



WESTFIELD HOUSE

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The Evangelical Lutheran Church of England (ELCE), a charity registered in England and Wales, no. 220466

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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS
Academic Year 2008-2009

Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	2
Explanation.....	4
Terms and Hours.....	4
University Lectures.....	4
Notes to Overseas Students.....	4
Theological Languages	5
TL 01.a, b, c • Biblical Hebrew and Aramaic.....	5
TL 01.d • Intermediate Biblical Hebrew (Hebrew Readings).....	5
TL 01.e,f • Advanced Hebrew.....	5
TL 02.a, b, c • New Testament Greek.....	5
TL 02.d • Greek Readings.....	5
TL 03 • Biblical Hermeneutics.....	5
TL 04.a, b, c • Classical Latin.....	5
TL 05.a, b, c • Theological German.....	5
TL 06.a, b, c • Aramaic and Syriac.....	5
Old Testament.....	6
OT 01 • Old Testament Survey.....	6
OT 02 • Exodus and the Torah.....	6
OT 03 • Isaiah and the Prophets.....	6
OT 04 • Psalms and the Writings.....	6
OT 05 • Pentateuchal Writing [book].....	6
OT 06 • Hebrew Prophet [book].....	6
OT 07 • Old Testament Book Elective [book].....	6
OT 08 • Introduction to the Septuagint.....	6
OT 09 • Introduction to the Dead Sea Scrolls.....	6
New Testament.....	7
NT 01 • New Testament Survey.....	7
NT 02.a, b • New Testament Introduction.....	7
NT 03 • First Century Judaism.....	7
NT 04 • Synoptic Gospels.....	7
NT 05 • Pauline Epistles.....	7
NT 06 • Johannine Literature.....	7
NT 07 • New Testament Book Elective [book].....	7
Historical Theology.....	8
HT 01 • Early Church.....	8
HT 02 • Mediaeval Church.....	8
HT 03.a • Continental Reformation.....	8
HT 03.b • English Reformation.....	8
HT 04 • Readings in Luther.....	8
HT 05 • Modern Church.....	8
HT 06 • Patristics Elective [Church Father].....	8
HT 07 • Historical Theology Elective [Topic].....	8
Systematic Theology.....	9
ST 01 • Christian Doctrine.....	9
ST 02.a • Lutheran Confessions I [Creeds/Catechisms].....	9
ST 02.b • Lutheran Confessions II [AC/Apology].....	9
ST 02.c • Lutheran Confessions III [SA/FC].....	9
ST 03.a • Dogmatics I: Revelation, Scripture, God and Creation.....	9
ST 03.b • Dogmatics II: Christology, Justification and Sanctification.....	9
ST 03.c • Dogmatics III: Grace and Sacraments.....	9
ST 04 • Philosophy of Religion.....	9
ST 05 • Christian Ethics.....	10
ST 06 • Comparative Symbolics.....	10
ST 07 • World Religions.....	10
ST 08 • Dogmatics Elective [Locus].....	10

Practical Theology	11
PT 01 • Pastoral and Diaconal Offices.....	11
PT 02 • Pastoral Practice.....	11
PT 03.a-b • Lutheran Liturgy.....	11
PT 04 • Christian Education.....	11
PT 05.a • Homiletics I.....	11
PT 05.b • Homiletics II.....	11
PT 06.a, b, c • Pericope Seminar.....	11
PT 07 • Preaching Assignments and Field Work.....	11

Explanation

Terms and Hours

The Westfield House academic year corresponds closely to that of the University of Cambridge, being divided into three terms of ten weeks each (Michaelmas, Lent, Easter). Westfield courses are considered to be active for the full length of the academic year, and often involve a combination of internal instruction/supervision and attached university lectures. The internal instruction will usually be completed within one term, while the attached university lectures may occur in the same or a different term.

