



**Carmelite Institute of Britain & Ireland**

**Master's Degree in Theology  
(Carmelite Studies)**

Accredited by St Patrick's College, Maynooth



# Master's Degree in Theology (Carmelite Studies)

## MTh (CS)

### Key details

#### **Master's Degree in Theology (Carmelite Studies) MTh (CS) is:**

- ✓ A Master's Degree - Level 9
- ✓ Designed for students who,
  - (a) having completed the BTh (Carmelite Studies) wish to deepen their engagement of the Carmelite tradition, or
  - (b) who are eligible to progress from other BTh or cognate programmes.
- ✓ Delivered through the CIBI Website
- ✓ A part-time or full-time degree programme
- ✓ A modular programme combining obligatory modules and individually selected modules
- ✓ Accredited by St Patrick's College, Maynooth

## Programme Overview

The Master's in Theology (Carmelite Studies) is a level nine, postgraduate degree programme offered by the Carmelite Institute of Britain and Ireland. The programme is aimed at those who wish to deepen their knowledge of the Carmelite tradition. It is guided by experts in the field who can bring the riches of this lived tradition to people from all walks of life.

The programme makes the heritage of the Carmelite family available at Master's level across the English-speaking world and enables Carmelite Friars, Nuns, Sisters, Lay Carmelites and others, to deepen their engagement with, and academic understanding of, the Carmelite charism.

The programme is in keeping with the Roman Catholic ethos of the Carmelite tradition and is open to those of all faiths and none. Its purpose is to introduce students to postgraduate studies in Carmelite Studies in a way that will enable them to engage in, and contribute to, academic and critical debate in the field of Carmelite Studies.

The MTh (CS) is designed for individuals:

- who do not have a Master's-level qualification
- who wish to engage further in the study of the Carmelite tradition at Master's-level.
- who have already completed the equivalent of a BTh qualification in a cognate discipline and at least 12 modules of the BTh (Carmelite Studies) with the required grades and marks, and wish to continue their academic engagement in the field of Carmelite Studies and to bring their studies to Master's-level.
- who have completed the equivalent of 12 modules of the BTh (Carmelite Studies) programme and can demonstrate a required level of complementary experience or learning by other means.

The programme is designed for those who want to continue working while studying, or for someone who may not have easy access to one of the traditional education providers, or who may not have the time to commute to and from lectures daily. We also welcome students who want to study the programme full-time, which allows students to complete the programme in a much shorter time-frame.

The programme offers students the opportunity to read and study individual modules at their own pace in a structured yet flexible approach on a part-time or full-time basis. The range of subject areas on offer will provide the background for candidates to engage critically in the ongoing

dialogue between the Carmelite tradition and the contemporary world. Students who successfully complete this programme will be able to describe, present and critically engage with the principal elements of the Carmelite tradition.

## Programme Structure

The degree is structured to allow eligible students who have already completed a Bachelor's degree in theology, spirituality or a cognate discipline, to develop their skills to the level of a Master's qualification. Students will study the essential elements of a theological approach to the Christian life, and to the living of the Carmelite charism in particular, at postgraduate level. It familiarises student with the normative disciplines in the field of Carmelite Studies, including contemporary studies in theology, history, spirituality and hagiography.

Students are expected to conform to the norms of contemporary scholarship in relation to the history, tradition and approach to prayer associated with the Carmelite charism, and with the Saints and Blessed of Carmel.

In addition, the programme is designed to help students to develop essential skills for academic research, practical writing and presentation at postgraduate level. Academic guidance is provided through individual assessment(s), feedback and formal training in the writing of academic essays. Email support is available to students through the CIBI office

The academic year is structured in two twelve-week semesters:

- Semester 1: September – December
- Semester 2: January – April.

The programme offers students the opportunity to read and study individual modules which are made available during semester periods only and, normally, students register for more than one module in a semester. Modules must normally be completed within the twelve-week semester. There are two entry points to the programme aligned with each semester: early September and early December.

