

THE QUEEN'S FOUNDATION FOR ECUMENICAL
THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION,
THE METHODIST CHURCH AND
THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

'LEARNING FOR DISCIPLESHIP' 2011 - 2012

A Growing Partnership

The Queen's Foundation, the Methodist Church and the Anglican Diocese of Birmingham working together in partnership are delighted to be able to offer an accessible programme of serious study in an attractive and flexible format. *'LEARNING FOR DISCIPLESHIP'* has grown out of and builds on the popular Introduction to Theology programme and offers many of the same opportunities, plus some exciting new ones.

Our venue for all modules this year is the Queen's Foundation for Ecumenical Theological Education. This enables us to offer a wide range of courses to stretch people and enable development over a period of time as different topics are followed.

Attendance

You can take just a single module if you wish, or you can choose something each term to build up your own programme of study, and you choose if you wish to do the assessed work.

Sampling Academic Study

Those who wish to complete a module, including the assessed work (which usually involves one essay totalling 2000 words) can pay an extra charge and have their work assessed by their tutor.

University Credit

At the moment, the University accreditation is under review. It may, therefore, not be possible to take any modules for credit immediately this year. However, if you attend more than 70% of the module and complete the assessed work to an acceptable standard, it may be possible to accredit this learning at a later stage, pending developments in 2011-12.

If you have completed prior courses for credit and are concerned about how this will affect your possible acquisition of a qualification in the future, please contact us to discuss your situation individually.

In addition, successful completion of assessed work to a suitable standard for three modules makes up the '**LEARNING FOR DISCIPLESHIP**' award. The Bishop of Birmingham, alongside leaders from other churches, will present an Award to successful students at this stage.

When?

- For most modules there are 10 weekly classes of up to 2½ hours starting in September, January or April. Some classes are in the evenings and some in the daytime.
- Working with Adults is available again this year. It comes in two parts: Working with Adults 1 (module 5) takes place over a Friday/Saturday residential and can be a stand-alone module. Working with Adults 2 (module 12) consists of 2 Friday/Saturday residentials. It is necessary to do 'Working with Adults 1' first.

Who is it for?

The '*LEARNING FOR DISCIPLESHIP*' programme is for anyone who wishes to try a more formal study course. (You might already have done the Anglican 3D Course or be a participant in the Methodist programme EDEV, or something similar). It is also helpful for Methodist Local Preachers and Anglican Readers and other lay leaders who are looking for development or refreshment. For anyone, here is a chance to discover new gifts and interests, to explore new directions, to increase your education and perhaps prepare for further studies.

This is a challenging programme, at the level of a first year university course, but you do not need any special previous knowledge to join. The tutors are specialists in their own subjects, who are also experienced in helping adult students to learn.

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The only requirement when you start a module is that you should be serious about following it through to the end of the term.

A new student on this programme said recently: 'It has been inspiring and wonderfully enabling. I have really enjoyed all my modules. The approach of the tutors was so affirming and there has been so much encouragement to do my best. I've seen myself grow in my knowledge of scripture, and the ability to express myself in discussion and the essays'.

What does it cost?

For each 10-week module the fee is £90 which is payable at least 4 weeks before the course starts. If you wish to take the assessed work, this will be an extra £20 per module. As students enrolled at the Queen's Foundation, you will have the opportunity to use the extensive library at Queen's after attendance at a Library Induction Session. You may need to buy one or two books each term, and for some of the modules, there will also be a small library of books for borrowing.

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2011 - 2012

AUTUMN 2011

1: INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY

10 Monday evenings: 7.30pm - 9.30pm with coffee break

From 19th September to 28th November 2011

Half term break 24th October 2011

Tutor: Crispin Pailing

This module consists of an introductory approach to Christian Theology through the questions contemporary people ask about Christian faith. It will include an outline of the resources and tools employed by theologians and will explore different kinds of contemporary theology.

2: BASIC GREEK

9 Thursday mornings: 9.15am - 12.15pm with coffee break

From 22nd September to 24th November 2011

Half term break 27th October 2011

Tutor: David Allen

A course for complete beginners, to introduce you to the very basics of New Testament Greek. Using your knowledge of a lot of English words, it will show you how to begin to make sense of

the original language of the New Testament with the help of a Greek-English inter-linear version of the Bible (which has English words under each Greek word).

**3: INTRODUCTION TO THE HEBREW BIBLE
(Limited Availability)**

13 Tuesday evenings: 8.15pm - 9.30pm
From 20th September to 29th November 2011
and 17th January to 31st January 2012
Half term break 25th October 2011
Tutor: Rachel Starr

The module offers a survey of the content, principal themes and theological insights of the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible. It considers ideas such as literary and historical criticism, the application of recent archaeological discoveries and anthropological models of reading. Students will learn skills that help them to understand legal, narrative and poetic texts from the Old Testament and to appreciate their relevance for Christian faith and practice today.

(Please note that this course continues in January 2012)

(Places are limited, so please book early if you wish to enrol on this course.)

