

## Professor Stephen Pattison MA, MSocSc, PhD, DLitt

Professor of Religion, Ethics and Practice  
HG Wood Professor of Theology

**[Department of Theology and Religion \(/schools/ptr/departments/theologyandreligion/index.aspx\)](/schools/ptr/departments/theologyandreligion/index.aspx)**

### Contact details

**Telephone 0121 414 3406 (Department office) (tel: +44 121 414 3406)**

**Email [s.pattison.1@bham.ac.uk](mailto:s.pattison.1@bham.ac.uk) (mailto:s.pattison.1@bham.ac.uk)**

ERI Building  
University of Birmingham  
Edgbaston  
Birmingham  
B15 2TT  
UK



### About

I am a practical theologian and ethicist. I study the relationship between beliefs and values and practices, both within and outside formal 'religions'. One of my principal roles in Birmingham is to direct the Doctor of Practical Theology programme, a part-time degree for researching professionals from a variety of practice backgrounds, religious and other.

### Qualifications

- Master of Arts (Cambridge)
- Master of Social Science (Birmingham)
- Doctor of Philosophy (Edinburgh)
- Doctor of Letters (Edinburgh)
- Diploma in Pastoral Studies (Edinburgh)
- FRCGP (Hon)

### Biography

I am an interdisciplinary scholar trained in practical theology, ethics, and public service management. I first worked at Birmingham University as temporary lecturer in pastoral studies from 1983-88. Subsequently, I was a health services manager, a senior lecturer in health and social welfare at the Open University, and then head of the School of Religious and Theological Studies at Cardiff University where I helped to establish the Centres for the Study of Islam in the UK, for Law, Ethics and Society, and for Chaplaincy Studies.

One of the original members of the International Academy of Practical Theology and former chair of the British and Irish Association for Practical Theology, I am currently director of the Doctor of Practical Theology programme at Birmingham (a programme run in collaboration with four other universities) and an honorary professor in medical humanities at Durham University. I am engaged with three long-term interdisciplinary research projects on values in health care practice, chaplaincy, and religion in public life. After nine years' service on the Ethics Committee of the Royal College of General Practitioners, I was made an Honorary Fellow of the College in 2013.

My teaching interests lie principally in practical and pastoral theology, and in ethics.

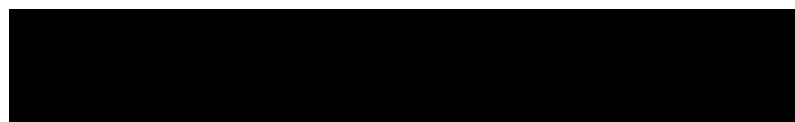
### Teaching

- Practical Theology
- Christian Ethics
- Research Skills and Methods

### Postgraduate supervision

- Practical and pastoral theology
- Religious ethics and practice
- Ethics and values of professional and managerial practice
- Ethics and values of health care
- Contemporary religion and spirituality

### Research



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[video transcript \(/accessibility/transcripts/artsandlaw/ptr/stephen-pattison.aspx\)](#)

- Vision and religion
- Values in professional practice
- Sensual religion
- Chaplaincy
- Practical and pastoral theology
- Medical humanities

## Other activities

Director, Doctor of Practical Theology programme

## Publications

- *Saving Face: Enfacement, shame, theology* (Farnham: Ashgate, 2013)
- (With Sophie Gilliat-Ray and Mansur Ali) *Understanding Muslim Chaplaincy* (Farnham: Ashgate, 2013)
- (Ed. with Ben Hannigan, Roisin Pill and Huw Thomas) *Emerging Values in Health Care* (London: Jessica Kingsley, 2010)
- (With Judith Thompson and Ross Thompson) *The SCM Study Guide to Theological Reflection* (London: SCM Press, 2008)
- *Seeing Things: Deepening Relations with Visual Artefacts* (London: SCM Press, 2007)
- *The Challenge of Practical Theology: Selected Essays* (London: Jessica Kingsley, 2007)
- (With Margaret Cooling and Trevor Cooling) *Using the Bible in Christian Ministry* (London: Darton, Longman and Todd, 2007)

## Expertise

Theology; ethics; religious ethics; religion and visuality; professional ethics and values; religion in the contemporary world; shame and guilt; health care policy and ethics; ethics of management

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