The programme is delivered in the form of a phased release of reading material made available through the CIBI website.

To complete the MTh (CS) programme, students must

- Read and study four taught modules, completing all the necessary assignments, and
- Complete the dissertation module, and
- Write a dissertation.

The Master's Degree in Theology (Carmelite Studies) is assessed as follows:

- **Formative Assessment, Questionnaires and Essays**

Each taught module is assessed by one Formative Assessment and two ten-question questionnaires and an essay.

Each questionnaire is awarded 10% of the overall marks (2x 10 = 20%).

The final essay for each taught module is on an assigned topic and between 4,000-4,500 words long. The final essay in each module is awarded 80%

- **Dissertation Module (MTh [CS] 99)**

Students who have completed both of the obligatory taught modules and two other taught modules may proceed to the dissertation module, provided they have achieved an average mark of at least 60% for the four taught modules.

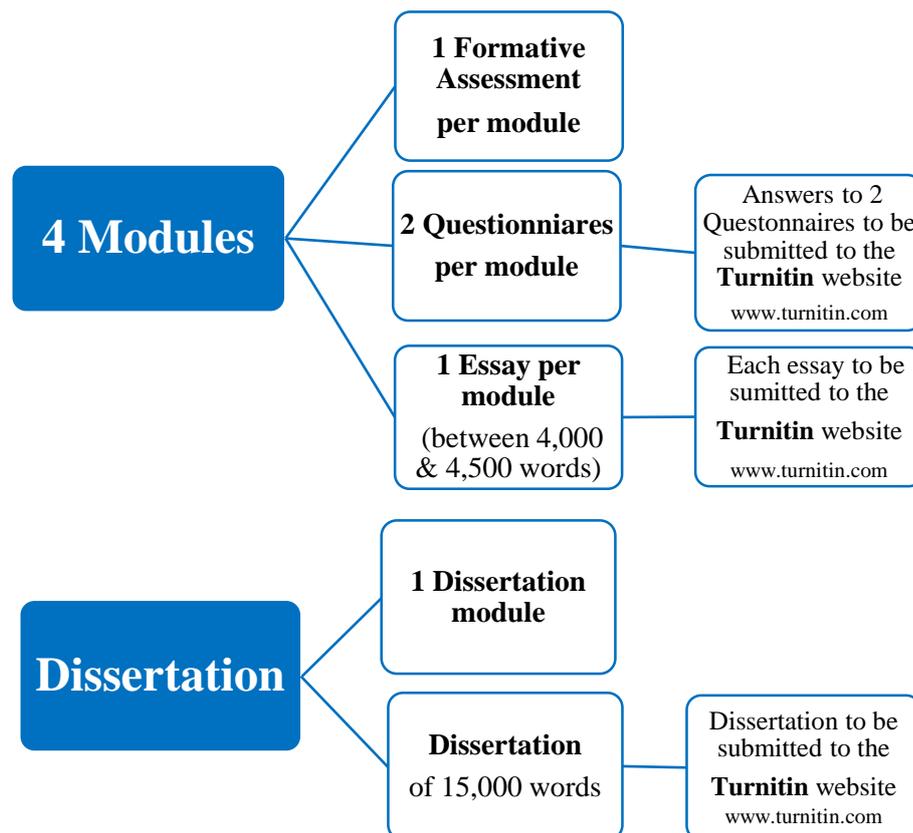
Such students are required to complete the dissertation module to the satisfaction of the tutor before beginning their dissertation.

- **Dissertation**

Having successfully completed the dissertation module (MTh [CS] 99) and having had their dissertation proposal approved, each student's will be assigned a supervisor by the Director of Studies who will direct the writing of their 15,000-word MTh (CS) dissertation. The topic, and the title of the dissertation, shall be clearly and explicitly in the field of Carmelite Studies.