**4: ORTHODOXY AND HERESY:
THE BIRTHPANGS OF CHRISTIANITY
(Limited Availability)**

9 Wednesday afternoons: 2 pm to 5 pm with coffee break
From 21st September to 23rd November 2011
Half term break 26th October 2011
Tutor: Rowena Pailing

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The course traces key developments in the Early Church using a variety of media - discussion, presentation by the tutor, use of video, other visuals and the written word, including Biblical sources. Topics will include the Creed, the human body, who God is, how the Bible was put together, and the teachings of figures such as Augustine and Arius.

No previous knowledge of the period is necessary: students will be provided with all the tools necessary for engaging with the development of Christian belief and practice then and now.

(Places are limited on this module, so please book early).

5: **WORKING WITH ADULTS 1**

(Please note that, although assessed work is an integral part of this module, university accreditation may not be possible)

1 Residential

Friday 2nd - Saturday 3rd December

Tutors include: Liz Howlett

This introductory course is designed specifically for those working to enable adults to learn and develop in a range of church-based contexts. Whether ordained or lay, the course aims to develop both an understanding of how adults learn and skills in facilitating learning. The course offers the opportunity to explore what it means to be a Christian educator, and to develop understanding in working with groups in a learning context. The course is a good introduction for those interested in joining a training team, as part of their church's ongoing development and mission. There is a follow on module, Working with Adults 2, which can only be taken on completion of this module.

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To register interest initially, please contact Mandy Stanton at the address shown at the back of this brochure.

Further information and a booking form will be sent out later.

SPRING 2012

6: FIVE MODERN THEOLOGIANS:

10 Monday evenings: 7.30pm - 9.30pm with coffee break

From 16th January to 26th March 2012

Half term break 13th February 2012

Tutor: Brian Russell

This module studies five influential theologians of the modern era and assesses their contribution to contemporary theological discourse. The five chosen theologians, in diverse ways, were a significant influence on the development of Christian action in the world and Christian spiritual practice in the post war era in Britain, 1960 - 2000. There will be a focus on the implications of each theologian for how to envisage Christian discipleship in terms of how to be and to act. In doing so, it aims to develop the theological skills of participating students. The learning aims include, therefore, developing skills in theological thinking by taking part in theological workshops in which there is an examination of how theology has been applied and drawn out in specific modern circumstances. The five theologians - Bonhoeffer, Tillich, Moltmann, Weil and Hick - reflect a variety of settings and circumstances, including European, North American and specifically British contexts.

7. CROSS AND SALVATION

(Limited Availability)

7 Tuesday evenings: 6.45 pm - 9.30pm with coffee break

From 7th February to 27th March 2012

Half term break: 14th February 2012

Tutor: Adam Hood

The idea of salvation is one of the most prominent themes of Christian thought and practice. In this module we look at some of the key issues that theologians have struggled with in constructing a theology of salvation and some of the ways in which salvation has been envisaged. The course focuses, in particular, on four questions: what it is that human beings need to be saved from; how Christ is thought to be saviour; what difference Christ's saving work makes; and who/what is saved by Christ? The course aims to exemplify the diversity of soteriological views that are found amongst Christian theologians; encourage the development of a systematic theological approach to the issue; and assist students in strengthening their academic skills.

(Modules 7 and 10 are exactly the same module, offered twice. There is limited space, so please book early if you wish to enrol on this course.)

8: STUDIES IN A GOSPEL: MARK

(It will not be possible to do assessed work for this module).

10 Wednesday mornings: 10 am - 12 noon with coffee break

From 18th January to 28th March 2012

Half term break 15th February 2012

Tutor: Eva Guenther

This course is an introduction to the Gospel of Mark, the gospel followed in the lectionary for this year. It is the shortest of

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the gospels and for a long time was overshadowed by the others. More recently, it has come to be recognized as a key early Christian work. What are the main themes in Mark's Gospel?

9: BLACK AND ASIAN CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY
(Limited Availability)

9 Wednesday afternoons: 2 pm to 5 pm with coffee break

From 18th January to 21st March 2012

Half term break 15th February 2012

Tutor: Mukti Barton

This course offers a chance for all people (not only Black and Asian) to see how race, gender and class affect our knowledge and interpretation of the Bible. We shall see how the theological contexts and experiences of different groups of people contribute to the Theology of Liberation. Insights from the wider world are brought into the course to inform and challenge the way theology is seen in Britain.

(Places are limited on this module, so please book early).

10. CROSS AND SALVATION
(Limited Availability)

9 Thursday mornings: 9.15am - 12.15pm with coffee break

From 19th January to 22nd March 2012

Half term break 16th February 2012

Tutor: Adam Hood

The idea of salvation is one of the most prominent themes of Christian thought and practice. In this module we look at some

of the key issues that theologians have struggled with in constructing a theology of salvation and some of the ways in which salvation has been envisaged. The course focuses, in particular, on four questions: what it is that human beings need to be saved from; how Christ is thought to be saviour; what difference Christ's saving work makes; and who/what is saved by Christ? The course aims to exemplify the diversity of soteriological views that are found amongst Christian theologians; encourage the development of a systematic theological approach to the issue; and assist students in strengthening their academic skills.

