

Unit Supervisor	Fr Erich Fein, PhD Email: Erich.Fein@usq.edu.au		
Lecturer / Course coordinator	Fr Gennady Baksheev, PhD Email: gennady-scmoi@adelaide.tabor.edu.au		
Delivery	Thursday 6.30-8.30pm AEDT All lectures and seminars will be delivered online.		
AQF Level	7	Credit Points	6

UNIT DESCRIPTION

This unit provides students with an opportunity to explore the nature and practice of Christian leadership, with particular reference to the opportunities and challenges encountered in leading Christian groups and organisations in the 21st century Australian context. It connects strongly with the MTC formation domain Engaging the World & Others' Stories in Tabor MTC's curriculum paradigm. Ultimately, this unit aims to deepen students' capacity as informed, resilient and effective leaders, who are aware of their own strengths as a leader and areas for future development. The key content of the unit includes: self-leadership, formation and development; biblical models of leadership; Jesus as leader extraordinaire; leading teams and change; leading church and formation of effective Christian leaders for contemporary ministry and mission contexts.

PREREQUISITES

MTO140.5 Formation and Vocation

LEARNING OUTCOMES

ON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THIS TASK THE STUDENT WILL BE ABLE TO:	RELATED CONTENT	RELATED ASSESSMENT
1. Explain key principles for leading Christian communities drawing on the biblical text, Christian tradition, and contemporary scholarship	Lectures and pre-readings Weeks 1-13	1, 2, 3
2. Reflect on their own engagement in leadership, identifying possible areas for growth and development	Lectures and pre-readings Weeks 1-13	1, 2, 3
3. Critically apply Christian leadership concepts and principles to specific problems or issues encountered in contemporary mission and ministry contexts	Lectures and pre-readings Weeks 1-13	1, 2, 3

CHANGES MADE SINCE LAST OFFERED

This is the first time that this unit has been offered at TABOR.

REQUIRED TEXTS (Students should purchase these texts)

Elder Cleopa of Romania. *The Truth of our Faith. Volume One* (translated by Fr Peter Heers, Uncut Mountain Press, 2000).

Elder Cleopa of Romania. *The Truth of our Faith. Volume Two*. (translated by Fr Peter Heers, Uncut Mountain Press, 2000).

MacIntyre, Alasdair. *After Virtue*. (University of Notre Dame Press, 1981).

McGilchrist, Iain. *Ways of Attending* (New York: Routledge, 2019).

*Saint Clement of Rome, *The First Epistle of Clement to the Corinthians*.

*Saint Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*.

* Saint John Chrysostom, *On the Priesthood*.

*Saint Gregory of Nyssa, *The Life and Writings of Gregory of Nyssa*.

*Saint Basil, *The Book of Saint Basil on the Spirit*.

*Saint John Cassian, *Selections from The Seven Books on the Incarnation of the Lord, Against Nestorius*.

*Saint John Chrysostom Part II. *Of the Life of the Pastor*.

*Selections from Saint Ignatius of Antioch.

*These Patristic Readings are readily available for free via Christian Classics Ethereal Library at <https://www.ccel.org/>

RECOMMENDED TEXTS/BIBLIOGRAPHY

McGilchrist, Iain. *The Matter With Things: Our Brains, Our Delusions, and the Unmaking of the World* (London: Perspectiva Press, 2023).

Goethals, G.R., and Sorenson, Georgia, L.J. (eds). *The Quest for a General Theory of Leadership* (Cheltenham. UK: Elgar, 2006).

Kets de Vries, M.F.R., and Korotov, Konstantin. (eds). *Leadership Development* (Cheltenham, UK: Elgar, 2011).

Murphy, Susan E., and Riggio, R.E. (eds). *The Future of Leadership Development* (London: Erlbaum, 2003).

Yukl, G. *Leadership Development Organisations*. (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 5th edition, 2002).

Further resources, including recommended texts, websites and an extended bibliography, are listed on the unit site.

SEMESTER PROGRAM

Date	Week	Lecturer	Lecture & Seminar discussion	Required pre-readings
31 July	1	Fr Erich / Fr Gennady	Introduction to the course Lecture: Virtue ethics	Alasdair MacIntyre, <i>After Virtue</i> , Chapter 1 A Disquieting Suggestion and Chapter 2 The Nature of Moral Disagreement
			Seminar: Applying virtue ethics.	

