University course.

Students may only take one external Optional Module and this must be agreed by the Programme Committee.

### **Attending Modules as General Study Courses**

The Optional Modules are available to participants who are not seeking academic credit. For this, no assessed work is needed. A separate rate of residential and non-residential fees will be available when individual courses are publicly advertised. Core Modules are not available to students who are not registered on the MA Programme.

### **Library, Information Technology & Bookshop**

Registered Certificate/Diploma/MA students will have membership of the College library for the duration of their course. They will also have access, when the College is open, to the IT facilities. Sarum College Bookshop is a unique theological resource. Students registered for the MA automatically receive a discount. Books may be purchased by mail order.

### **Fees and Methods of Payment for entry in 2011/12**

On accepting the offer of a place on the MA Programme, you will be asked to pay a non-refundable registration fee of £100 to secure your place.

The fee for each of the three years of the MA programme for students starting in autumn 2011 (or January 2012) is £1850 (£2700 non-EU students), so the total fee for 3 years excluding registration fee is £5550 (£8100 non-EU students).

Students usually complete the MA within three years. If they take longer than three years a further charge of £500 per year will be payable.

Fees are due 1<sup>st</sup> September each year (15<sup>th</sup> January for the January intake). There are three payment options available to pay in full or spread the payment of fees over the three years of the programme. If a student withdraws during the year the fees due will be either the cost of the number of individual modules/dissertation started or the cost of the number of academic years started, whichever is the greater.

The fees include: classroom teaching, supporting materials, essay and dissertation supervision, assessment of and feedback on written assignments, academic advice and support, research training, use of the Sarum and Winchester University libraries and word processing facilities, membership of the college research seminars, and administration.

The fee does not include meals or accommodation, for which a separate charge is made, which will be invoiced in advance of any module and payable four weeks before the start of the module. Modules can be taken on a residential or non-residential basis and the current prices are £147.00 (standard room) and £42.00 respectively. En-suite rooms and suites are available at extra cost but there is limited availability. The College regrets that it cannot refund meals or accommodation not taken up. These prices are reviewed at the beginning of July each year.

You may pay the fees for the programme by one of the following methods:

1. £5400 (£8000 non-EU students) paid in full **before** 1 September 2011 (15 January for a January 2012 start). Early payment attracts a £150 reduction.

2. £5550 (£8100 non-EU students) paid in full on 1 September 2011 (15 January for a January 2012 start).
3. £5550 (£8100 non-EU students) paid in three £1850 (£2700 non-EU students) annual payments due 1 September (15 January for a January 2012 start) each year (standing order authority required).
4. £5550 (£8100 non-EU students) paid in six £925 (£1350 non-EU students) payments on 1 September and 1 March of each year (15 January and 15 June for a January 2012 start) (standing order authority required).

Please make cheques payable to '**Sarum College**'. If you decide to pay by standing order you will be asked to complete a Standing Order Mandate.

### **Withdrawal from study**

If you withdraw from the course, you will be charged the full year's fees for the number of years of study that you have commenced, plus any additional modules over and above 3 modules in year 1, 6 modules in year 2 and 6 modules and the dissertation in year 3. The date of withdrawal will be the date of receipt of a formal notification of withdrawal by the validating university.

### **Period of study**

The fees are calculated on the basis that the Masters degree will be completed within 3 years of commencing the course, the Postgraduate Diploma will be completed within 2 years of starting the course and the Postgraduate Certificate will be completed within 1 year of starting the course. Students who take longer to complete their studies will be charged £500 (£750 non-EU students) per year of continuing study.

Continuation fees will be applied as follows:

- Postgraduate Certificate – continuing beyond 1 September 2012/15 January 2013.
- Postgraduate Diploma –continuing beyond 1 September 2013/15 January 2014.
- Masters – continuing beyond 30th June 2014/15 January 2015.

### **Audit Fees**

Students may attend modules in addition to those which they are studying for credit, by permission of the Programme Leader. The hospitality rates will be the usual student rates £190 (residential, en-suite) and £42 (non-residential), with an added administration fee of £20. Please note that students must give clear information on whether they are attending modules as part of their accredited study in advance of attendance. Should the module be oversubscribed, preference will be given to students taking the module for credit.

### **Application Procedure**

Application for the course is made through the written application form. Interviews are normally held in the winter and spring before the commencement of the course. Candidates will be notified by the Academic Administrator when a suitable time has been arranged. After interview the Programme Committee will consider all applications and students will be notified of their decision as soon as possible after that meeting. Owing to the demand for places, on being offered a place we require that students send us a £100 non-refundable deposit to secure their place. The course will run subject to satisfactory student recruitment.

### **Students with Disabilities and/or Special Needs**

Sarum College has an equal opportunities policy and welcomes students with disabilities onto its courses. The suitability of college facilities will be discussed during the application process separately from other discussions. Please fill in the necessary parts of the application form to facilitate this process.

### **Non-UK/EU students**

At present, Sarum College is not able to accept students from out with the UK/EU to study on any of our academic programmes, unless these students have already been granted the right to remain in the UK by the UK Border Agency. Students from out with the UK must provide evidence of their legal right to live and study in the UK prior to being accepted on this course. Sarum College is presently pursuing accreditation with the UK Border Agency to support international students and will amend this policy in the future.