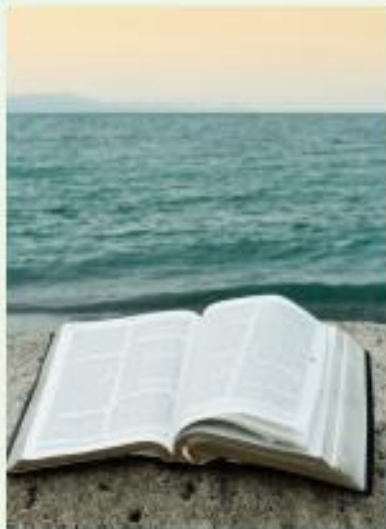


# **SWMTC**

**THEOLOGY FOR LIVING**



## **TRAINING FOR EVERYONE**

### **2024 – 25**



South West  
Ministry  
Training  
Course

THEOLOGY FOR LIVING

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**Find out more at**

[swmtc.org.uk](http://swmtc.org.uk)

# Welcome to SWMTC



South West Ministry Training Course (SWMTC) provides part-time training which is Christ-centred, world-engaging and rooted in local communities.

Our students are lay and ordained people learning generously together. We learn, we laugh, and we cry together as we come together, staff and students, to continue to discern the call of God in our lives. Although our foundation is in the Church of England in Devon and Cornwall, we welcome students from other traditions and elsewhere to join us in learning and worshipping together.

SWMTC has been training people for ordination and licensed lay ministry for over 40 years and in 2024 we are excited to launch new courses for everyone. Have you been thinking about chaplaincy or becoming a spiritual director? Or maybe working towards a higher level of qualification such as a BA or MA? We also welcome people simply to come and sit in on our Encountering Theology course. Whatever your interest, in this booklet you'll find details of all our courses, including information about time commitment and fees. More information is available at [swmtc.org](https://swmtc.org) or just get in touch and we will be happy to help.

We do hope that you will come and join us on a journey of formation and fulfilment as you follow God's leading in your life.

**Revd Dr Lucy Larkin**  
**Principal**



**Training for everyone:**

## Emmaus Spiritual Direction Course



You are invited to join a learning community preparing people to offer the ministry of Spiritual Direction.

Welcoming people from across the South West, this two-year, part-time course is for those sensing a call to listening ministry and a desire to deepen their own spiritual journey.

**Year 1** is for those who are testing a call to accompany others in the ministry of spiritual direction. It offers a foundational

understanding of spiritual direction with a focus on listening skills and spiritual conversation. Participants' own spiritual journey is deepened through an introduction to Christian spirituality and they are supported in an on-going discernment of their call to accompany others in faith.

**Year 2** is for those who have discerned a call to the ministry of spiritual direction. Participants develop advanced listening skills and good practice in supervision, whilst further deepening their own spiritual journey and awareness of the major Christian traditions.

Participants are supported in a final discernment process which may lead to an invitation to join the diocesan networks for spiritual directors in Truro and Exeter.

The course is offered as a formational learning community led by the Revd Janette Mullett and the Revd Rachel Bennetts with a team of experienced Spiritual Directors.

‘Having a Spiritual Director who is skilled in ‘holy listening’ and in helping me explore what God is up to in my life has been crucial to my ministry both before and since ordination. I am clear that every priest, and all those who exercise public ministry, should have a spiritual director or equivalent. I am delighted that SWMTC is offering this new course for Spiritual Directors and hope that many people will take up the opportunity that it offers.’

**The Rt Revd Hugh Nelson, Bishop of St Germans & Acting Bishop of Truro**

### **Duration & Attendance**

Each year runs from September to July and consists of a two-night residential weekend in Truro, five Saturdays at Plymouth Marjon University and five weekday evening Zoom™ meetings.

### **Fees**

The fee for each year of the course is £1,100. This includes the fully catered two-night residential, all teaching, course materials and tutor support throughout the course.

