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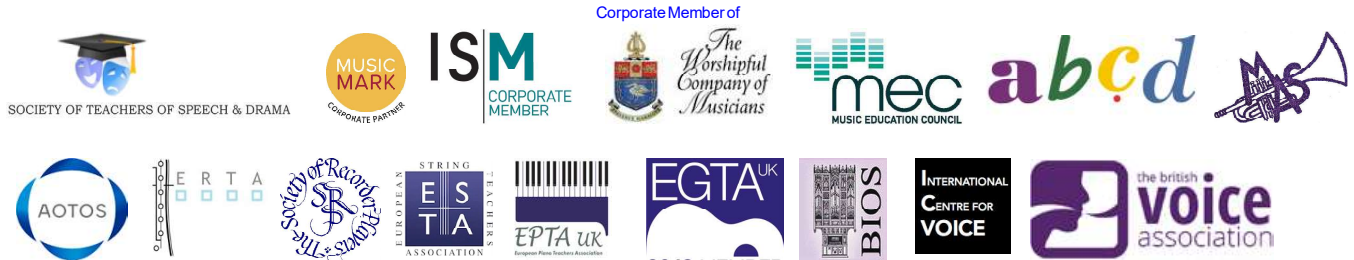
Diplomas in
Theology



Victoria College of Music and Drama, London

Founded 1890

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Curriculum Specialist

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Director: Every Child a Musician

Member of



ABOUT THE VCM

Victoria College of Music and Drama, London Ltd, is an independent body providing examinations in Music, Speech, and Drama subjects. It has held examination sessions throughout the British Isles and certain overseas countries since it was founded in 1890. It no longer operates a full-time teaching institution. Further details about Victoria College can be found on our website: www.vcmexams.com and you can follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

ABOUT THIS SYLLABUS

This syllabus is a substantial revision and expansion of the essay option offered within our Bible Reading diplomas, which were established at the College's founding in 1890. These were intended to provide a training for lay readers and missionaries unable to access a formalised course of study. The current syllabus offers pathways for those in formation, current ministers, recognition of training/service and for institutional partnership.

PASS MARKS

All diplomas require a mark of 75% or above to pass (85% with Honours).

CHANGES TO SYLLABUS

VCM examination requirements do not alter annually, the current syllabus is that listed on our website. Any changes to the syllabus are announced well in advance on the College website, on Facebook and Twitter.

COMPARISONS WITH OTHER EXAMINATION BODIES

The diplomas within in this syllabus are intended to compare in general terms on a level for level basis with those of most other examination bodies. Research diplomas in particular attempt to maintain parity with the required standards at UK universities.

ENTRY FORMS

All diploma examinations can be entered on pink entry forms. Please use the code "Th" in the column headed "subject" and tick the appropriate qualification box.

PRE-REQUISITE QUALIFICATIONS

The following pre-requisite qualifications are required for certain diplomas:
LVCM(Th) -An Associate diploma of VCM or other recognised theological body
FVCM(Th) -A Licentiate diploma of VCM or other recognised theological body

Candidates may also apply for exemption by virtue of other awards.

EXAMINERS

Theology entries are examined directly by specialist theology examiners under the direct supervision of the Qualifications Director, a musicologist on the faculty of Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi Christian University, Florida.

REGULATIONS

All entries are accepted on the conditions laid down in the General Regulations, a copy of which is available on the College Website at www.vcmexams.com. Hard copies are available free of charge on request.

PASS MARKS

For Theology Diploma examinations candidates are assessed on a holistic mark scheme taking research standard, critical engagement and academic written techniques as a whole. The pass mark for Diploma examinations is 75%. To pass with Honours, 85%.

REGISTRATION PROCESS

Candidates for Research pathway diplomas should contact the Qualifications Director for an informal discussion regarding the proposed research topic. Research is accepted on any subject with relevance to Theology but will require approval. Once agreed this should be followed with a brief research proposal in writing (200-400 words) outlining the basic premise and research methods. If approved candidates are admitted at the appropriate level and registered as research candidates for a 12 month period.

SUPERVISION

For research pathways supervision is available via the College's teaching department at an additional fee. For more details see www.victoriacollegelondon.com.

FORMATTING

Submissions should be in the following format to help the examiner read it more easily:

Font – Arial

Size – 12

Spacing – 1.5

Justification/alignment(including titles)–Left

Margins – Normal or wide

Header – This should include your name, essay title, grade and subject

Footer – This should include the page number for each page.

File format – Word compatible such as .doc, .docx or .rtf. Pdf scans are also acceptable.

Page size – A4

REFERENCING

All writing should refer to the original author as good academic practice and the Harvard Author-Date system with bibliography is preferred:

In-text citation -Author(Date, page number) or(Author, Date, page)

E.g. Bloggs (2008, p.54) or (Bloggs, 2008, p.54)

Bibliographical reference – Author.(Date) Title Location of publication, publisher

E.g. Bloggs, J. (2008) My Life in Music, London, London Music Press

All works cited or consulted should be included, in alphabetical order by author's surname in the bibliography. Referencing allows the assessor to see where your ideas have come from and to avoid problems like plagiarism.

