



EDINBURGH
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Saturday Courses

Certificate in Theology

Diploma in Christian Studies

Course Information

2020-2021

Edinburgh Theological Seminary

Certificate in Theology/Diploma in Christian Studies: 2020/21

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**
- Hamish Sneddon: Studies in 1 Kings: King, Temple, Prophet and People in the Story of God
 - 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.
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| 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

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Lecture Details

Biblical Studies

Lecturer: Hamish Sneddon: Studies in 1 Kings: King, Temple, Prophet and People in the Story of God

Time: 10.00 am to 11.15 am

The books of the Kings can, like much of the narrative parts of the Old Testament, be tragically closed books to us today as believers. We know about Solomon, Elijah and Elisha, but can struggle to see the significance of large chunks of God's Word as it applies to the church and the world today. Why is so much made of the Temple? Why does the person and work of the King of Israel have significance to 21st Century Scotland? What exactly is a prophet? As we work together through the book of 1 Kings, we will see that the answers to these questions find their full expression in the context of God's unfolding story of redemptive love for His world, and are wonderfully enriching for our understanding and following of God's true King, Jesus Christ.

12 September 2020	Getting our Bearings in 1 Kings
10 October 2020	God's Pattern and Promise: Solomon and Partial Fulfilment
7 November 2020	God's King and Wisdom
12 December 2020	God's King and the Temple
16 January 2021	God's Judgement on His King: The Splitting of the Nation
13 February 2021	God's Spokesmen: The Prophets
20 March 2021	God's Man: Elijah
17 April 2021	God's Son: Jesus Christ as Prophet, Priest and King

Practical Theology

Lecturer John Angus MacLeod: Why You'll Never Walk Alone: Exploring Church Membership

Time: 11.45 am to 1.00pm

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 what the church expects from you as you take up the God-given opportunity to shape the lives of your fellow Christians and together you reach out to a world ready for the gospel.

12 September 2020	The Christian and the church: Why and how should a Christian profess their faith in Jesus Christ?
10 October 2020	I ask the church: Provide me with Organised Worship and Edifying Teaching
7 November 2020	I ask the church: Support me with Personal Mentoring and Pastoral Care
12 December 2020	I ask the church: Furnish me with Serving Opportunities and Evangelistic Possibilities
16 January 2021	The church asks you for: Vital Engagement and Spiritual Growth
13 February 2021	The church asks you for: Personal Discipleship and Dedicated Prayer
20 March 2021	The church asks you for: Spiritual Service and Gospel Priority
17 April 2021	The church asks you for: Cheerful Giving and Costly Love

Christian Doctrine

Lecturer: Nick Mackison: One of the Boys or One of a Kind? Why the God of the Bible is Nothing Like Us

Time: 2.00 pm to 3.15 pm

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!

12 September 2020	Unknowable yet Knowable (Incomprehensibility)
10 October 2020	Perfect yet Relatable (Infinity)
7 November 2020	Independent yet Dependable (Aseity)
12 December 2020	Simple but not Simplistic (Simplicity)
16 January 2021	Changeless yet Dynamic (Immutability)
13 February 2021	Impassible yet Passionate (Impassibility)
20 March 2021	Eternal yet Contemporary (Eternity)
17 April 2021	All the Omni's (Presence, Potency, Knowledge)

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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.