

DISTANCE LEARNING

DIPLOMA
IN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN STUDIES

NEW FROM
OCTOBER
2011!



Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies

DISTANCE LEARNING

<http://distancelearning.iocs.cam.ac.uk/>



"We are committed to a high quality learning experience for our students"

Professor David Frost, Principal

ANCIENT FAITH MEETS THE DIGITAL AGE

From October 2009 the Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies offers a version of its Cambridge-based courses on-line, using the internet to make available some of the most distinguished teachers of Orthodox studies to students anywhere in the world.

EACH DISTANCE-LEARNER WILL HAVE:

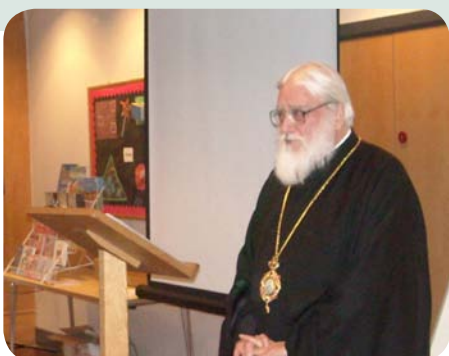
- » a personal Tutor or Supervisor, who keeps contact by e-mail, advises on study techniques, comments on drafts of work to be submitted, and conducts online discussions with groups of students at least once per week;
- » access to 'blogs' and 'chat-rooms', so as to keep contact with others studying the same subject;
- » additional material offered on-line for when you find it hard to access libraries;
- » a 'virtual university' centred on the Institute's website (www.iocs.cam.ac.uk) and IOCS video streaming website (<http://distancelearning.iocs.cam.ac.uk/>), giving the normal ambience of higher education: lectures on related matters or on subjects of general interest, recorded symposia and discussions, recitals of religious music, and viewing of Institute worship.

- » The Distance Learning programme follows our Cambridge face-to-face courses. You will be taught by experts drawn from the United Kingdom and around the world, who present an up-to-the-minute digest of their topic on video and sound recording, available at any time and anywhere for private study.
- » We aim to offer the whole 'Cambridge experience', so that you can sit in on the lecture room while your fellow-students discuss with the lecturer what has been said. But we also make special provision to combat 'the loneliness of the long-distance learner'.
- » The modules are taught as separate units, so students may join the course at any time. However, the modules follow in sequence through the two years, and students are advised to hold as far as possible to the proposed two-monthly timetable for each module, so that staff and students may consider the same topic together. The Diploma offers a unique opportunity to enhance one's understanding of basic Orthodox doctrine, faith and worship gained at the Certificate level.



OUR LECTURERS INCLUDE:

- Metropolitan Kallistos Ware (University of Oxford)
- Revd Professor Andrew Louth (University of Durham)
- Dr Sebastian Brock (University of Oxford)
- Archimandrite Zacharias Zacharou (Monastery of St John the Baptist, Essex)
- Revd Dr Nikolai Sakharov (Monastery of St John the Baptist, Essex)
- Dr Mary Cunningham (University of Nottingham)
- Dr Marcus Plested (Academic Director, IOCS)
- Archimandrite Ephrem Lash (University of Newcastle)

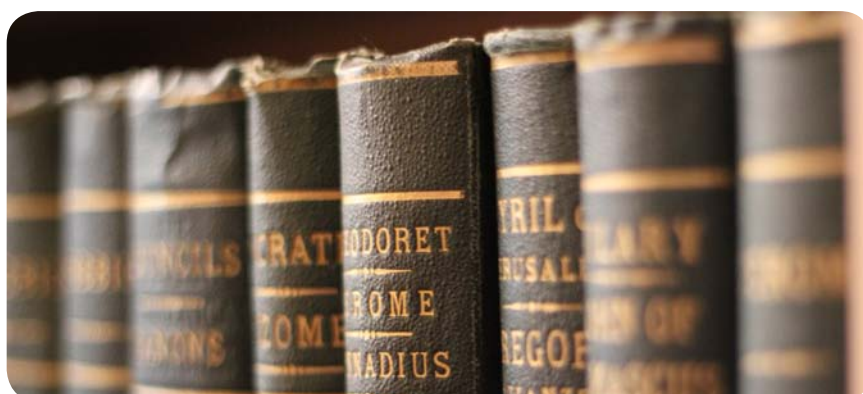


Diploma in Orthodox Christian Studies

From 2011-12, the Diploma Modules offered through distance learning are:

YEAR ONE	Module One (10 credits)	The Mother of God and Athonite Monasticism
	Module Two (10 credits)	Further Studies in Prayer
	Module Three (10 credits)	Further Studies in Trinity and Christology
	Module Four (10 credits)	Further Studies in Ecclesiology
	Module Five (20 credits)	The Orthodox Approach to the Bible
YEAR TWO	Module One (10 credits)	Further New Testament Study: St Paul
	Module Two (10 credits)	Further Studies in Iconography and Iconology
	Module Three (10 credits)	The Divine Liturgy
	Module Four (10 credits)	Mission
	Module Five (20 credits)	Orthodoxy and Other Religions

IOCS reserves the right to modify this programme in case of necessity.