Most courses involve instruction totalling, on average, three hours per week for the length of one term. Where university lectures are attached, however, the hours will be divided between the two forms of instruction (e.g., two hours per week of in-house instruction for one term, plus one hour per week university lecture in another term). The letters 'a', 'b', 'c', etc., after a course code indicate that the course involves in-house instruction/supervision for more than one term. Each letter, therefore, implies three termly hours.

University Lectures

The University lecture list is revised each year. While many lecture series remain unchanged, there are always some additions and deletions to the list, which is not published until the beginning of the academic year. For this reason, lectures attached to internal courses are not listed.

Notes to Overseas Students

It is impossible for Westfield House to offer all courses every year. Students from overseas applying to study for a year or less may need to be flexible in the courses they request.

Some practical courses are taught with particular reference to the British cultural context, and involve field-work in the same (e.g., Pastoral Practice, Christian Education). It may be more appropriate to complete these courses in one's home institution, if possible. Students might also choose to undertake such courses in both contexts, benefiting uniquely from each.

Theological Languages

TL 01.a, b, c • Biblical Hebrew and Aramaic

The student is expected to master the morphology of Biblical Hebrew, and acquire a working knowledge of the syntax and vocabulary. The course also includes a cursory introduction to Biblical Aramaic. (9 credit hours)

TL 01.d • Intermediate Biblical Hebrew (Hebrew Readings)

A review of Biblical Hebrew grammar and translation of selected texts. Designed both to increase the ability to translate, and to advance knowledge of Hebrew syntax. (3 credit hours)

Prerequisite: TL 01.a, b, c [Biblical Hebrew and Aramaic] or its equivalent.

TL 01.e,f • Advanced Hebrew

A study of the grammar of the language of the Hebrew Bible for those who have mastered the fundamentals of the Hebrew language and possess a good grasp of its phonology, morphology and vocabulary. Includes translation of selected texts of the Hebrew Bible and exposure to the critical textual apparatus, the Masorah, texts from the Dead Sea Scrolls, and Rabbinic writings. (6 credit hours)

Prerequisite: TL 01.a, b, c [Biblical Hebrew and Aramaic] or its equivalent.

TL 02.a, b, c • New Testament Greek

The student is expected to master the grammar and syntax of the Greek of the New Testament, and be able to translate into English passages without reference tools. (9 credit hours)

TL 02.d • Greek Readings

This course reviews and extends the skills acquired in the basic Greek course. Selected texts from the New Testament and inter-testamental writings are translated.

Prerequisite: TL 02a, b, c [New Testament Greek].

TL 03 • Biblical Hermeneutics

This course teaches the student to interpret the Hebrew and Greek Biblical text in keeping with the presuppositions of confessional Lutheranism. It also acquaints the student with current hermeneutical theories and issues. (3 credit hours).

Prerequisites: TL 01.a, b, c, [Biblical Hebrew and Aramaic] and TL 02.a, b, c [New Testament Greek] or their equivalents.

TL 04.a, b, c • Classical Latin

An introduction to the grammar, syntax, and vocabulary of classical Latin. (9 credit hours)

TL 05.a, b, c • Theological German

An introduction to the grammar and theological vocabulary of the German language for the sake of reading knowledge. (9 credit hours)

TL 06.a, b, c • Aramaic and Syriac

An introduction to the grammar, syntax, and vocabulary of the Aramaic and Syriac languages and exposure to Biblical Aramaic as well as some primary texts in Judaism and Christianity, including Targumim, the Peshitta and the use of these texts as tools for the study of the Bible and the ancient Christian Church. (9 credit hours)

Prerequisite: TL 01.a, b, c, [Biblical Hebrew] or its equivalent.

Old Testament

OT 01 • Old Testament Survey

On the basis of the English text, the student is introduced to the contents, theology, and important passages of the Old Testament. (6 credit hours)

OT 02 • Exodus and the Torah

An isagogical study of the first part of the Hebrew Bible, known as the Torah, followed by an in-depth exegetical study of selected sections of the book of Exodus on the basis of the Hebrew text. (3 credit hours).