If students fail to have their proposed dissertation approved within two semesters of beginning the dissertation module, MTh (CS) 99, they shall be deemed to have failed to complete the MTh (Carmelite Studies) programme as a whole.

A 15,000-word MTh (Carmelite Studies) dissertation on the topic of their approved proposal is written by the student in consultation with their assigned academic supervisor.

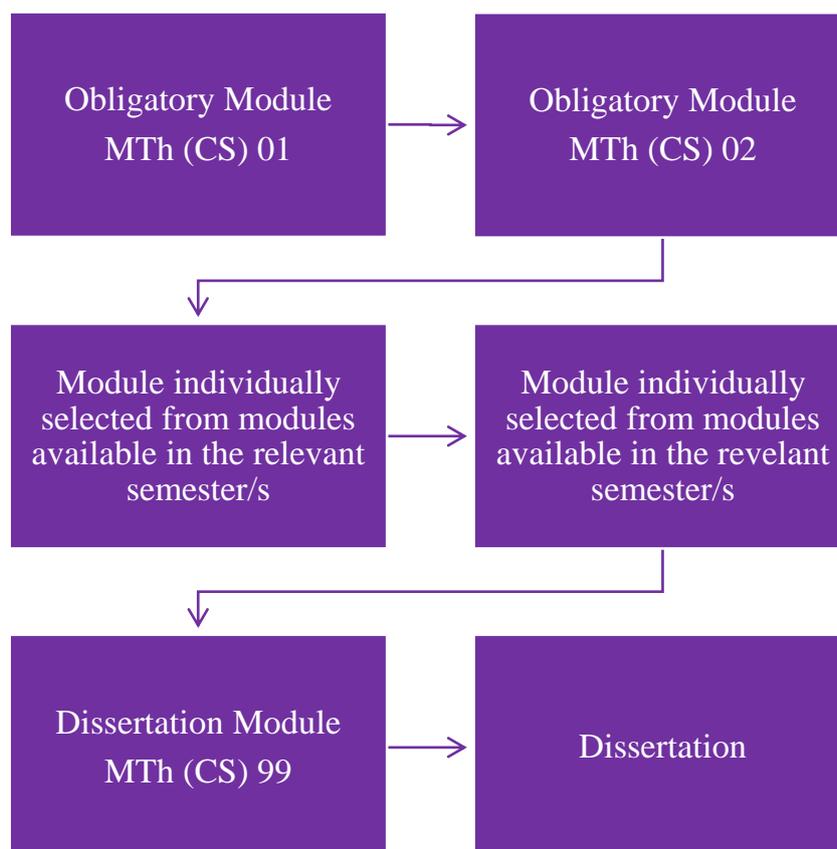


# Programme Details

## Modules

Students must complete four modules:

- Two obligatory Modules and
- Two modules chosen from those modules available in the relevant semester or semesters



