

Overview

CYM postgraduate students produce a portfolio over the first two years of their course which is the basis of the specialist pathway awards. The portfolio is based on the six CYM Competencies for ministry and becomes the evidence for a summative judgement of their ability as a professional practitioner.

The final stage of the assessment is a 3-way meeting arranged by the student which takes the form of a *Recorded Professional Formation Viva and Reflection*. In summary, students will arrange a 3-way meeting, usually with their Line Manager (LM) and Practice Tutor (PT) during which they present a summary of their development over the last 2 years and answer a number of pre-set questions.

The *Viva* should take no more than one hour and can take place in person or online.

A video recording of the *Viva* must be organised by the student and made available in a shared folder, Youtube link or similar. This link should be emailed to the practitioner following the *Viva*.

The LM and PT will produce a report at the end of the meeting, *both of which* are inserted in your Summative Portfolio after the end of year assessment forms. The LM and PT will be asked to judge whether, as a practitioner, the student is safe to practice, with pass, merit and distinction marks available.

The *viva* must be recorded by you and saved in a shared file that we can access, and a link to the video recording should be submitted in your portfolio alongside the LM & PT reports, to enable academic moderation to take place.

Viva Structure

1. Presentation in advance.

Students should submit a reflective piece based on the 6 CYM Competencies to their Line Manager and Practice Tutor at least 48 hours ahead of the *viva*. The format for this is open for the student to decide but should be discussed with the PT in advance of the meeting. It could simply be the completed portfolio from Years 1 & 2; it could be a summative written piece of up to 1,500 words; some students may choose to record a video or audio reflection or present in any number of creative ways a summary of their development.

In the past students have prepared scrap books, pieces of art or music and used their gifts as part of the presentation.

It is important to note that the quality of the presentation is not be marked – it is not an art assessment – so students are not expected to put hundreds of hours in to this presentation. It should, however, be an example of the student's professional ability.

It does not require the academic rigour of an MA level essay – it is a narrative piece which focuses on your development as a practitioner. It would be wise, however to reference the source for quotes and theories you use.

2. Student Presentation on the day

Students are given around 10 minutes to present a summary of their development over the last two years. You should highlight key areas of learning as well as areas for development.

You can make reference to the Portfolio and presentation submitted in advance but do not need to repeat it. You could, for example, use the six competencies in your portfolio as a basis for this but are not bound to that.

Viva Questions.

Following your presentation the Practice Tutor and Line Manager will take turns asking the following questions which may lead on to discussion. The intention is not to catch you out but to support you in a reflective discussion:

Summative Question Framework:

1. Which Pathway are you on – can you explain your understanding of what that pathway is all about.
For example, what are the key purposes of Children and Family Ministry.
2. How has your understanding of *yourself* as a practitioner on that pathway changed over the course of your studies?
In other words, how have you grown and developed holistically as a practitioner?
3. What key *theoretical* perspectives or models are integral to your practice and underpin your approach to ministry?
4. What key *theological* perspectives or models are integral to your practice and underpin your approach to ministry?
5. Which of the six competencies do you feel is your strength – can you give examples to illustrate this?
6. Which of the six competencies do you feel is an area you have most growing still to do?
What practical steps will you take to continue this development?
7. Describe your Alternative Practice.
What did you learn here, and have you been able to bring any of that learning back in to your Main Practice Agency?
8. 'What has been the most challenging/rewarding experience in your practice over the last 2 years and what learning did you achieve through this experience'?

3. Marking and Feedback

Your Line Manager and Practice Tutor will both complete the *Level 7 Presentation and Viva Assessment Sheet* based on your presentation (in advance and on the day) and the Viva. The PT and LM will both give an assessment grade.

These assessment sheets should be signed and returned to the student for inclusion in the Portfolio after the *End of year assessments*. They should also be submitted directly to CYM.