Saturday Courses

Certificate in Theology

Diploma in Christian Studies

Course Information

2020-2021
Edinburgh Theological Seminary


COURSE INFORMATION

Certificate in Theology
A 2-year part-time course in Biblical Studies, Practical Theology and Christian Doctrine

Diploma in Christian Studies
A further 2-year course for those who have already gained their Certificate in Theology

Venues:
- Edinburgh Theological Seminary, Edinburgh: contact – Ruth Smith, ETS Administration Assistant, offices@ets.ac.uk
- Free Church, Stornoway (by video-conferencing): contact - Mary Ferguson, mary31n@gmail.com
- Ayr Free Church, Ayr: contact - Graham Keith, graham.keith50@tiscali.co.uk
- Partick Free Church, Glasgow: contact – Stuart Dallas, stuart.dallas@btinternet.com
- Knockbain Free Church: contact, Iain Gray, iaingray89@hotmail.com
- Anywhere in the world - on the internet!

Programme:
Classes normally meet in Edinburgh and Stornoway one Saturday a month from 10 am (coffee at 9.30!) to 3.15 pm on the following dates:

2020: 12 September, 10 October, 7 November, 12 December
2021: 16 January, 13 February, 20 March, 17 April

Classes at venues other than Edinburgh and Stornoway will make their own arrangements for meeting. However, it is likely that we will have to deliver the lectures online for the early part of the course without any face-to-face teaching.

Courses 2020-21
- John Angus MacLeod. Why You'll Never Walk Alone: Exploring Church Membership
- Nick Mackison. One of the Boys or One of a Kind? Why the God of the Bible is Nothing Like Us

Enrolment:
Online at http://www.ets.ac.uk/saturday-course-application-form/view/form

Fees:
All fees may be paid in instalments, if required.

Standard £252
Concessions (e.g., senior citizens) £74
Veterans (four or more years' faithful attendance) £42
Full-time students £37
Auditors (not doing the essay assignments) £42
18 and under Free!

Information:
Ruth Smith, Administration Assistant, Edinburgh Theological Seminary, The Mound, Edinburgh, EH1 2LS
E-mail: offices@ets.ac.uk
This set of lectures (part of the Theology in Thimbles series) will present the case for recapturing the attributes of God as assumed by past generations of believers. This is an antidote to stale, lifeless worship. But, why does he mention angels, Moses, Joshua, rest, Aaron, Melchizedek, High Priests, the Covenant, sacrifices, the Heavenly Sanctuary, Sinai and Mt. Zion? These questions raise the larger, and often perplexing issue for Christians today, namely the relationship between the Old and the New Testaments. What bearing does the OT have on our worship and how we live as Christians today? This course will help you understand the relationship between the Old and New Testaments as we look at various Biblical-Theological Themes in the Book of Hebrews.

The church asks you for: Cheerful Giving and Costly Love
The church asks you for: Spiritual Service and Gospel Priority
The church asks you for: Personal Discipleship and Dedicated Prayer
I ask the church: Furnish me with Serving Opportunities and Evangelistic Possibilities
The Christian and the church: Why and how should a Christian profess their faith in Jesus Christ?
Why You'll Never Walk Alone: Exploring Church Membership
Becoming a Christian is the beginning of an amazing adventure. A huge part of that new journey is coming to find your place in the Church of Jesus Christ. You will never walk alone... This series of lectures explores just what it means to become a Christian, to share your faith with other Christians. We will open up some of the great things that you can expect from your church, and together you reach out to a world ready for the gospel.

Experimentation in worship forms is, in large part, an answer to the question ‘How can we make worship less boring?’ Yet, how we worship is of little consequence if we cannot accurately define the ‘what’ or, indeed, the ‘whom’ to which our worship is directed. All too often, modern evangelical statements on the nature and character of God have deviated wildly from those assumed by past generations of believers. If you find theology and worship boring, maybe it’s because you worship a boring God.

This set of lectures (part of the Theology in Thimbles series) will present the case for recapturing the attributes of God as an antidote to stale, lifeless worship that misses the wood for the teakwood guitar!
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Essays

Those who wish to qualify for either the Certificate in Theology or the Diploma in Christian Studies will be required to submit one essay in each department each year. Essay titles will be announced early in the course and students will receive guidance on the art of preparing and submitting written assignments.

Students who obtain Distinctions in at least 4 out of the 6 essays will receive a Certificate in Theology with Distinction. Similarly, students who obtain Distinctions in at least 8 out of the 12 essays will receive a Diploma in Christian Studies with Distinction.

The due dates for essays are mentioned below. You must submit the essay on time. However, if, for exceptional reasons, you require an extension, please contact the Secretary.

All essays are to be submitted by email or post. Please send them to Ruth Smith, Edinburgh Theological Seminary, The Mound, Edinburgh, EH1 2LS
Email: offices@ets.ac.uk

Students who wish merely to attend without submitting the essays are, of course, welcome (and pay a much lower fee!). However, essays are more than a means of assessment. They are an important educational tool, stimulating students to think through important issues and to express themselves clearly. Everyone is encouraged to rise to the challenge; and every effort will be made to ensure that essay-marks are confidential.

Essays: Due Dates

Biblical Studies: 12 December 2020
Christian Doctrine: 16 January 2021
Practical Theology: 13 February 2021

GENERAL INFORMATION

Food and drink

In normal circumstances, for Edinburgh students, coffee/tea will be available in the ETS Dining Room between 9.30 and 10.00 and from 11.15 to 11.45 every morning of the Course. The lunch-break will be from 1.00 to 2.00 pm, and again the Dining Room will be available, and coffee/tea will be provided. Students can either bring their own packed lunches or patronise the many sandwich bars in the neighbourhood. Other venues will have their own local arrangements.

Security

Every effort will be made to maintain as high a level of security as possible, but ETS is a public building and it is impossible to screen all those who enter or to maintain total vigilance. Students are urged to take no risks with valuables (including coats, briefcases and handbags).

ETS cannot accept responsibility for lost or stolen items.
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Facilities for the disabled

The ETS forecourt has limited car-parking, particularly mindful for the needs of the disabled. There is also a ramp for wheel-chair entry at the ETS entrance. This ramp, fitted with a handrail and low steps, is also suitable for those who have difficulty with normal steps. There is a lift to all floors and all rooms have wheel-chair access.

Graduation ceremony

Arrangements for graduation will be made towards the end of the session.