

# LIDLAW COLLEGE

*Te Wananga Amorangi*

## COURSE OUTLINE

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### LIDLAW GRADUATE SCHOOL

### MASTER OF THEOLOGY

#### **R209.830: Unique Christ, Pluralist World**

NQF level: 8

Credits: 30

#### **1. DELIVERY MODE:**

Mode 2: Thirty lecture hours in a single intensive block of teaching, normally over two weeks, with required reading and assignments prior to and following the teaching session over the equivalent of one semester

#### **2. COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Traditional Christian claims about Jesus Christ have centred on the example, uniqueness, finality and universality of the revelation and salvation offered in him. These claims are widely rejected in the contemporary world—and in some parts of the church—as unsustainable, exclusivist and even harmful. This theologically cross-disciplinary course will: re-examine the Biblical foundations for the claims (giving special attention to Jesus' self-understanding, actions and teaching in the Gospels, and to his resurrection); outline some of the subsequent Biblical and theological developments; consider and respond to a variety of challenges to Christian claims about truth, particularity, and universality in our contemporary and postmodern contexts. The course will then develop a well-informed contemporary restatement of the example, uniqueness, finality and universality of Christ, including some implications for the assessment of other religions and for mission in a pluralist and multi-religious world.

#### **3. LEARNING OUTCOMES**

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

1. provide a comprehensive and hermeneutically sound contemporary re-statement of the biblical and theological reasons for advocating the example, uniqueness, finality and universality of Christ;
2. describe and respond, accurately and fairly, to significant contemporary pluralist and postmodern challenges to the traditional Christian view of Christ;
3. demonstrate familiarity with, and evaluate critically, a wide spectrum of relevant literature;
4. elaborate some implications of belief in the example, uniqueness, finality and universality of Christ for Christian mission and inter-faith encounter today.