

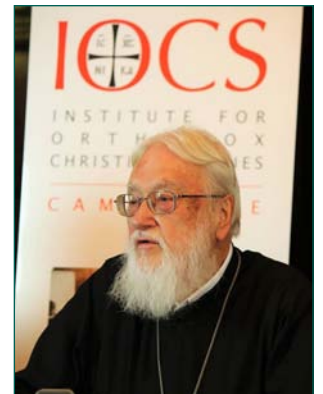


DISTANCE LEARNING

Certificate in Orthodox Christian Studies

“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



Enrolments in the course take place every two months

CERTIFICATE MODULES OFFERED THROUGH DISTANCE LEARNING: (normal progression)

YEAR ONE	PRAYER (October-November)	Module One (10 credits)
	SCRIPTURE: THE GOSPELS (December-January)	Module Two (10 credits)
	ORTHODOX CHRISTOLOGY AND TRINITARIAN THEOLOGY (February-March)	Module Three (10 credits)
	MYSTERIES OF LIFE AND DEATH (April-May)	Module Four (10 credits)
	‘ASCENT TO HOLINESS’ (Extended theme, for double credit) (June-July)	Module Five (20 credits)
YEAR TWO	ICON AND LITURGY (October-November)	Module One (10 credits)
	ORTHODOXY IN HISTORY AND PRACTICE (December-January)	Module Two (10 credits)
	SANCTITY AND ASCETICISM (February-March)	Module Three (10 credits)
	THE CHURCH (April-May)	Module Four (10 credits)
	‘LOVE’ (Extended theme, for double credit) (June-July)	Module Five (20 credits)

Alternative arrangements can be made for students wishing to re-take modules or take modules out of sequence.

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

ANCIENT FAITH MEETS THE DIGITAL AGE

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



“Our Distance Learning students report that the Certificate course compares favourably with anything of the kind they have experienced, and single out for praise the care of their personal tutor and the experience of welcoming eminent speakers to one’s living-room”

Professor David Frost, Former Principal

EACH DISTANCE-LEARNER WILL HAVE:

» a personal Tutor 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 ‘discussion forums’ 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.

Certificate Module on Prayer

Dashboard > IOCS > CF101

NAVIGATION

Dashboard
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asked Abba Agathon: Among all good works, which is the virtue that requires the greatest effort?

orgive me, but I think that there is no greater labour than that of prayer
very time a person wants to pray, one’s enemies, the demons, want to
from praying, for they know that it is only by turning one away from
can hinder one’s journey. Whatever good works a person undertakes,
es in them, one will attain rest. But prayer is warfare to the last breath.’

Ward, B., 1975: The Sayings of the Desert Fathers (Kalamazoo, Michigan: Cistercian

Certificate Module on the Mysteries of Life and Death

Dashboard > IOCS > CF104

NAVIGATION

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Important module information

Module Description, Aims and Methodology
Assessment and Marking Criteria
Here you will find guidelines regarding the essay assessment criteria
Study skills resources
How to submit your essay
Information regarding study resources, assignments and bibliography
Important Note about the Study Resources of the Module

For more than seven years the Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies has offered a version of its Cambridge-based courses online, using the internet and the latest advances in on-line teaching and learning methodology to make available some of the most distinguished teachers of Orthodox studies to students anywhere in the world.

- » 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 of the course 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.
- » Please note that August-September is a holiday period for which we do not take enrolments (except in the case of ongoing students who need to re-take modules or to follow modules they have missed).

DISTANCE LEARNING

Certificate in Orthodox Christian Studies



'Many of us would struggle to fit any further education into our increasingly busy lives; the beauty of the Distance Learning Programme at IOCS is that it fits into your life as and when you choose you have time to study, or to arrange a tutorial.'