Owing to word count restrictions try to keep quotations short. Large quotations should be placed either in footnotes or as appendices after the body of the essay and referred to as Appendix 1, etc.

All material in an appendix should be referenced like the rest of the essay.

Further details can be found at <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parentheticalreferencing>. Specific queries on how to reference particular sources can also be addressed direct to VCM for clarification.

MATERIALS

We encourage candidates to explore the wide range of materials now available in both print and digitally. Traditional print books, journals, scores, collections, anthologies and encyclopaedias are welcome but we also welcome the use of modern online material. Websites, blogs, video and audio (including YouTube etc.), digital journals, newspaper articles, live footage (CD/DVD/MP3) etc. are all acceptable for use and should be referenced as any other source. For all online sources the full URL and a date accessed should be given within the bibliography.

Candidates are advised to read as widely as possible around their subject prior to writing and use as many sources as possible.

LIBRARY ACCESS

Students receiving supervision are able to access the digital library of Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi Christian University and will be given details for this upon egistration. Students undertaking exam only routes are adviced to join an institutional library as an external member and the College will provide a letter of support where required. Please contact admin@vcmemexams.com for help in this aspect.

FRONT PAGES

All research entries should begin with a title page as laid out below:

[Title of Dissertation]
The Piano Music of John McDowell

[Full name of Candidate, with degrees and diplomas held]
JohnHenryLewis
DMus DCL FIGCM

A dissertation submitted to
Victoria College of Music and Drama
in fulfilment of the requirements fort he diploma of
Fellow/Licentiate/Associate in Theology of the College

[date – month and year only]
1st September 1890

The second page should contain the followingdeclarations;

D ECLARATION1

Thiswork has not previously been accepted in substance for any degree or diploma and is not being concurrently submitted in candidature for any degree or diploma.

Signed:

Date:

DECLARATION2

This thesis is the result of my own investigations, except where otherwise stated.

Other sources are acknowledged by footnotes giving explicit references.A bibliography is appended.

Signed:

Date:

FURTHER STUDY

Holders of the examined diploma of Licentiate in Theology may proceed, in conjunction with the agreement of faculty staff to the degree of Bachelor of Ministry or Theology at Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi Christian University, Florida (www.pestalozzi.university). From here candidates may proceed to postgraduate study at Masters degree level or the FVCM in Theology.

OPTION ONE - SINGLE ESSAY ROUTE

Candidates are encouraged to explore any area of theology that may be studied formally and to consider both existing and new areas of study. We are open to all enquiries and will give advice and guidance on suitability for study at each level.

DIPLOMA IN THEOLOGY DipVCM(Th)

Candidates must submit a thesis (about 7,000-9,000 words) on some aspect of Theology approved by the College at least six months beforehand. The thesis should demonstrate a secure level of knowledge, wide range of sources and an emerging critical engagement with the material, as well as making a sustained argument throughout. The standard of work is intended to be equal to that of year one of an undergraduate degree

ASSOCIATE DIPLOMA IN THEOLOGY AVCM(Th)

Candidates must submit a thesis (about 12,000-15,000 words) on some aspect of Theology approved by the College at least six months beforehand. The thesis should demonstrate a good level of knowledge, wide range of sources and original critical engagement with the material, as well as making a sustained argument throughout through a range of analytical methods. The standard of work is intended to be equal to that of year two of an undergraduate degree.

LICENTIATE DIPLOMA IN THEOLOGY LVCM(Th)

Candidates must submit a thesis (about 18,000-20,000 words) on some aspect of Theology and its development approved by the College at least six months beforehand. The thesis should demonstrate a high level of knowledge, wide range and depth of sources and strong critical engagement with the material, as well as making a sustained argument throughout. Entries should display a variety of lines of enquiry such as biographical, analytical or historical approaches. The standard of work is intended to be equal to that of a final year undergraduate degree.

FELLOWSHIP DIPLOMA IN THEOLOGY FVCM(Th)

Candidates must submit a thesis (about 25,000-30,000 words) on some aspect of Theology approved by the College at least six months beforehand. The thesis should demonstrate a high level of knowledge and insightful, critical engagement with a wide and substantial range of material, as well as making a sustained argument throughout. The thesis should contextualise the material by utilising appropriate lines of investigation such as but not limited to exploring biographical, contemporary or period issues. Substantial, original contributions to the field are not compulsory as this is in the realm of a PhD but candidates are free to develop their work to a standard equal to and above that of a Masters award.

OPTION TWO- ESSAY SCHEME ROUTE

Where candidates are either unable to undertake a single piece due to insufficient evidence or wish to cover a broader range of topics, a bespoke scheme of shorter modules maybe offered. This route is particularly helpful for either those undertaking a sustained period of independent formation under supervision. All courses must be agreed in advance with the Qualifications Director and some guidance maybe availble if a candidate has broad interests but no fixed focus. The course is flexible and may be altered in advance provided total word counts are met.

