

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

'LEARNING FOR DISCIPLESHIP' 2010 - 2011

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 3000 words) can pay an extra charge and have their work assessed by their tutor.

University Credit

If you attend more than 70% of the module and complete the assessed work to an acceptable standard, you will be eligible for University credit at Level One, pending University approval. **At the moment, the way we register people for credit is under review.** You will be informed of any changes in good time.

In addition, successful completion of your first three modules for credit 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 8) takes place over a Friday/Saturday residential and can be a stand-alone module. Working with Adults 2 (module 14) 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, but you do not need any special previous knowledge to join, at the level of a first year university course. The tutors are specialists in their own subjects, who are also experienced in helping adult students to learn. 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 £80 which is payable at least 2 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.

'LEARNING FOR DISCIPLESHIP'

2010 - 2011

AUTUMN 2010

1: INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY

Monday evenings: 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Starting 20th September 2010

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

10 Monday Evenings : 6.50pm - 9.30pm

Starting 20th September 2010

Tutor: Alana Taylor

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).

(Modules 2 & 7 are exactly the same module, offered twice)

3: CROSS AND SALVATION

7 Tuesday evenings: 6.50pm - 9.30pm with coffee break

Starting 21st September 2010

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 3 and 12 are exactly the same module, offered twice.

There is limited space, so please book early if you wish to enrol on this course.)

4: BIBLE AND LIBERATION (Evening Module)

(This module is level 2/3. Diocesan students are very welcome to enrol, however it will not be possible to do assessed work for this module).

The module will run for the last three weeks of the Autumn Term and the first three weeks of the Spring Term.

6 Tuesday Evenings: 6.45pm - 9.30pm with coffee break

Starting 16th November 2010 - 1st February 2011

Tutor: Mukti Barton

The module consists of a basic introduction to hermeneutical principles for reading the Bible from the perspective of oppressed peoples in history and society. There will be an examination of the possible impact of the issues of class, colour, ethnicity, gender, sexuality and disability on translation, interpretation and understanding of the Bible. This module will offer liberationist perspectives on some themes and biblical passages from both the Old and New Testaments.

(Module 4 & Module 6 are exactly the same module, offered twice).

5: ORTHODOXY AND HERESY: THE BIRTHPANGS OF CHRISTIANITY

10 Wednesday afternoons: 2pm - 5pm with coffee break

Starting 22nd September 2010

Tutor: Rowena Pailing

Sometimes it is assumed that the Bible contains a fully developed Christian systematic theology, but in fact the

teachings of the Church today were formulated over centuries of debate and sometimes bloody conflict. This course aims to trace the development of Christian thought from the earliest recorded teachings through figures such as Origen, Arius, the Cappadocian Fathers and Augustine. Through this, an understanding will be built up of how Biblical and other sources have become the building blocks of Christian faith today on issues such as the nature of the Trinity, the identity of Jesus Christ, sin, sex and salvation. The Early Church was a place for impassioned debate, and the sessions will aim to recreate something of that by drawing out opposing views. Each week there will be a mixture of input from the tutor and opportunities for all participants to look critically at some of the writings (in English translation) of the most famous authors of the Early Church.

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

6: BIBLE AND LIBERATION (Daytime Module)

*(This module is level 2/3). Diocesan students are **very welcome** to enrol, however it will not be possible to do assessed work for this module).*

7 Wednesday afternoons: 2pm - 5pm with coffee break

Starting 22nd September 2010

Tutor: Mukti Barton

The module consists of a basic introduction to hermeneutical principles for reading the Bible from the perspective of oppressed peoples in history and society. There will be an examination of the possible impact of the issues of class, colour, ethnicity, gender, sexuality and disability on translation,

interpretation and understanding of the Bible. This module will offer liberationist perspectives on some themes and biblical passages from both the Old and New Testaments.

(Module 6 & Module 4 are exactly the same module, offered twice).

7: BASIC GREEK

10 Thursday afternoons: 2pm - 5pm with coffee break

Starting 23rd September 2010

Tutor: Dave 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).

(Modules 7 and 2 are exactly the same, offered twice).

8: WORKING WITH ADULTS 1

1 Residential

Friday 3rd & Saturday 4th December 2010

Tutors include: Liz Howlett and Geoff Bond

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.