### **To apply**

For more information and an informal conversation, please contact:  
[principal@swmtc.org.uk](mailto:principal@swmtc.org.uk)

‘This is an exciting new development from SWMTC. I warmly commend the Spiritual Direction Course to any who seek to deepen their own spiritual life and learning, and to develop their gifts as a ‘holy listener’, able to accompany others in their vocation and spiritual journey.’

**The Rt Revd Jackie Searle, Bishop of Crediton & Acting Bishop of Exeter**

**Training for everyone:**

## Entry Level Chaplaincy Course



This new course provides the first steps into chaplaincy.

It is an opportunity to explore chaplaincy in more depth through in-person teaching and learning.

The course is for anyone, lay or ordained, who is considering chaplaincy but equally also for those who have just taken their first chaplaincy position or are looking to move into this sector.

The course involves no essay writing, instead we encourage you to keep a portfolio/journal throughout the course – adding in resources, reflections, and your personal journey.

We also ask you to find a placement (this could be your current context) in which to experience and observe chaplaincy in action. This could be a few hours a week or experienced as a two-week block – it is totally flexible. This could be different from your context if you are exploring different types of chaplaincies.

Throughout the course we are asking you to explore *Where am I called?* Key to this course is an opportunity for you to explore your calling and listen to God, in a creative learning environment. This is an ongoing strand through the course, which we will be revisiting and reflecting upon in prayer and worship.

On completion, students will receive a certificate from SWMTC. The course will be delivered as part of a theological learning community by Revd Michele Kitto, an experienced chaplain, and guest speakers.

### **Duration & Attendance**

Six in-person Saturdays at Plymouth Marjon University and one on Zoom™ throughout the year.

### **Fees**

The fee for this one-year course is £700 and includes all teaching, course materials and tutor support.

### **To apply**

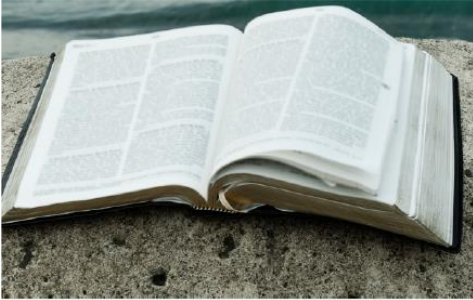
Please complete the Registration form at <https://forms.office.com/r/XFaE18DgF7>

For more information and an informal conversation, please contact: [principal@swmtc.org.uk](mailto:principal@swmtc.org.uk)



**Training for Everyone:**

# Encountering Theology: Certificate, Diploma or BA



SWMTC's academic programmes will help you learn about the Bible and the many ways Christian thinkers have tried to understand faith in God. They are validated by Durham University, as part of the Church of England's

Common Awards, and enable independent students to study part-time alongside those training for ministry as Ordinands and Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers) in the Church of England.

Each year students embark on study towards a Certificate (120 credits over two years) or a Diploma (240 credits over four years) in Theology, Ministry and Mission. It is possible to extend this to a BA over six years.

In the first year, students study 'Introduction to the Bible', 'Introduction to Christian Doctrine and History', 'Introducing Theological Reflection' (online) and 'Foundations for Ministry and Worship in Context'.

The following year contains a study module on 'Human Identity' and students pursue their interests by further studies in the Bible and Doctrine where they have some choice of the focus they research and write on. Our teachers are experienced theologians from the region, including SWMTC staff, visiting academics and church leaders.



## Pre-course requirements

- **Certificate** The basic entry level requirement is one A-level or equivalent but please contact the Academic Registrar at [academic@swmtc.org.uk](mailto:academic@swmtc.org.uk) if you do not meet this requirement as some alternative experiences or qualifications may be acceptable.
- **Diploma** Previous award of Certificate.
- **BA Degree** Previous award of Diploma.
- **Sitting in** We also welcome people who wish to simply ‘sit in’ on lectures with no requirement to complete assignments.

## Duration & Attendance

This course is delivered through six in-person study days each year on Saturdays at Plymouth Marjon University plus one on Zoom™. The Biblical module is delivered in part on Zoom™ on a Wednesday evening before each study day. We provide an induction programme on Study Skills which students studying for credit are required to attend. Teaching is supported by online sessions and resources and interspersed with online smaller local group mid-week evening meetings, called Reflective Practice Seminars. These gather twice in between each Saturday and are designed to develop, follow up and apply the teaching. Recordings and other online activities are delivered through Moodle™, our virtual learning environment.

