

## **210.715 FAITH HAS ITS REASONS: CHRISTIAN APOLOGETICS TODAY**

NQF Level: 7  
Credit Value: 15

### **DELIVERY MODE**

Christchurch

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Christian apologetics is the constructive defence of the Christian faith, especially in the face of doubt and unbelief. This course looks at such issues as: the appeals to reason, evidence, revelation and faith in apologetics; the role of 'points of contact'; popular excuses for avoiding or rejecting Christianity; the existence of God; the problems of evil and suffering; alternatives to the Christian faith in a pluralist world; the relationship of the faith to the wider spheres of human knowledge – especially history, the social sciences and scientific method; the debates over creation and evolution; the central roles of Christ and Christian Scripture. The course aims both at answering objections and also at building bridges for the Gospel of Christ.

### **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

At the end of the course the student should be able to:

- (a) offer a nuanced and well-informed statement of the nature, purpose, necessity, relevance and limits of Christian apologetics;
- (b) identify, evaluate and respond in a well-informed, constructive and critically appropriate way to some of the challenges to and alleged defeaters of a Christian worldview;
- (c) offer a critically-appropriate restatement of the traditional Christian appeals to Christ, Scripture, faith and experience in the light of contemporary challenges.