

## Programme Specification

<b>1. Title: Postgraduate Certificate in Ignatian Spirituality</b>	
2. Awarding institution	University of London
3. Teaching institution	Heythrop College, University of London
4. Final Award	Postgraduate Certificate in Ignatian Spirituality
5. Interim Awards (if applicable)	n/a
6. Mode(s) of study	Part time
7. Normal duration of Programme	One year
8.	
9. External reference points used to develop this programme	The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland 2008
10. Date of production or revision of this specification	February 2013
11. Programme Convenor	Dr Edward Howells
<b>12. Brief description of this programme</b>	
<p>The Programme looks at the spiritual heritage of Ignatius Loyola within the wider context of the Christian spiritual tradition. It considers Ignatius against the historical, cultural and spiritual background of his time and looks forward to the influence of his writing and thought on later authors and commentators. This module will provide a theological framework for an understanding of Ignatius' teaching on prayer and the discernment of spirits through close study of the dynamic and key meditations of his Spiritual Exercises. It will explore how they lead to personal growth and self understanding as well as nourishing a call to transformative discipleship. Students will study Ignatius as a mystic and theologian, paying attention to what the Spiritual Exercises have to say about the image of God, salvation, the Trinity and the incarnation as they invite us to find God in all things. It will compare other writings in the Ignatian tradition and look at the practice of spiritual direction as it is found in Ignatius' writings and as it has emerged from subsequent theory and practice.</p> <p>The Programme is designed for those seeking in-depth reflection on Ignatian Spirituality in the university environment, in two modules taught and assessed at Master's level. The programme supports practical engagement in Ignatian spirituality, such as in spiritual direction or retreat work, but is open to any suitably qualified student with an interest in the topic.</p> <p>The programme is part-time, with two modules taken over two terms. Occasionally these modules are both timetabled in the same term, allowing a quicker progress through the degree.</p> <p>Successful completion of this programme may allow students to enrol for the full MA in Christian Spirituality at Heythrop College with advanced standing.</p>	
<b>13. Relationship to staff research</b>	
<p>A very substantial proportion of staff are active researchers within the disciplines in which they teach. Many optional modules directly reflect the research interests of the module teacher.</p>	
<b>14. Programme Aims</b>	
<p>The programme aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To provide an in-depth understanding of Ignatian Spirituality, with particular attention to its</li> </ol>	

genesis in the writings of Ignatius of Loyola, and reflection on its practice in the context of spiritual direction.
2. To provide the conceptual tools necessary for historical understanding and retrieval of the thought of Ignatius of Loyola.
3. To enable students to engage critically with different views and applications of Ignatian Spirituality today.
4. To enable students to relate the discourse of Ignatian Spirituality to a wide range of contemporary issues in the wider area of spiritual growth.

### 15. Learning outcomes

The **Postgraduate Certificate in Ignatian Spirituality (Level 7)** provides opportunities for students to achieve and demonstrate the following learning outcomes:

#### Knowledge and Understanding

By the end of the programme, competent and diligent students can expect to attain the following:

LO1	A critical appreciation of the variety of approaches to the study of spirituality and of key assumptions in different spiritual beliefs and practices;
LO2	A demonstrably competent knowledge, with due attention to historical and cultural context, of selected historical and contemporary texts and other sources in Christian spirituality, with special attention to the writings of Ignatius of Loyola;
LO3	A clear understanding of some of the key theological, psychological and other issues which, whether implicitly or explicitly, are relevant to the theory and practice of Ignatian Spirituality;
LO4	The ability to analyse critically, develop an argument and produce formal written work in the discipline of Christian Spirituality, at Master's level.

