

## Luther King House Open College

### **Information for people interested in studying on the part-time “blended learning” weekend route**

Academic year 2011-2012

#### **Who is the course for?**

Anyone engaged in the life of the church, from anywhere in the UK, who would like to explore their faith at greater depth and is, or wishes to be, engaged in some form of Christian service. The course is also used by the denominations to train people for ordained or accredited ministries, but through LKHOC it is open to all.

#### **What degree will I be taking?**

The Foundation Degree in Mission and Ministry validated by the University of Chester. As a part-time student it will take you four years to complete the degree. When you have completed it, you can if you wish study for a further two years to upgrade it to a BA in Contextual Theology.

#### **What prior qualifications do I need?**

As long as you are a “mature student”, you need only satisfy us that you are capable of taking the course. If English is not your mother tongue, you will also need to demonstrate competence in English.

#### **Where and when do I study?**

All your study sessions will be at Luther King House, Manchester. You will attend there for five weekends a year (plus a sixth optional weekend). For 2011-2012 the dates are:

17-18 September 2011  
12-13 November 2011  
28-29 January 2012  
21-22 April 2012  
26-27 May 2012  
[30 June - 1 July 2012 optional weekend]

Activities will begin at 9am on Saturday and continue through into the evening. On Sunday they will begin at 8.30 and continue usually until 3.15pm.

#### **Am I required to be resident?**

Bed and breakfast accommodation is available at Luther King House at a charge for Friday and Saturday night if you want it. You are free to make alternative arrangements, however, if you prefer. A light evening meal on Saturday and lunch on Sunday are provided free of charge. Saturday lunch is available at a charge.

## What modules will I be studying?

You will begin with Level Four modules. If you enter the course in 2011 you will start with the modules listed below under Level Four Year B. In your second year you will take Level Four Year A . In your third year you will take Level Five Year B and in your final year Level Five Year A. There are 24 class-contact hours for each module, to which you have to add time for private study, for writing assignments and for “placement”. The 24 hours are broken down into 17 hours face-to-face at weekends in Manchester and 7 technology-assisted hours at home. The names in brackets are those of the tutors teaching the modules.

	Module code	Title of module
<b>LEVEL FOUR MODULES</b>		
Year A	2010-11; 2012-13; 2014-15	
	TH4201	Learning Theologically Together (Graham Sparkes)
	TH4205	Mission in Britain Today (Glen Marshall)
	Th4206	Theologies and Ethical Thinking in Context I (Tony Moodie)
Year B	2011-12; 2013-14; 2015-16	
	TH4202	Encountering and Responding to Christ (Richard Kidd 2011-12; Graham Sparkes 2013 onwards)
	TH4203	Introduction to the Bible and its Interpretation (Jonathan Tallon)
	TH4204	Worship and Preaching in Pastoral Context I (Andrew Pratt)
<b>LEVEL FIVE MODULES</b>		
Year A	2010-11; 2012-13; 2014-15	
	TH5203	Selected Biblical Texts and Themes (Kathy White)
	TH5204	Worship and Preaching in a Pastoral Context II (Andrew Pratt)
	TH5244	Church as a Learning Community (Anne Phillips)
Year B	2011-12; 2013-14; 2015-16	
	TH5205	Mission in Context (John Parry)
	TH5206	Theologies and Ethical Thinking in Context II (Nicola Price-Tebbutt)
	TH5245	Understanding our Tradition (Alex Bradley)

## Tell me more about “blended learning”

Blended learning is a mixture of face-to-face and e-learning. For each of your modules each year you will receive roughly a 70:30 blend of class contact at weekends and e-learning at home. You will need access to a computer at home, as the location for the e-learning resources is an interactive web-site, using a programme called Moodle. You can access the Moodle at [www.snwtp.co.uk](http://www.snwtp.co.uk). E-learning provision includes:

- Specially prepared guidance and resources on the web site
- Links to a wide range of other relevant resources that you can call up at home
- Forums for discussion with other students in your group, together with other on-line group activities
- Skype conferences or other “real time” conferencing with a tutor and other students in your group, roughly one evening per week.

### **What's the sixth "optional" weekend for?**

This weekend is used for courses that are not part of the degree but are valuable to those preparing for ministry. They include child protection, racism awareness, work with vulnerable adults, etc. Those who are members of one of the denominational colleges are required to attend these courses. Members of LKHOC, because you are not ordinands, are not. You are, however, welcome.

### **Do I need a placement?**

Because this is a foundation degree it assumes an interaction between study and practice. You therefore need to be engaged in some form of ministry or mission. You may play a role in the local congregation or you may be engaged in a church-related project in the community. The possibilities are widely drawn. The area of work you choose to relate to the course becomes your "defined context"; the context in which you wish to develop your understanding, perspective and skills.

A "defined context" needs to meet certain criteria:

- It must involve about 150 hours of your time per year – that's an average of three to four hours per week for at least 40 weeks of the year. That includes preparation time as well as engaging in the activity itself.
- There must be people in that context with whom you can undertake a number of activities related to your modules. Most of these are small group activities. During the course of a year there are five or six such activities, most involving only one evening.
- There must be someone, a "mentor", who can provide you with supervision. By "supervision" we don't mean someone to give you instructions, we mean someone who can help you reflect on what you are doing in the defined context, give you feedback on activities you undertake and work with you in planning.

### **Will I have a personal tutor to see me through the whole course?**

Yes. Your personal tutor will be one of the teaching staff, but will remain your point of contact whether or not they are teaching you in any particular year. The weekend programme includes time for tutorials, including an annual review of progress. It also includes a regular slot where LKHOC students meet together with a member of staff.

### **How much does it cost?**

Your tuition fee will be £1650 per year. That covers all tuition at weekends, e-learning at home and marking of your work, together with your registration at the university and your two weekend meals. You pay that fee to the College. Bursary discounts of up to £300 are available on a sliding scale to those on low incomes. Part-time students may also qualify for public funding. The Luther King House academic registrar can give advice on what funds are available and how to apply for them.

You pay directly for overnight accommodation and any other meals you take at Luther King House. Accommodation is managed on a "hotel" basis; you book directly with Luther King House reception and pay on arrival each weekend. Cancellation

fees apply. The cost in 2011-12 will be £36.50 per night for bed and breakfast, so someone staying one night for each of the five weekends would pay £182.50 altogether, while someone travelling up on Friday evenings and staying for two nights each time would pay £365. You will need to book early to make sure there is a room available; the House gets very busy.

## **Application**

You apply through Luther King House Open College, who, if you are accepted, will arrange for your registration with the University of Chester.

Applications can be received up until the first week of September. The College office is open throughout the summer period.

Contact details:

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