Prerequisite: TL 01.a, b, c [Biblical Hebrew and Aramaic] or its equivalent.

OT 03 • Isaiah and the Prophets

An isagogical study of the second part of the Hebrew Bible, known as the Prophets, followed by an in-depth exegetical study of selected readings from Isaiah on the basis of the Hebrew text. (4 credit hours)

Prerequisite: TL 01.a, b, c [Biblical Hebrew and Aramaic] or its equivalent.

OT 04 • Psalms and the Writings

An isagogical study of the third section of the Hebrew Bible, known as the Writings, in addition to an exegetical study of selected Psalms on the basis of the Hebrew text. This course also includes a general introduction to Hebrew poetry. (3 credit hours)

Prerequisite: TL 01.a, b, c [Biblical Hebrew and Aramaic] or its equivalent.

OT 05 • Pentateuchal Writing [*book*]

A detailed exegesis of the Hebrew text of a Pentateuchal book, in whole or in part, including discussion of text criticism, historical context, literary features, and theological issues. (3 credit hours)

Prerequisite: TL 01.a, b, c [Biblical Hebrew and Aramaic] or its equivalent.

OT 06 • Hebrew Prophet [*book*]

A detailed exegesis of the Hebrew text of a Prophetic book, in whole or in part, including discussion of text criticism, historical context, literary features, and theological issues. (3 credit hours)

Prerequisite: TL 01.a, b, c [Biblical Hebrew and Aramaic] or its equivalent.

OT 07 • Old Testament Book Elective [*book*]

An advanced level of isagogics, exegesis, and theological study of a selected Old Testament book on the basis of the Hebrew text. (3 credit hours)

Prerequisite: TL 01.a, b, c [Biblical Hebrew and Aramaic] or its equivalent.

OT 08 • Introduction to the Septuagint

A examination of the general issues in the study and use of the Septuagint, including origin, text criticism, language, translation technique, and the Septuagint's relationship to the New Testament and the canon of Scripture as a whole. By the end of the course, the student should be able to use the Septuagint as a valuable tool in the exegesis and study of the Bible. (3 credit hours)

Prerequisite: TL -2.a, b, c [New Testament Greek] or its equivalent.

OT 09 • Introduction to the Dead Sea Scrolls

A survey of the ancient Jewish literature discovered near the Dead Sea at the site of Qumran. This course includes a discussion of how these texts inform an understanding of the history and diversity of inter-testamental Judaism. Attention is also given to the relationship between the Dead Sea Scrolls and the text of the Old Testament. (3 credit hours)

New Testament

NT 01 • New Testament Survey

On the basis of the English text, the student is expected to learn an outline of each Book of the New Testament, and also to acquire a deeper knowledge of significant features of individual chapters of the Book. The Books are treated in the order of the English canon. (3 credit hours)

NT 02.a, b • New Testament Introduction

A study of the history of the New Testament canon and questions of authorship, dating and other isagogical issues relating to each book of the New Testament. The major theological themes are examined and the various literary components of the New Testament are applied to a topical treatment of its theology. (6 credit hours)

NT 03 • First Century Judaism

This course deals with the Jewish institutions in the New Testament period. The relevance of the Roman and Hellenistic context is also explored. (3 credit hours)

NT 04 • Synoptic Gospels

The Gospel according to St. Mark is given special consideration. The course deals with questions of introduction, including the relationship of St Mark to the other synoptic gospels, theology, and exegesis of selected passages in the Greek text. (3 credit hours)

Prerequisite: TL 02.a, b, c [New Testament Greek] or its equivalent.

NT 05 • Pauline Epistles

The course examines the structure and major themes of the Pauline epistles. Special consideration is given to the isagogics, text criticism and exegesis of the Greek text of the epistle to the Romans. (4 credit hours)

Prerequisite: TL 02.a, b, c [New Testament Greek] or its equivalent.

