

# MILLTOWN INSTITUTE

A Recognised College of the National University of Ireland

Level 8	Higher Diploma in Adult Religious Education Higher Diploma in Applied Christian Spirituality Higher Diploma in Biblical Studies Higher Diploma in Canon Law Higher Diploma in Christian Spirituality Higher Diploma in Ethical Studies Higher Diploma in Supervisory Practice Higher Diploma in Mission Theology
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Level 9	Licentiate in Philosophy – <i>Pontifical Award</i> Licentiate in Theology (STL) – <i>Pontifical Award</i> MA in Applied Ethics and Theology MA in Applied Christian Spirituality MA in Biblical Studies MA in Christian Spirituality MA in Faith and Culture Studies MA in Philosophy ( <i>Research</i> ) MA in Supervisory Practice MA in Theology ( <i>Research</i> ) Master of Divinity (M Div) Postgraduate Diploma in Spirituality and Leadership in Education
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Level 10	Doctorate in Theology – <i>Pontifical Award</i> PhD in Philosophy – <i>Pontifical Award</i> PhD in Philosophy PhD in Theology
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**For Further Information On Other Courses Please Contact:**

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Milltown Park, Sandford Road, Milltown, Dublin 6, Ireland  
Telephone: + 353-1-277 6300 Fax: + 353-1-269 2528  
Email: info@milltown-institute.ie*

Awarding Body:  
Duration:  
Delivery:

National University of Ireland (NUI)  
One year full time; 2 years part-time  
Day release: Friday and one week summer school required



## MA IN APPLIED ETHICS AND THEOLOGY

### AIMS OF PROGRAMME

The programme attempts to respond to developments in modern society notably in medicine, the sciences and business. New developments in our increasingly complex society imply new tasks for moral theology. This MA questions the fundamental and philosophical principles that underpin moral theology thereby contributing to a renewal in fundamental thinking itself.



The primary aim of this degree is to mediate the role of moral theology in a pluralistic society. By drawing on the traditional sources of moral theology, Scripture and tradition, in conjunction with a multidisciplinary approach, the degree attempts to relate fundamental moral principles to concrete social situations. The focus is to train participants in research skills for exploring complex questions in ethics especially in the Irish and European contexts.

#### *Other aims include the following:*

- to introduce students to the literature in some central debates in ethics / morality;
- to further the students' capacity to engage in specialised research;
- to provide students with the necessary skills to respond to complex moral situations in the workplace, the hospital and in the wider society;
- to provide participants with further knowledge in a range of specialised moral/ethical topics;
- to provide an appropriate environment and the necessary expertise for students to undertake a research project in applied ethics.

### DURATION

For full-time students, this taught MA is taken over a period of 1 year (12 full months with the possibility of an additional 6 months if required). This course is also available on a part-time basis for students who are prepared to complete the required modules over a period of 2 academic years.

## ACCESS, TRANSFER AND PROGRESSION ROUTES

Students must have an Honours grade (minimum lower second class) in an Honours degree, in a related field, to qualify for this course. Applications should be received before 1 July.

## PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

All candidates are required to participate in a summer school, which is an intensive one week introduction to Ethics and Theology. It consists of two taught modules, Fundamental Moral Theology and Philosophical Ethics and a postgraduate research seminar. Five ECTS credits will be awarded for participation in this summer school and the successful completion of related assignments.

Exemptions will be granted from the two taught modules only to those who can show that they have taken these modules at primary degree level or other course of study recognised by the NUI and Milltown Institute. Applicants will be called for interview to determine their preparedness for entry to the course.



Students will also be required to submit a dissertation (15,000 words) under the direction of a supervisor appointed by the Course Board. Topics for the dissertation must be approved by the Board in conjunction with the supervisor. Theses must be submitted not later than 18 months from the date of registration for the course. A peer review process will form part of the examination process for the dissertation under the supervision of the research co-ordinator.

## MODULES IN THE PROGRAMME

Following registration students must take one methodology module and four specialised modules. There is one common module which is taught by a panel of teachers. The overall structure of modules is as follows:

- Theological Method in History or Method in Theology
- Common Module: Recent Writings in Applied Ethics and Theology
- 4 specialised modules:
  - Social Ethics
  - Ecumenical Ethics
  - Biomedical Ethics
  - Environmental Ethics

## MODE OF DELIVERY

Drawing on what is best in traditional sources, the department adopts an essentially multidisciplinary approach to teaching. In so far as is practicable, discursive /

dialogic and experiential elements should be incorporated into the special modules. Modules will be delivered on Tuesdays in each semester.

## MODES OF ASSESSMENT

Assessment for all taught modules will be by examination at the end of the academic year and/or by continual assessment (which may take the form of essay, book review, class presentation etc.), and major essay. An important aim of the taught modules is to augment students' sense of confidence and skills in assessing issues and in formulating adequately informed views and opinions.

## GRANTS AND TAX RELIEF

This programme is covered by the Higher Education Grants Scheme, and information regarding application procedures, eligibility and related matters may be obtained from the student's Local Authority (or of the local Education and Library Board for students from Northern Ireland). This course is eligible for tax relief under Section 473A, Taxes Consolidation Act, 1997 by the Department of Education and Science.

## COURSE BOARD MEMBERS

Kieran Cronin ofm MA, PhD

Suzanne Mulligan BATH, MTh, PhD. Programme Director

Kevin O'Gorman sma BA, STD

Thomas R Whelan, BMus, STB, SLD

## PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

Suzanne Mulligan, Mth, PhD, Lecturer in Moral Theology. Suzanne studied at the Pontifical University, Maynooth, Co. Kildare where she received her doctorate in 2004. Research interests include the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the Developing World, Catholic Social Teaching, and Fundamental Moral Theology.



## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

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