Roulla Fiakka, Student on the IOCS DL programme

OUR LECTURERS INCLUDE:

Metropolitan Kallistos Ware (University of Oxford)

Revd Professor Andrew Louth (University of Durham)

Archimandrite Zacharias Zacharou (Monastery of St John the Baptist, Essex)

Revd Dr Nikolai Sakharov (Monastery of St John the Baptist, Essex)

Revd Dr Demetrios Bathrellos (Hellenic Open University, Visiting Professor IOCS)

Dr Marcus Plested (Academic Director, IOCS)

WHAT MAKES OUR COURSE SPECIAL:

» The distinction of our specialist teachers and twelve years of experience in offering Orthodox Christian studies.

» A team of well-trained, experienced and friendly Tutors, who are always there to accompany the students during their academic journey.

» 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. Tutors will advise on drafts and give every help to students inexperienced in putting together an academic essay.

WHAT GUARANTEES ME A QUALITY EXPERIENCE

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



'I have been particularly impressed that students always have the possibility to interact with their tutor and with other students and get support immediately.'

Johannes Klimmeck, Student on the IOCS DL programme

WHAT ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS ARE THERE?

» 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 ENROL AS AN 'AUDITOR'?

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.

Any student can follow our Certificate course via two pathways: one pathway is 'academic' and it requires students to write essays at the end of the module for which they receive marks and credits; the other pathway is 'non-academic' (and sometimes people refer to it as 'auditing') for which no essays are required. As all students receive personal tutorship during their studies (including the ones following the non-academic path) the fees are the same for both categories of students.

Students usually chose one of these pathways at the beginning of the course and let the tutor know of their choice, so that they may receive appropriate tutorship. To start as an 'auditor' only is a good way to 'taste and see'. You can always take modules for credit at a later date.

WHAT DOES MY CERTIFICATE LEAD TO?

Your IOCS-validated certificate will be regarded as a qualification in Orthodox Church circles. It can also lead immediately to entry to our Diploma programme, similar to the Certificate but at a higher level.

Both programmes of study can be submitted as 'evidence of prior learning' and for credit when seeking entry to a nationally recognized course at a British university. You may also submit them for credit when applying to enrol in the course offered by the Cambridge Theological Federation through Anglia Ruskin University, which is part-time or full-time and leads to a BA in Theology.

However each case is assessed individually and IOCS cannot guarantee that (full) credits will be awarded to all candidates.

DISTANCE LEARNING

Certificate in Orthodox Christian Studies



"I immediately knew that this programme was going to be so much fun, so enjoyable, so educational; and I didn't have to stop my life and go back to school. The Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies was providing all this to me in the comfort of my home and at times when it was convenient for me to study."

Michael Basham, Student
on the IOCS DL programme

FEES

The fee for each Certificate module is £220, which means 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. **The fee for re-taking a Module is £110**

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.

REGISTRATION

- » Students are strongly encouraged to register for the whole Certificate 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 the Institute's office at info@iocs.cam.ac.uk



CONTACTS

The Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies
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Tel: +44 (0) 1223 741037; Fax: +44 (0) 1223 741370
e-mail: info@iocs.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. 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: _____

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

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 Certificate 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 has been formally approved and blessed by the Pan-Orthodox Episcopal Assembly for Great Britain and Ireland. It is a full member of the Cambridge Theological Federation.



'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?

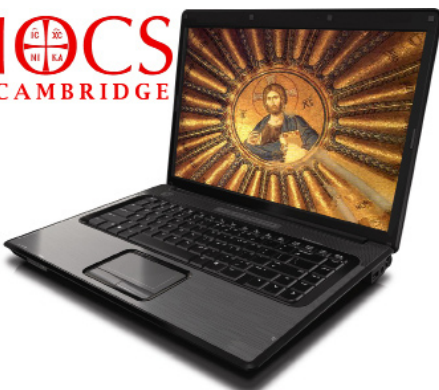
As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (Rom. 10:14-15)

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.'

Archbishop Gregorios of Thyateira and Great Britain

Chairman of the Pan-Orthodox Episcopal Assembly for Great Britain and Ireland

IOCS
CAMBRIDGE



Photography: Paul Harkin ©
(front cover:top and bottom; page 3: top left corner; page 4: bottom; page 5: centre; page 6: bottom)