(Modules 7 and 10 are exactly the same module, offered twice. There is limited space, so please book early if you wish to enrol on this course.)

11: RE-FRESHING SUNDAY WORSHIP - LITURGICAL, ECUMENICAL, AND PASTORAL CONSIDERATIONS IN A POST-CHRISTIAN SOCIETY

(It will not be possible to do assessed work for this module).

10 Thursday evenings: 7.30pm to 9.30pm with coffee break

From 19th January to 29th March 2012

Half term break 16th February 2012

Tutor: Andy Lyons

This course will explore issues surrounding our understanding and practice of worship in 21st Century Britain. Against a background of a post-Christian society and prevalent idea that the worship of the Church is a tool of evangelism the course will examine the ethos of worship and liturgy. From a position of recognising that the worship of the church is always influenced by its cultural setting it will explore how far the ethos of worship can be 'seeker-friendly' and/or informal and 'family-friendly' and how far it can be determined by more traditional

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understandings of the liturgy, even as they have been differentiated by different denominations in other historical settings.

The course will be developed through studying the following subject areas:

Biblical, Historical and Ecumenical understandings of worship and liturgy

Post-modernity and Post-Christendom society

The place and position of faith in a post-Christian society

The place of baptism; scripture and preaching; and Eucharist in Christian public worship.

(NB This is substantially the same course as that offered in 2010-11 under the title 'Worship and Liturgy').

12: *WORKING WITH ADULTS 2*

(Please note that assessed work is an integral part of this module: however, it may not be possible to obtain university accreditation for this work)

2 Residentials

Friday 24th - Saturday 25th February

Friday 22nd - Saturday 23rd June

Tutors include: Liz Howlett

This module builds on the introductory module, Working with Adults 1 (module 5), which is a required first step. This follow-on module has a strong focus on developing good practice, with the opportunity to design, plan, deliver and evaluate learning events. It also explores the role of worship and prayer in adult learning groups and gives opportunities for theological reflection. This course is ideal for those interested in developing their skills as a trainer and educator, as part of their church's ongoing development and mission.

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SUMMER 2012

13: POWER, POLITICS AND THE PROPHETIC IMAGINATION

10 Thursday mornings: 10 am - 12 noon
From 26th April to 5th July 2012
Half term break 7th June 2012
Tutor: Caroline Wickens

This course will enable participants to engage with Israel's long prophetic tradition and to explore ways in which prophets interacted with their social and political context to speak the word of the Lord into difficult situations. We shall begin by considering Moses, first of the prophets, and the other non-writing prophets before moving on to examine the record of the writing prophets. We shall think about what prophecy is, how it is shaped by contemporary events and what it might mean to speak God's word into a particular setting. The course will end with a more general exploration of how prophecy might function in our society.

14. REVELATION

10 Thursday afternoons: 2 pm to 4 pm
From 26th April to 5th July 2012
Half term break 7th June 2012
Tutor: Kevin Ellis

The Revelation is one of the most intriguing books of the New Testament. The module will seek to put this apocalyptic text in its context, discerning some of its meanings for its earliest hearers and seek to understand it for today. We will look at, amongst other things, the relationship of the Revelation to other apocalyptic texts (e.g., Daniel, Ezekiel and 1 Enoch), to other parts of early Christianity, as well as how the text has been used and abused down the centuries. The module will suggest that the text should be read as a 'political cartoon', and in doing so show that it is a text that can generate hope for Christians today.

HOW TO ENROL FOR THESE COURSES

When you have decided which courses you wish to take, please fill in the Enrolment Form. There are a number of courses to choose from each term. Please put a tick by the course(s) you wish to take. If you are willing to take another option if your first choice is full, please indicate with a '2', or '3'. These courses have proved very popular, and early booking is advised. As soon as we are able, we will confirm your place.

FEES:

- For each course the fee is £90.
- You may pay for one term at a time. Please enclose the fee for the Autumn Term with your enrolment form
- Payment is due at least four weeks before the course begins. An account will be sent.

Please send your enrolment form and course fee (**cheques payable to BDBF**) to:

Mandy Stanton, Diocesan Office

175 Harborne Park Road, Harborne, Birmingham B17 0BH

If you have any further questions
please phone Mandy on 07854 984969
or at this office on ☎ **0121 426 0400**

or contact us by e-mail

mandy@birmingham.anglican.org

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ASSESSMENT

To complete a course by having written work assessed by your tutor costs an extra £20 per course **payable directly to The Queen's Foundation**. You will be informed at the start of the term when this payment is due.

Please do not send this money with your enrolment form.

HOW TO GET THERE

The Queen's Foundation for Ecumenical Theological Education is in Somerset Road, Edgbaston. Queen's is located near to the Nuffield Hospital which is quite well signposted once you get close to Edgbaston. It can be reached by rail via the University station or local bus (no. 21) or by car.

We will send you a map and travel directions when we confirm your booking.

July 2011