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“Wonderful interactive quality ... It is not an exaggeration to say that this course has probably been the single BEST academic experience I have ever had.”



WHAT GUARANTEES ME A QUALITY EXPERIENCE?

» The distinction of our specialist teachers and our decade of experience in offering Orthodox Christian studies. Dr Marcus Plested (MA, MPhil, DPhil Oxon), Academic Director of IOCS, a noted scholar in Orthodox Theology, has worked closely with our lecturers to create a high quality academic programme of studies which has attracted praise from across the Orthodox world for a decade.

» The Institute has engaged a Distance Learning specialist academic, Dr Constantinos Athanasopoulos (MEd, PhD, FHEA), as its Director of Distance Learning.

» We use the most up-to-date techniques for assisting distance learners and offer our courses on the Moodle platform that is favoured by the Open University and other leading providers of distance-learning at university level.

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Assessment is normally made on one 2,000 word essay for each 10 credit-point module. Course requirements include viewing or hearing lectures on the video or sound recordings provided. Essays should be submitted electronically, and must be a student's own work. It must represent the student's individual understanding and interpretation of a topic, and should be prepared according to guidelines for theological essays posted on the course website.



Diploma in Orthodox Christian Studies

“I soon came to realize that you cannot experience the depth of the Christian faith unless you experience the great wisdom and insights of the historic Church. Certainly, we can be Christians; but without a knowledge and understanding of our history, we miss so much. This course is about bringing alive the fullness of our historic Christian faith.”



WHAT ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS ARE THERE?

- » To be admitted to the Diploma, candidates must first finish their studies at the Certificate level.
- » If you do not have a university degree, you will have to show secondary school-leaving qualifications from a recognized institution in the United Kingdom or, for overseas students, the equivalent.
- » If you are not a native speaker of English, you will be required to reach a level of 5.0 at IELTS, or an equivalent score in another recognized English language proficiency test. Comprehension of spoken English and the ability to write English with a measure of correctness are essential. Tutors will give overseas students appropriate assistance in essay-writing but cannot give language tuition of a remedial kind.

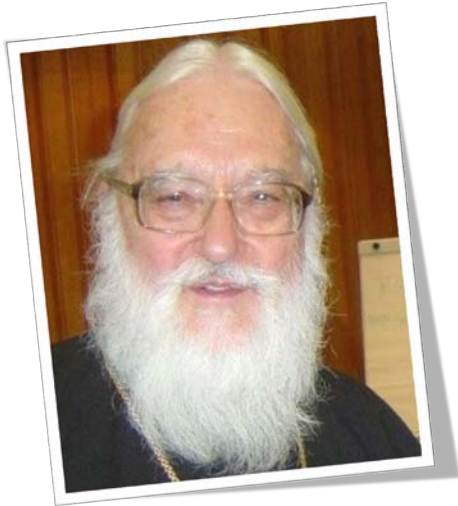
CAN I COME ‘JUST FOR THE RIDE’?

We recognize that students do not always want to write essays, pass examinations or gain a paper certificate. Many hope to improve their knowledge of Orthodox theology and practice, but are not preparing for the priesthood or lay ministry. They enrol simply out of interest or for personal development. We welcome these students, whether Orthodox, or from another religious background or from none at all. They do the same course but are not expected to submit written work. To start as an ‘auditor’ (i.e. with no obligation to submit an essay) is a good way to ‘taste and see’. You can always take modules for credit at a later date. To re-take a Module you only have to pay £50!



DISTANCE LEARNING

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“Let us show respect to the inexhaustible variety of character and outlook among our pupils. For, as St. Paul insists, there are many differentiations within the created order: there is one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon and yet another glory of the stars (1 Cor 15:41). So it is in our Institute, and in every place of learning: one pupil differs from another in gifts and potentiality and this is something that a true teacher will always respect.”