To register interest, please contact Andrea Stevens in the first instance :

Email : a.stevens@birmingham.anglican.org

or telephone : 0121 426 0429

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

SPRING 2011

9: STUDIES IN A GOSPEL: MATTHEW

10 Monday evenings 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Starting 17th January 2011

Tutor: Liz Howlett

This course is an introduction to the Gospel of Matthew, the gospel followed in the lectionary for this year. Topics that will be covered include the following :

What are the key themes in this gospel? Why has it been so popular with the church down the centuries? Why is this gospel so pro-Jewish in many ways and yet seemingly so anti-Jewish in others?

10: BLACK AND ASIAN CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY

10 Tuesday afternoons: 2pm - 5pm with coffee break

Starting 18th January 2011

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.

11: GREEK TEXTS

(To book on this module participation in the Autumn Term course 'Basic Greek' or equivalent is a pre-requisite)

10 Wednesday evenings: 6.45pm - 9.30pm with coffee break

Starting 19th January 2011

Tutor: David Allen

This course focuses upon a range of Greek texts from the New Testament, exploring the ways in which a knowledge of the original language can deepen our understanding. A basic level of understanding of Greek is a prerequisite for this course. (You must have attended the Basic Greek module in the Autumn term, or have other appropriate knowledge of the language.)

12. CROSS AND SALVATION

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

Starting 20th January 2011

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 12 and 3 are exactly the same module, offered twice. There is limited space, so please book early if you wish to enrol on this course.)

13: WORSHIP AND LITURGY - ECUMENICAL, PASTORAL AND PROGRESSIVE CONSIDERATIONS IN A POST-CHRISTIAN SOCIETY

10 Thursday evenings: 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Starting 20th January 2011

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 understandings of the liturgy, even as they have been differentiated by different denominations in other historical settings. The course will use three 'hermeneutical' concepts to consider worship and liturgy - 1) Ecumenical considerations - how are different churches approaching worship and liturgy 2) Pastoral considerations - how do we respect our traditions and our congregations whilst renewing worship and 3) Progressive considerations - what current social, political and theological understandings and opinions shape our thinking.

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

Biblical, Historical and Ecumenical understandings of worship and liturgy

Historical Methodist practice of worship

Post-modernity and Post-Christendom society

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

Pluralism and Orthodoxy: Conservative and Progressive agendas
The place of baptism; scripture and preaching; and Eucharist in
Christian public worship.

14: WORKING WITH ADULTS 2

2 Residentials

Fri 18th & Sat 19th March 2011

Fri 24th & Sat 25th June 2011

Tutors include: Liz Howlett & Geoff Bond

This module builds on the introductory module, Working with Adults 1, 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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Email : a.stevens@birmingham.anglican.org

or telephone : 0121 426 0429

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

SUMMER 2011

15: THE THEOLOGY OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND, PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

10 Wednesday evenings: 7.30 - 9.30pm with coffee break

Starting 27th April 2011

Tutor: Edmund Newey

Anglican thought is famous for its diversity - evangelical, liberal and catholic - but can this diversity be held together and, if so, how? This module explores how the different streams of theology in the Church of England have interacted since the Reformation.

Beginning with the thought of Thomas Cranmer, William Tyndale and John Jewel, we will then focus on the synthesis proposed by Richard Hooker at the close of the Sixteenth Century, uncovering the origins of the Anglican emphasis on the 'threefold cord' of scripture, reason and tradition.

Tracing the emergence of different traditions in the Church of England, we will hear from contemporary representatives of evangelical, liberal and catholic Anglican thought. Finally we will look to the future prospects for Anglican theology in the light of the proposed global Anglican covenant.

16: READING JOHN'S GOSPEL

10 Thursday mornings 10.30am - 12.30pm

Starting 28th April 2011

Tutor: Caroline Wickens

John's Gospel offers a rich resource for our understanding of Jesus and what he meant to the early church. Yet the Gospel is often seen as difficult or over-spiritual. This course aims to explore who Jesus is for John and his community, by paying close attention to key passages in the context of an overview of the shape of the Gospel and the development of significant themes.

17. REVELATION

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

Starting 28th April 2011

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 £80.
- 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 two weeks before the course begins. An account will be sent.

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

Andrea Stevens, Diocesan Office

175 Harborne Park Road, Harborne, Birmingham B17 0BH

If you have any further questions
please phone this office on ☎ **0121 426 0400**
or contact us by e-mail

l.howlett@birmingham.anglican.org

ACCREDITATION

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 2010