## Module Titles

- MTh (CS) 01 & MTh (CS) 02 are Obligatory Modules

MTh (CS) 01 Foundations in Christian Spirituality

MTh (CS) 02 Carmelite Historiography

MTh (CS) 03 St John of the Cross

MTh (CS) 04 Contemporary Spiritualities

MTh (CS) 05 Reading St Edith Stein

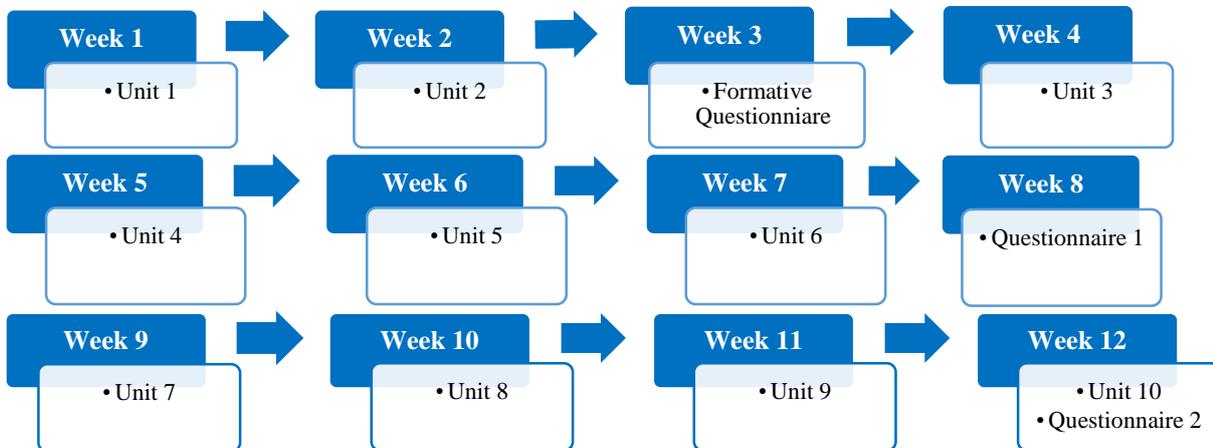
MTh (CS) 06 Carmelite Marian Mystics

MTh (CS) 07 Reading St Teresa of Avila

In view of the need to constantly develop and update the curriculum, and the possibility that some modules or tutors may become unavailable, CIBI reserves the right to replace any of the taught modules, or their tutors, with an equivalent module or tutor.

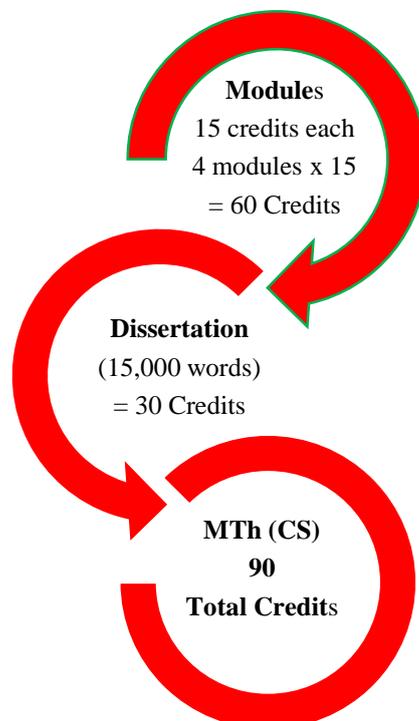
## Units

A module is delivered in the form of 10 units to be read and studied. The units are directed towards the assigned reading, which needs to be carefully studied and critically interpreted in order to address the questions posed in the questionnaires.



## Credits

The MTh (CS) programme requires a total of 90 credits.



## Duration

Students normally complete at least one module per semester and the dissertation module combined with dissertation itself are usually completed in two semesters, so that the programme is normally completed in six semesters. Students who want to study the programme full-time will be able to complete the programme in a shorter time-frame, perhaps two years.

Students must complete their studies, the four taught modules, the dissertation module and the writing of a dissertation, within four years of registering for the programme. Special permission from the Director of Studies is required to validate a student's registration for a further year, after which a student's registration in the programme will be deemed to have lapsed.