#### Intellectual and Cognitive Skills

A student will be able to:

LO5	The ability to analyse and synthesise key concepts and ideas;
LO6	An ability to apply, with insight, key concepts in particular situations;
LO7	The ability to identify, gather and analyse material from a range of sources to inform research;

#### Practical and transferable skills

The practical and *transferable skills* which are fostered are:

LO8	Effective use of Communication and Information Technology (CIT)
LO9	The ability to work collaboratively with others, both learning from them and contributing to their learning
LO10	The ability to use clear and cogent language in various kinds of written and oral presentations
LO11	The ability to act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks autonomously with an appreciation of the range of strategies available
LO12	The ability to reflect critically upon the student's own experiences of learning

### 16. PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Module Title	Code	Level	Credit tariff
Foundations for the Study of Christian Spirituality	SPR401	7	30

Spiritual Direction in the Tradition of Ignatius of Loyola	SPR510	7	30
<p><b>7. Admissions requirements</b></p> <p>An honours degree (normally 2.1 or above) or equivalent, in an appropriate subject. It is not essential for the first degree to be in philosophy or theology.</p> <p>For mature students, academic ability to undertake the programme may be considered on the basis of other evidence, including learning from experience, evidence of prior study or work at an appropriate level, references and interview.</p> <p>Applicants whose first language is not English should have an IELTS score of 7.0 or equivalent.</p>			
<p><b>18. Indicative Learning and Teaching activities</b></p> <p>May include: Lectures, interactive lectures, seminars enabling group work and group discussions, individual or small group academic tutorials, individual learning, research and study. Students will study with others taking both this degree and the MA in Christian Spirituality so benefit from broader perspectives on a range of topics.</p>			
<p><b>19. Assessment strategy and indicative activities</b></p> <p>Students are assessed by means of a range of tasks which may include book reviews, essays of various lengths, and presentations. Essay questions are structured to allow students to demonstrate that they have acquired appropriate knowledge and understanding. The way that students pursue original thoughts and ideas and question opinions, and the organisational skills used to structure answers allows the transferable skills to be assessed. There are learning outcomes for each level of the programme, and assessment criteria indicate the level at which these skills have been achieved.</p> <p>Students submit coursework through the Virtual Learning Environment (Helios) and receive detailed on-line feedback or oral feedback in a tutorial</p> <p>All coursework is moderated in accordance with College published procedures. All end-of-year essays and examinations are blind double marked and a selection of essays/script is sent to the external examiner.</p>			
<p><b>20. Support for students and their learning</b></p> <p>Students can also access a range of support mechanisms through the college. All students are allocated a personal tutor who can offer guidance and refer the students to more specific support. The Student Development Manager can offer personal and academic support, including study skills and access to a range of student welfare provision, either in College or through the University of London. Support and guidance on academic matters is available from module convenors and programme convenors and also from the Heythrop Students' Union.</p>			
<p><b>21. Student evaluation opportunities</b></p> <p>Students have a range of opportunities, both formal and informal, to evaluate their learning experiences. Informal means include consulting individual members of staff, including their personal tutor, module leader, programme convener or staff in the Student Services Centre. Issues can be raised with the Heythrop Students' Union who can raise issues with the College on behalf of</p>			

individuals or groups or students. Formal module evaluations are carried out. Taught postgraduate students have termly meetings to provide feedback to staff. Occasional consultations or evaluation exercises gain views on aspects of the student experience.

## **22. Indicative time commitments**

Each module usually involves a weekly 2-hour seminar for one term, with the exception of a reading week in the middle of the term. There are therefore normally 11 x 2 class hours.

Student effort hours which are not spent in classes or tutorials are used for directed personal study – e.g. preparing for seminars, and self-directed work, such as wider reading, coursework and essay writing.

## **23. Opportunities for graduates of this programme**

Complementing or expanding vocational qualifications and experience, this programme can broaden professional and vocational opportunities involving Ignatian Spirituality. It will be useful in particular to those engaged in church and pastoral contexts, spiritual direction and retreat work.

The transferable skills gained are valuable in many professions.

Successful completion of this programme may allow students to enrol for the full MA in Christian Spirituality at Heythrop College with advanced standing.