Metropolitan Kallistos Ware

REGISTRATION

- » Students are strongly encouraged to register for the whole Diploma programme.
- » Please complete and return the ‘DL Registration form’ on the next page to the Institute by posting it to the address given below or e-mailing it to info@iocs.cam.ac.uk.
- » The form should be accompanied by photocopies or scans of certificates that prove educational qualifications and language proficiency (when required).
- » Upon acceptance of applicants in the course, first payment is due one week before the start of your module.

For further information about any issue related to the IOCS Distance Learning Programme you can contact Dr. C. Athanasopoulos, Director of Distance Learning at ca356@cam.ac.uk

FEES

For the academic period 2011-2013, the fee for each Diploma module is £220, making a total of £2,200 for the 120 credit qualification. However, a discounted fee of £1,980, representing a saving of 10%, is available to those who pay before their course commences. Monastics and clergy who have a letter of introduction from their Bishop or superior and also pay at commencement may receive a further 10% discount. For students seeking financial help from local churches or other charitable bodies, the Institute is happy to supply a letter of provisional acceptance. **Payments may be made online (<http://www.iocs.cam.ac.uk/payments.html>), by cheque or by credit card over the phone.** Arrangements can be made to pay by bank transfer, if necessary, but transfer costs must be borne by the student.



CONTACTS

The Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies
Wesley House, Jesus Lane,
Cambridge CB5 8BJ, UK
Tel: +44 (0) 1223 741037;
Fax: +44 (0) 1223 741370
e-mail: info@iocs.cam.ac.uk or
ca356@cam.ac.uk



Distance Learning Registration Form

(Enrolment is ongoing and is open throughout the course year; intakes take place every two months, i.e. October, December, February, April, June, August. When completed, return this form to IOCS)

First Name: _____ Surname: _____

Address for Correspondence: _____

Nationality: _____ E-mail: _____ Skype/Messenger ID: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Secondary School or Higher Education Qualification (please include a copy of the certificate with your registration): _____

Name and Address of awarding body: _____

English Language Proficiency (for overseas students only: please provide name of the test, result, and date, and include a copy of the qualification with your registration):

Name: _____ Result: _____ Date: _____

Do you wish to receive an on-line session via Skype on how to use the IOCS Moodle resources and other related software? Yes No

When do you wish to begin the IOCS DL Programme? _____

Which module(s) do you wish to register for? (We generally advise students with busy lives to take one Module per intake) _____

Please give a short statement expressing your reason for wishing to study at IOCS via Distance Learning: _____

I wish to enrol in the whole 2-year Diploma programme and pay the discounted overall fee.

I wish to pay for the first module fee for now and then before each subsequent module.

I wish to receive proof of provisional acceptance from IOCS, so that I can seek financial assistance from my Church/parish.

Please supply the name and address of one person from whom we can obtain a reference (A relative should not be given as a referee): _____

How did you find out about our Distance Learning programme? _____

Signature _____ Date _____



The Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies was founded in 1999, as a pan-Orthodox Institute, with the blessing of those bishops with responsibilities in the United Kingdom. It is a full member of the Cambridge Theological Federation.

OIKOYMENIKON
ΠΑΤΡΙΑΡΧΕΙΟΝ



ECUMENICAL
PATRIARCHATE

ΙΕΡΑ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΗ ΘΥΑΤΕΙΡΩΝ & Μ. ΒΡΕΤΑΝΙΑΣ
ARCHDIOCESE OF THYATEIRA & GREAT BRITAIN
5, Craven Hill, London W2 3EN . Tel: 020-7723 4787 . Fax: 020-7224 9301
E-mail: mail@thyateira.org.uk . Website: www.thyateira.org.uk

Dr C. Athanasopoulos, FHEA
Director of Distance Learning
Institute for Orthodox Studies
Wesley House
Jesus Lane
CAMBRIDGE CB5 8BJ

Dear Dr Athanasopoulos,

I feel that it is very important for the people to learn by correspondence the word of God and the teaching of the Orthodox Church. In our times we are privileged to enjoy the new scientific technical inventions which we must use for the Christian Faith. Do not forget the words of St. Paul to the Christians of Rome, " *But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they going to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they going to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they going to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'*" (Rom. 10:14-15)

I am very pleased and impressed by your effort to bring the Good News to those who are both near and afar. I am sure that God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit will guide you and give you the strength and the wisdom to do whatever pleases Him and help the faithful to draw near to Christ our Lord and Saviour.

London, 20th July 2009

Gregorios, Archbishop of
Thyateira and Great Britain

IOCS
CAMBRIDGE

