

# MA Taster Module



**FACTSHEET 2022/23**

[www.staugustinescollege.ac.uk/](http://www.staugustinescollege.ac.uk/)




Are you a priest or ordained minister looking to deepen your theological knowledge?

Maybe you are a theology graduate and considering an MA in Theology?

Or just looking to deepen your theological knowledge through further study?

Then our taster module from our MA programme in Theology, Ministry and Mission could be for you.

We'd love to meet you and help you find out if St Augustine's MA is right for you. Find out more at <https://staugustinescollege.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate-studies/>



*"I immediately felt safe and at home. It's welcoming, it's calm, and I just knew that it was the place for me to study, where I could grow and where I would be encouraged"*

KATRINA JENKINS,  
student

## What is St Augustine's College of Theology?

St Augustine's is the Church of England's longest-standing non-residential theological college.

Our adventurous community of learning celebrates a diversity of Christian tradition and expression. We welcome anyone seeking an accessible, yet challenging, education in theology. Our students come from varied backgrounds,

including other denominations as well as all branches of the Church of England.

We are dispersed across the South East, embedded within our sponsoring dioceses and enriched by the Benedictine environment of our centre at Malling Abbey.





## What is the MA Taster Module?

At St Augustine's we believe we should make theological learning as accessible as possible. If you are interested in pursuing theological studies at postgraduate level, but joining a full MA programme feels like a big step, the taster module gives you an opportunity to test your appetite and aptitude for academic study without committing to a full programme at this point.

Our taster module allows you, over one term, to take a single 20-credit module from our MA programme in Theology, Ministry and Mission. The taster module available in the Autumn Term 2022 is 'Texts and Traditions in Christian Spirituality'.

In this module we will explore some of the key writings within the Christian spiritual tradition, for example, the Rule of St. Benedict, Julian of Norwich's Showings, the Cloud of Unknowing and the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises. Each opens a fresh window on the development of relationship with God, the practice of prayer and our experience of life. We will examine how to read these wisdom texts within their own context and explore their contemporary relevance.



## Do you have an open event?

Our next MA open event is on zoom on **17 May, 3-4pm**. For details and to book see - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/open-event-for-prospective-ma-post-graduate-students-tickets-217070412447>

We also warmly welcome you as a prospective student to visit us whenever it suits you. We invite you to meet members of staff and current students, attend sample classes and worship with us. We find this gives a real flavour of the college and current students have commented that it has really helped them to know that St Augustine's is right for them.

To book a visit please email Becky Young at [r.young@stuagustinescollege.ac.uk](mailto:r.young@stuagustinescollege.ac.uk) or call us on 01732 252656 - we'd love to hear from you.

## What are the entry requirements for the MA Taster Module?

The same requirements apply as for our MA and other postgraduate programmes. See <https://staugustinescollege.ac.uk/study-here/entry-requirements/>

## Who will be teaching the courses?

The course lecturers for 'Texts and Traditions in Christian Spirituality' are Chris Chapman and Barnabas Palfrey, both tutors at St Augustine's.



## Where and when?

You can choose to take your classes either through Monday evening classes at Southwark 6:30-9pm or through fortnightly Friday teaching days, 10:30am-4pm, at our Malling Abbey teaching centre:

- Friday 23rd September 2022
- Friday 7th October 2022
- Friday 21st October 2022
- Friday 11th November 2022
- Friday 25th November 2022

All College teaching events begin with worship.

Find out more about our locations: <https://staugustinescollege.ac.uk/locations/>

## When does the Taster module begin?

You'll first need to attend an online induction event on **Monday 5th September 7-8pm**. Evening classes will begin at Trinity House on Monday, 12 September (6:30-9pm) Teaching days at West Malling will begin on Friday 23rd September (10:30am-4pm)

## How much study time is involved?

You should expect to devote at least 10 hours of independent study per week.

## Library resources

We have two libraries: one at Trinity House, Southwark and one at our West Malling centre. Note borrowing books will need to be done in person. If you aren't intending to use our libraries it is vital you find other sources to get the books you need.

## How is the module assessed

In order to complete the module you will be expected to submit two written assignments (5,000 words in total). The deadline for submitting the first assignment is 1pm, Tuesday 15th November 2022.

## Will completing the MA Taster Module give me an academic qualification?

Completing the Taster Module alone doesn't give you an academic qualification. However, it is a module which normally forms part of our MA programme. If you pass the assignments for the module and decide to continue your studies, you will be able to enrol on the MA in Theology, Ministry and Mission, and the module you have completed will count towards the MA, accredited by Durham University.

## What happens after I finish the module?

It's up to you! You can choose to stop there, or, subject to passing the taster module assignments, you can enrol into our MA programme, as described above. If you enrol, your completed Taster Module will count towards that programme

## What does the MA programme then involve?

Normally, the academic year involves three taught modules in Year 1 and Year 2 each, with an MA Dissertation in Year 3. (You also have the option to study full-time.) For more information about the MA programme, see: <https://staugustinescollege.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate-studies/>

## Do you have a full prospectus of all your courses?

You can view and download the full prospectus here: <https://staugustinescollege.ac.uk/st-augustines-prospectus-2022-23/>

## How much does it cost to take the MA Taster Module?

The fee for the taster module is £500, payable before you begin your studies in September. Find out more about fees and finance here: <https://staugustinescollege.ac.uk/study-here/fees-and-finance/>





## Do you offer any financial support towards the cost of studying the module?

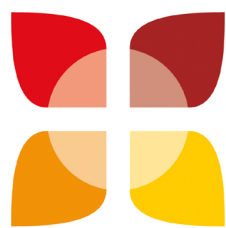
As part of our commitment to making theological studies accessible to all, we have established the Tattersall Fund, which provides bursaries in support of students whose personal circumstances mean that finance may be a barrier to study.

Applying for a bursary to help towards the cost of fees, books or travel is simple, and non-intrusive. Find out more about bursaries and how to apply here: <https://staugustinescollege.ac.uk/content/uploads/2020/04/Bursary-fund-April-2020-FINAL.pdf>

## How do I apply for the MA Taster Module?

Applying is simple. Just follow this link to find the application form: <https://staugustinescollege.ac.uk/courses/biblical-studies/>

Or contact us if you would like more information, or to discuss the course: <https://staugustinescollege.ac.uk/contact/>



ST AUGUSTINE'S  
COLLEGE OF THEOLOGY

*Transforming formation*

T 01732 252 656

E [r.young@staugustinescollege.ac.uk](mailto:r.young@staugustinescollege.ac.uk)

St Augustine's College of Theology  
52 Swan Street  
West Malling  
Kent  
ME19 6JX

[www.staugustinescollege.ac.uk](http://www.staugustinescollege.ac.uk)