NT 06 • Johannine Literature

An introduction to the Fourth Gospel, the Johannine Epistles and the Apocalypse, with exegesis of selected passages of the Greek text. (3 credit hours)

Prerequisite: TL 02.a, b, c [New Testament Greek] or its equivalent.

NT 07 • New Testament Book Elective [*book*]

Advanced level isagogics, theology, and exegesis of a selected New Testament book on the basis of the Greek text. (3 credit hours)

Prerequisite: TL 02.a, b, c [New Testament Greek] or its equivalent.

Historical Theology

Note: For most Church History courses, extensive use is made of University lectures. Since these lectures are delivered almost exclusively during the Michaelmas and Lent terms, they may often be separated from the Westfield House component of the courses, which tends to be offered in the Easter term.

HT 01 • Early Church

A study of the history of the Christian Church up to the year AD 461. Special attention is paid to the theological controversies and the development of doctrine. (3 credit hours)

HT 02 • Mediaeval Church

This course deals with the history of the Christian Church from AD 461 to 1400. The development of theological ideas is traced through significant personalities and movements of the period. (3 credit hours)

HT 03.a • Continental Reformation

Focusing on Lutheran Reformation, this course also makes reference to other movements of the Reformation period. (3 credit hours)

HT 03.b • English Reformation

A survey of the history of the period from the eve of the Reformation to the reign of Elizabeth I, followed by a critical examination of both traditional and revisionist analyses. Special attention is paid to primary sources and to the theology of the English reformers. (3 credit hours)

HT 04 • Readings in Luther

Extensive readings from Luther's writings in English, concentrating on the important disputations in the life of the Reformer. The writings are set in the context of their historical and theological background. (3 credit hours)

HT 05 • Modern Church

The theological developments and the major theologians of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries are considered. (3 credit hours)

HT 06 • Patristics Elective [*Church Father*]

A thorough investigation of the life, writings, and theology of a selected Church Father on the basis of primary sources. (3 credit hours)

HT 07 • Historical Theology Elective [*Topic*]

Supervisions upon an agreed topic in conjunction with University lectures. (3 credit hours)

Systematic Theology

ST 01 • Christian Doctrine

An introduction to Christian doctrine on the basis of selected readings in the Scriptures, the Ecumenical Creeds, and the Confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. (3 credit hours)

ST 02.a • Lutheran Confessions I [Creeds/Catechisms]

The Creeds {Apostles', Nicene, Athanasian} are examined with particular reference to their historical contexts and role as further exposition of the basic Christian confession: 'Jesus Christ is Lord.' The history of catechesis leads into a thorough study of the Small and Large Catechisms of Martin Luther. (3 credit hours)

ST 02.b • Lutheran Confessions II [AC/Apology]

A study of the theology and terminology of Augsburg Confession and the Apology on the basis of its historical text and context. (3 credit hours)

ST 02.c • Lutheran Confessions III [SA/FC]

A study of the theology and terminology of the Lutheran Confession, on the basis of its historical text and context. Attention is directed to the Smalcald Articles and the Formula of Concord as further expositions of the Augsburg Confession. (3 credit hours)

ST 03.a • Dogmatics I: Revelation, Scripture, God and Creation

One of three courses which together cover the field of Christian Dogmatics. Considers the nature and character of dogmatics, divine revelation, the inspiration and nature of Holy Scripture, the doctrine of God, the doctrine of creation, divine providence, angelology, and the doctrine of man. (3 credit hours)

ST 03.b • Dogmatics II: Christology, Justification and Sanctification

One of three courses which together cover the field of Christian Dogmatics. Considers the doctrine of the Person of Christ, the doctrine of the States of Christ, and the doctrine of the Office of Christ, Grace, Justification through Faith, Saving Faith, Conversion, Sanctification, and Perseverance in Faith. Particular attention is paid to the importance of Objective Justification, and to the understanding of Sanctification. (3 credit hours)