## Fees

- **Certificate** Year 1 (70 credits): £1465\* Year 2 (50 credits): £1075\*
- **Diploma & BA** £1600 per year\*
- **Sitting in** £62 per day (or £375 for all 7 days if paid before Sept)

**Anglican students** in the process of discernment and recommended to study by the DDO may obtain a bursary toward this. Please ask.

\* Payment can be made by instalments. Includes non-refundable Registration Fee (£100). Please visit [swmtc.org.uk](http://swmtc.org.uk) for full details.

## To apply

Please contact [academic@swmtc.org.uk](mailto:academic@swmtc.org.uk) who will send you a registration form to complete. There are no interviews.

## Training for Everyone:

# MA in Theology, Ministry and Mission



We are pleased to announce our new MA study programme at SWMTC starting September 2024.

Successful candidates will complete a Masters Degree in Theology, Ministry and Mission validated by Durham University.

This inspiring and informing 3 years of part time studies will enable students to cover a range of subjects such as Environmental Ethics and Theology, Hermeneutics, Advanced Biblical and Doctrinal subjects as well as research into individual topics via Independent Learning Projects and Final Dissertation.

Join us in this manageable and affordable journey of MA studies.

### **Pre-course requirements**

Normally an Upper Second-Class Honours degree or equivalent in a subject relevant to the proposed course of study. Normally students will need a good degree (or other Level 6 qualification, such as a Graduate Diploma) in Theology. Graduates (classed as first-class or 2:1 Honours) in other disciplines with experience of Theology or Religious Studies to at least FHEQ Level 4 (undergraduate Certificate level, awarded with credit or distinction, or with an overall mark of at least 60%) may also be admitted to the programme.

**However**, especially for mature students, prior professional experience will be taken into account as well as educational qualifications.

## Duration & Attendance

The MA runs across 3 academic years (60 credits per year). This is a part-time programme. Each year consists of six Saturdays of in-person teaching at Plymouth Marjon University plus one on Zoom™ online learning and research.

## Fees

The Fee for Year 1 of MA 2024-25 is £2,500 for the year (£100 registration fee followed by three instalments of £800 due on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024, 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025 and 1st April 2025).

Fees for future years may be subject to inflation but are likely to be similar to Year 1.

## Application Procedure

Please contact SWMTC for an Application Form – [admin@swmtc.org.uk](mailto:admin@swmtc.org.uk) or tel: 07895 964513

An interview may be required depending on prior learning.



The **Encountering Theology** and **MA in Theology, Ministry and Mission** courses are delivered by SWMTC in partnership with the Common Awards programme. Common Awards is the three-way partnership between a Theological Education Institution (TEI), in this case, SWMTC, the Church of England (and other participating churches) and Durham University. Further information on the programme can be found at:

[durham.ac.uk/departments/academic/common-awards/](https://durham.ac.uk/departments/academic/common-awards/)

## Licensed Lay Ministry (Reader)



SWMTC delivers part-time training to prepare students to become Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers) in the Dioceses of Exeter & Truro.

The two-year course normally follows completion of a one-year Foundations course.

The course objectives are:

- **For the student to develop the necessary skills** in leading corporate acts of worship, in formal and informal contexts; preaching; pastoral care, including ministering to the bereaved; leading discussion groups; engaging in the church's mission in the local forms this takes; collaborative and team working.
- **For these skills to be grounded** in a sound understanding of the Bible, Christian theology, doctrine and ethics (studied to Certificate level); the Church of England, the wider contemporary church, and ecumenical and inter-faith considerations; contemporary society as the context for ministry and mission.
- **For the student's ministry to be rooted** in a strong Christian faith; to flow from his/her personal spirituality (whilst also affirming those with a different spirituality); to come from an understanding of how their gifts and vocation fit in the wider church; to be flexible and adaptable to context and to changes in the church and society; to be aided by skills of personal and theological reflection.