DIPLOMA IN THEOLOGY DipVCM(Th)

Candidates must submit between 3 and 5 essays, one per elective module. Each essay should be between 2,000 and 3,000 words to a maximum word count of 9,000 words. all work should demonstrate a secure level of knowledge, wide range of sources and an emerging critical engagement with the material, as well as making a sustained argument throughout. The standard of work is intended to be equal to that of year one of an undergraduate degree.

ASSOCIATE DIPLOMA IN THEOLOGY AVCM(Th)

Candidates must submit between 3 and 5 essays, one per elective module. Each essay should be between 3,000 and 4,000 words to a maximum word count of 15,000 words. All work should demonstrate a good level of knowledge, wide range of sources and original critical engagement with the material, as well as making a sustained argument throughout through a range of analytical methods. The standard of work is intended to be equal to that of year two of an undergraduate degree.

LICENTIATE DIPLOMA IN THEOLOGY LVCM(Th)

Candidates must submit between 3 and 5 essays, one per elective module. Each essay should be between 4,000 and 6,000 words to a maximum word count of 20,000 words. All work should demonstrate a high level of knowledge, wide range and depth of sources and strong critical engagement with the material, as well as making a sustained argument throughout. The standard of work is intended to be equal to that of a final year undergraduate degree.

FELLOWSHIP DIPLOMA IN THEOLOGY FVCM(Th)

Candidates must submit between 3 and 5 essay, one per elective module. Each essay should be between 6,000 and 10,000 words to a mximum word counr of 30,000 words. All work should demonstrate a high level of knowledge and insightful, critical engagement with a wide and substantial range of material, as well as making a sustained argument throughout. The thesis should contextulise the material by utilising appropriate lines of investigation. Substantial, original contributions to the field are not compulsory as this is in the realm of a PhD but candidates are free to develop their work to a standard equal to and above that of a Masters award.

PATHWAY TWO – SERVICE

This pathway allows for the diplomas of Licentiate and Fellowship to be awarded for length of service to those licensed or ordained in recognised ministry. Candidates must have undertaken proveable formal training in their formation as lay or ordained ministers and a specified period of time in ministry. Candidates initially licensed as lay ministers and then ordained may combine their roles to meet time restrictions provided they continued to serve as lay ministers while preparing for ordination.

Evidence to support may be presented in the form of diocesan licenses, ordination certificates, letters of good standing from parishes/bishops etc.

LICENTIATE DIPLOMA IN THEOLOGY LVCM(Th)

Candidates for this diploma must successfully demonstrate that they fulfilled both of the following requirements;

1. **Three** years of study either at a recognised institution or through a formal internal ministerial training programme at undergraduate level.
2. **Three** years ministry from either initial licensing or ordination.

FELLOWSHIP DIPLOMA IN THEOLOGY FVCM(Th)

Candidates for this diploma must successfully demonstrate that they fulfilled one of the following requirements;

1. **One** year of study either at a recognised institution or through a formal internal ministerial training programme at postgraduate level.
2. **Seven** years ministry from either initial licensing or ordination.

PATHWAY THREE– VALIDATION

The College is able to act as a validating body for those denominations that operate their own formal training programmes for ministers and lay persons but who do not offer a formal award upon completion. This takes the form of a bespoke Memorandum of Agreement where the College authorises a training body to submit students for the subject diplomas based upon assessment by their own tutors and the College will issue the appropriate diploma without further examination. All training courses must be approved by the Qualifications Director at least 12 months before submission of students and periodic sampling will be undertaken. All agreements will be on a case by case basis and specific to each institution.

All correspondence and payment for academics is to be addressed directly to the official Robemakers:

Graduation Attire Ltd,

Unit 2, Caxton Road, Elms Farm Industrial Estate. BEDFORD MK41 0LF United Kingdom Tel 01234 880956

Website: <https://evess.co/pages/graduation-attire>

Diploma of Victoria College of Music and Drama in Theology (DipVCM(Th))

Hood: Oxford simple shape in Royal Blue with a 2 inch border of light Grey.

Gown: A gown of Cambridge Bachelors style in black and a rigid square cap with black tassel.

Associate of Victoria College of Music and Drama in Theology(AVCM(Th))

Hood: Oxford simple shape in Royal Blue (Pantone 208) lined Grey.

Gown: A gown of Cambridge Bachelors style in black with ½ inch of Royal Blue ribbon on the facings. A rigid square cap with black tassel.

Licentiate of Victoria College of Music and Drama in Theology(LVCM(Th))

Hood: Oxford simple shape in Royal Blue lined Black.

Gown: A gown of Cambridge Bachelors style in black with ½ inch of Scarlet ribbon on the facings. A rigid square cap with black tassel.

Fellowship of Victoria College of Music and Drama in Theology(FVCM(Th))

Hood: Oxford simple shape in Royal Blue (Pantone 208) lined Black edged in white fur.

Gown: A gown of Cambridge Bachelors style in black facings covered in Scarlet .A rigid square cap with black tassel.