ST 03.c • Dogmatics III: Grace and Sacraments

One of three courses which together cover the field of Christian Dogmatics. Considers the Office of the Holy Ministry, the Means of Grace, Holy Baptism, Holy Absolution, the Lord's Supper, the doctrine of the Church, Eternal Election, and Eschatology. (3 credit hours)

ST 04 • Philosophy of Religion

Surveys some of the concerns raised by philosophers relating to the Christian faith. A wide range of topics are available, and students have the opportunity to specialise in areas such as evil and providence, science and religion, metaphysics, or the classical arguments for the existence of God. Topics are considered from a confessional Christian perspective. (3 credit hours)

ST 05 • Christian Ethics

The supervision of lectures within this course deals with ethics as belonging to the realm of natural law, arising out of the distinction between the two kingdoms. It includes a survey of movements in the secular study of ethics. Special consideration is given to a selected topic, for example medical ethics. (3 credit hours)

ST 06 • Comparative Symbolics

A study of the doctrinal position of Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic Churches; historical background and present doctrinal position of the Reformed bodies; trends and tendencies in other denominations and Christian religious bodies. (3 credit hours)

ST 07 • World Religions

This course gives a brief survey of the world's major religions, but aims to give a deeper understanding of one or two religious systems, including Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam and Judaism. (3 credit hours)

ST 08 • Dogmatics Elective [Locus]

An advanced consideration of a single locus of doctrine, including a study of its Scriptural basis, historical treatment and a survey of modern issues. (3 credit hours)

Practical Theology

PT 01 • Pastoral and Diaconal Offices

Treats the doctrine of the Holy Ministry and its relationship to the Diaconate and the theological and ethical bases of pastoral and diaconal ministry. (2 credit hours)

PT 02 • Pastoral Practice

A practical course applying the principles of pastoral theology to all aspects of pastoral care. This course is normally only available to those working towards ordination, and includes parish experience often entailing weekend commitments. (3 credit hours)

PT 03.a-b • Lutheran Liturgy

An integrated study of the Liturgy with particular emphasis on theology of worship, the Divine Service, the Daily Office, and the history and pastoral practice of the rites provided for the Lutheran congregation in the hymnals and agendas of the church. Includes practice in leading the services and field-work assignments. (6 credit hours)

PT 04 • Christian Education

This course is designed primarily to equip the pastor for teaching in the parish ministry. The theology of Christian teaching is examined before pedagogical implications of cognitive development and principles of sound educational practice are tackled. There is normally opportunity for practical application in supervised Sunday School and Bible Class assignments, where appropriate. (3 credit hours)

PT 05.a • Homiletics I

This course introduces the art of sermon construction and development. It normally leads to the student's preparation of his first public sermon, and is therefore usually available only for those preparing for ordination, and having completed some courses in exegesis and systematic theology. (3 credit hours)

PT 05.b • Homiletics II

This advance course examines particular types of preaching text (parables, miracles, Old Testament, etc.), and considers the preparation of occasional sermons and preaching series. Several practical assignments will be entailed. (3 credit hours)

Prerequisite: PT 01.a [Homiletics I] or its equivalent.

PT 06.a, b, c • Pericope Seminar

All members of Westfield House are expected to participate in the weekly seminar, which usually focuses on one of the pericopes for an upcoming Sunday. Students are assigned questions concerning the text focussing on a detailed exegesis of the text in the original language. Allowance is made for the participation of students who have not yet mastered the Biblical languages. (1 credit hour per term)

PT 07 • Preaching Assignments and Field Work

A menu-driven individualised programme in support of the courses offered in Practical Theology which exposes the student to the following aspects of the pastoral vocation: preaching, worship, youth and children's ministry, women's ministry, evangelism, ecumenical observation, and church administration.