## Admission Criteria

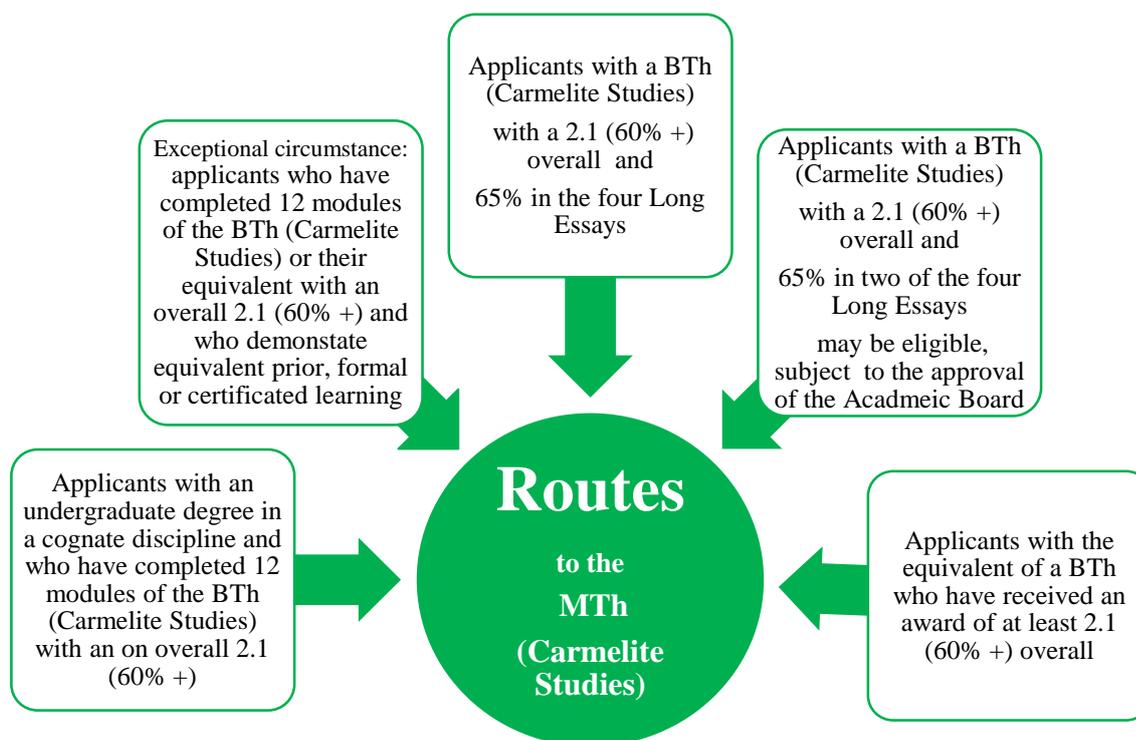
Students who achieve an overall second class honours, grade 1 (60% or above) in the Baccalaureate in Theology (Carmelite Studies), together with a mark of 65% or above in the four long essays will be eligible to proceed to the MTh (Carmelite Studies).

Students who receive an overall second class honours, grade 1 (60% or above) in the Baccalaureate in Theology (Carmelite Studies), together with an overall mark of 65% or above in two of the four long essays, may, or may not, be deemed eligible by the Academic Board of the Baccalaureate in Theology (Carmelite Studies).

Students who receive an overall second class honours, grade 1 (60% or above) in another BTh (or equivalent) will be eligible to proceed to the MTh (Carmelite Studies).

Those who have completed an undergraduate programme in a cognate discipline, and who have also achieved an overall second class honours, grade 1, in twelve modules of the Baccalaureate in Theology (Carmelite Studies), having completed all the requirement assessments, will be eligible to proceed to the MTh (Carmelite Studies).

In exceptional circumstances, students who have achieved a second class honours grade 1 in the twelve modules of the Baccalaureate in Theology (Carmelite Studies) or their equivalent but do not hold a primary degree may be admitted to the MTh (Carmelite Studies) provided that they can demonstrate equivalent prior experiential, formal or certificated learning. In each case an application for Accreditation of Prior Learning, Accreditation of Prior Formal Learning, Accreditation of Prior Certificated Learning, or a combination of these, must be submitted to the CIBI office on application.



## Accreditation

The Master's degree in Theology (Carmelite Studies) is accredited by St Patrick's College, Maynooth

## Application Details

Application is made through the CIBI website: [www.cibi.ie](http://www.cibi.ie)

You can download an application form here (link) for on-line completion and submission.

The current fees structure is as follows:

- Application fee €50
- Taught Module fee €425 per module
- Dissertation Proposal fee €525
- Dissertation fee €525 per semester