Students learn alongside SWMTC ordinands and receive support from SWMTC staff, their Incumbent and a Journal Tutor. The programme normally leads to the award of a Certificate of Theology, Ministry & Mission, validated by Durham University and a special Cathedral service to be licensed by the Diocesan Bishop.

### **Duration & Attendance**

The taught commitment for each year is: six residential weekends at Plymouth Marjon University (staying in a local hotel) plus one on Zoom™, 7 online classes and 14 Reflective Practice Seminars. In the second year, students attend two days of the Easter/Lent School covering Death, Dying & Bereavement.

Students also undertake two placements during training:

Year 1 – a home parish placement, which includes preaching, leading worship, and parish analysis.

Year 1 and 2 – over the summer, a placement in a church of a different tradition or setting.

### **How to Apply**

If you are considering training for LLM (Reader) ministry, your own home minister should be the first contact. If this is not possible, you may contact:

**Diocese of Exeter:** Carol Price, Assistant Warden, of LLMs (Readers)  
[carolprice81@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:carolprice81@hotmail.co.uk)

**Diocese of Truro:** Revd Canon Paul Arthur, Deputy Warden,  
[kpaularthur@gmail.com](mailto:kpaularthur@gmail.com)

Applications should be made through your local diocese, which has a formal selection process.

If accepted for training, the Diocese will cover all the tuition fees and the costs of the fully catered residential weekends and attendance at Easter/Lent School.



## Ordination



SWMTC provides part-time training for ordinands within the Church of England.

We are committed to theological learning that is deeply rooted in local contexts. We understand the church in the South West, and our training and formation

prepares people for ministry in a variety of settings. Students are able to continue working and belonging to their local church, while receiving an accredited high quality theological education and receiving formation within a community of worship, prayer and learning.

Students also develop their understanding of mission and worship in the local church by leading services, preaching and leading small discipleship groups. Alongside this are sessions on how adults learn and communication skills.

SWMTC ordinands train alongside LLM students and receive support from SWMTC staff, their Incumbent and a Journal Tutor.

Ordinands usually attain either a Certificate (180 Credits) or a Diploma (240 Credits) in Theology, Ministry & Mission, with the option of progressing to BA Honours degree. These awards are validated by the Common Awards programme of Durham University and the Church of England (see pages 7-8).

## Duration & Attendance

Depending on circumstances and prior experience, training for ordination lasts two or three years. The taught commitment for each year is: six residential weekends which take place at Plymouth Marjon University (staying in a local hotel) plus one on Zoom™, 14 online classes and 14 reflective practice seminars. A 5 day residential Easter/Lent School takes place each year.

Ordinands undertake two placements as part of their training. Participation in placements will resource Theological Reflection, which will be assessed in the appropriate module.

## How to Apply

SWMTC training for ordained ministry is available only to those who have been selected for training by the Church of England or other denominational body. Applications must therefore be made through your local diocese, which will have a rigorous selection procedure involving a process of interviews and meetings, followed by a formal selection conference (or an equivalent process in other denominations).

If you are considering training for ordination, your own home minister should be the first contact. If this is not possible, you may contact the following.

**Diocese of Exeter:** The Revd John Fisher, Diocesan Director of Ordinands [ddo@exeter.anglican.org](mailto:ddo@exeter.anglican.org)

**Diocese of Truro:** The Revd Jane Vaughan-Wilson, Diocesan Director of Ordinands [JWilson@truro.anglican.org](mailto:JWilson@truro.anglican.org)

For Church of England ordination candidates, the National Ministry Development Team of the Archbishops' Council covers all pre-ordination training fees, and provides a book grant and travel expenses and costs of residential weekends.



# Training for Everyone

Find out more at [swmtc.org.uk](http://swmtc.org.uk)

e-mail: [admin@swmtc.org.uk](mailto:admin@swmtc.org.uk)

tel: 07895 964513



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THEOLOGY FOR LIVING

South West Ministry Training Course is Registered Charity Number 1056606