				Today and the Claims of Emotivism.
7 August	2	Fr Erich	Lecture: Virtue Ethics.	Alasdair MacIntyre, After Virtue, Chapter 14 The Nature of the Virtues and Chapter 15 The Virtues, the Unity of a Human Life, and the Concept of a Tradition.
			Seminar: Virtue Ethics, Habit, and Praxis.	
14 August	3	Fr Erich	Lecture: The Nature of Leadership at Individual, Dyadic, Group, and Organisational Levels.	Clement of Rome, The First Epistle of Clement to the Corinthians.
			Seminar: Clement of Rome, The First Epistle of Clement to the Corinthians.	
21 August	4	Fr Gennady	Lecture: Perspectives on Effective Leadership Behaviour. The Beatitudes.	Old Testament (1 Samuel 16-30) Saint Paul in the New Testament (Acts 25-28). St John Chrysostom: Homily 15 on St Matthew: On the Beatitudes.
			Seminar: Old Testament and New Testament Exemplars: David within the Old Testament (1 Samuel 16-30) Saint Paul within the New Testament (Acts 25-28).	
28 August	5	Fr Erich	Lecture: Perspectives on Power and Influence.	Irenaeus Against Heresies.
			Seminar: Irenaeus Against Heresies.	
4 September	6	Fr Gennady	Lecture: Adult Development and Leadership: The two hemispheres of the brain.	Iain McGilchrist, Ways of attending. 2017.
			Seminar: Delusions and the making of the world.	
11 September	7	Fr Gennady	Lecture: Leadership and Orthodox Christian Character Development: Sacraments.	Elder Cleopa of Romania, The Truth of our Faith, Volume two (Selections)
			Seminar: Sacraments.	
18 September	8	Fr Erich	Lecture: Developing Leadership Skills via Process and Capacity Variables.	St. Gregory of Nyssa, The Life and Writings of Gregory of Nyssa
			Seminar: St. Gregory of Nyssa, The Life and Writings of Gregory of Nyssa	
25 September	9	Fr Gennady	Lecture: Identity and Authenticity in Developing Leadership: The Holy Spirit.	St. Basil, On the Holy Spirit

			Seminar: St. Basil, The Book of Saint Basil on the Spirit.	
Mid Semester Break				
16 October	10	Fr Gennady	Lecture: The Church and the hierarchy.	Elder Cleopa of Romania, The Truth of our Faith (Selections) Selections from St. John Chrysostom, On the Priesthood
			Seminar: Leadership in the Church.	
23 October	11	Fr Erich	Lecture: Elements of Strategic Leadership.	John Cassian, Selections from The Seven Books on the Incarnation of the Lord, Against Nestorius
			Seminar: John Cassian, Selections from The Seven Books on the Incarnation of the Lord, Against Nestorius.	
30 October	12	Fr Gennady	Lecture: Models of Christian Leadership.	St. John Chrysostom Part II. Of the Life of the Pastor
			Seminar: St. John Chrysostom Part II. Of the Life of the Pastor.	
6 November	13	Fr Erich / Fr Gennady	Lecture: Overview and Integration.	Selections from Ignatius of Antioch
			Seminar: Selections from Ignatius of Antioch.	
13 November	14	Fr Gennady	Oral exams	

ASSESSMENT TASKS

Due Dates Summary:

Assessment	Words	Value	Due Date
1. Class discussion papers and presentation	2000	40%	Weekly presentation in class starting week 2, upload due the same week on Saturday 23:59 (AEST) (Papers start from week 2, but week 1 reading must be read and prepared before class ready for discussion in week 1).
2. Research essay	2000	40%	Week 10
3. Oral exam (hurdle requirement) A 1-1 oral exam consisting of approximately 10-15 questions to determine that the student has sufficiently engaged with and understood the course material. This is a HURDLE requirement: Students must pass this assessment to pass the entire unit.	30 minutes (equivalent to 1,000 words)	20%	Week 13 or 14 Date and time to be arranged in Week 11 or 12, and oral exam will be held in Week 13 or 14 via Zoom.

Task Description:

ASSESSMENT TASK 1**Class discussion papers and presentation****40%***Due: Weekly starting week 2**2000 words***Instructions**

Students are to produce 5 papers of >400 words length and deliver them in class for approx. 5 minutes (using a Powerpoint slidepack is optional), with an analysis of key points of the week's assigned reading. During week 1, students will pick which of the 12 possible week's readings they will focus on. This presentation should include the following elements: key points from the reading related to the subject themes, some analytic comments (such as the relationship of the selected week's reading to other writers considered in this unit), and 1 or 2 points about the context of the text.

Rationale and Expectations

Leadership scholarship covers many related areas, and students need to be able to engage these themes in depth and with breadth. Writing reflections on selected patristic writings will be an opportunity to learn from the leadership styles of those in the Church and reflect on their own development needs. Reports should focus on the significance of the assigned reading, summarise the key points, explain the focus of the text and consider how it can extend the leadership styles for the student.

ASSESSMENT TASK 2**Research Essay****40%***Due: Week 10**2000 words***Instructions**

A logically structured and clearly presented composition of 2000 words addressing a topic of your choice (based on the assigned pre-readings and agreed in advance with Fr Erich / Fr Gennady and which addressed the unit learning outcomes) or one of the topics listed below:

a) The reading from MacIntyre on Virtue Ethics and Tradition can be linked to several of the weekly patristic readings.

Choose one of the patristic readings and explain (1) how through specific references to tradition, the patristic writer is actually demonstrating the central point made by MacIntyre regarding the interplay of Virtue Ethics and Tradition and (2) how these ideas are relevant to leader development in the church today.

b) Using any of the writings from St. John Chrysostom or St Gregory the Great, illustrate how types of leadership behaviours and skills can be found within these patristic writings, and discuss some ideas of how you might develop leaders within your local Orthodox community using references to these leadership behaviours and skills within the patristic writings.

Rationale and Expectations

Students are expected to demonstrate engagement with a representative range of the scholarly literature, ability in interpreting a patristic text, and analytical skills in addressing the problem(s) posed by the topic.

ASSESSMENT TASK 3**Oral exam (hurdle requirement)****20%**

Due: Date and time to be arranged in Week 11 or 12, and oral exam will be held in Week 13 or 14 via Zoom.

30 minutes (equivalent to 1,000 words).

Instructions

Students will respond to some simple and more complex questions and brief texts related to various aspects of the unit's material and explain their answers. Students will be prepared for this during weeks 1 and 2 by setting time aside to discuss to provide further information, give students an opportunity to ask questions and the provision of sample question and answer conversations.

Rationale and Expectations

The oral exam will determine to what extent the student has absorbed unit material. A 1-1 oral exam consisting of approximately 10-15 questions to determine that the student has sufficiently engaged with and understood the course material. This is a HURDLE requirement: Students must pass this assessment to pass the entire unit. This avoids any concerns with students using AI for other assessments.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT ASSESSMENTS

Please refer to this Unit's website tile *Assignments* ([hyperlink](#)) for further information about assignments, assessment criteria, grading scale, and the process for late submission of assignments.

Use of AI: No AI generated content is allowed in the final submission.

Students may:

- Use in-built generative AI to improve the grammar, spelling or other written clarity of their own work.

Students may NOT:

- Use AI to reword their work to the extent of changing their own writing 'voice'.
- Where AI programs are embedded (i.e. Grammarly/CoPilot), students should state the type and extent of AI use in their work at the end of the Bibliography (see Referencing Guides for examples). Keep a copy of the student's own original draft (pre-AI involvement) to show if requested.

Refer to the [Student Academic Toolkit](#) for information about academic integrity and avoiding plagiarism, referencing, formatting, and for relevant links to Tabor and faculty policy. If you are unsure, consult your lecturer or program coordinator for advice.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS UNIQUE TO THIS UNIT

The Thursday night class allows for an extended lecture on the unit subject matter, with a ten-minute break at the end of the first hour. Lectures include interactive exercises and class discussions that are based on the patristic readings of the week, as well as lecture slides based on references in the Bibliography section of this guide. There will also be time for a seminar and student reports / presentations as arranged.

Attendance at classes is required, subject to bona fide extenuating circumstances.

Students need to allow sufficient time to keep up with required reading and to prepare assignments. Assignments are to be submitted by their respective due dates unless an extension has been requested and granted prior to the due date.

Fr Erich and Fr Gennady are usually available for a booked consultation (Tuesday - Friday) by making an appointment. Please submit a request for an appointment via email, which should be organised at least 24 hours in advance of the time sought.

Email inquiries can be sent at any time and will be answered in business hours on Tuesdays to Fridays.