

CURRICULUM

COURSES 7–10

Contexts: Culture,
Personal Experience. Institution

Following the fourth course, students engage in a discernment process for the purpose of choosing a special ministry focus within either the pastoral field or the educational field (see back page). In the last six courses students use their own ministry to expand their specialised information base and to develop skills specifically related to their ministry focus. This study runs alongside Courses 5-9.

The Sociocultural Context of Ministry introduces students by way of case studies to a broad array of disciplines and analytical skills in examining their own cultural and social contexts.

The Personal Context of Ministry explores patterns of human development and spirituality in the faith-life of adults. Students reflect upon their own journeys of faith and the paths of those to whom they minister.

The Institutional Context of Ministry and Pastoral Education: Pastoral Leadership and Organisation helps students to explore current research on the subject. Special emphasis will be set on participative strategic planning processes and organizational development. Strength and weakness analyses will be included.

Pastoral and Educational Praxis helps students to reflect on their concerns in carrying out their ministries by careful analyses of the many social, cultural, faith and other factors involved. From that reflection they suggest for oral and written evaluation and feedback possible educational and ministerial interventions that are feasible and satisfy religious faithfulness.

CURRENT COSTS

For the 10 week Certificate course: £170.00

For the 10 week Master's course: £350.00

There are three 10 week courses available each year

A prospectus is available on request.

Help may be available through your parish

FOCUS AREA COURSES

MRE

Foundations of Religious Education
Curriculum Development

MPS

Small Christian Community Formation
Internal Life of Small Christian Communities
Public Life of Small Christian Communities
Pastoral Life and Administration
Parish Life and Ministry
Contemporary Issues in Pastoral Ministry
Religion and Ecology
The Universe as Divine Manifestation
The Emergent Universe: Our Sacred Story
Market-place Ministry
Spirituality and Theology at Work
Ministry in the Market-place
Christian Spirituality for Pastoral Ministry
History of Christian Spirituality
Spirituality for Ministers
Youth Course now available

WHAT DO I DO ABOUT IT?

In the Hexham and Newcastle Diocese contact:

Diocesan Education Service
St Cuthbert's House, West Road
Newcastle upon Tyne, Ne15 7PY
Tel: 0191 243 3313
Fax: 0191 243 3309

Email: office@edurcdhn.org.uk
www.edurcdhn.org.uk



LOYOLA
UNIVERSITY
NEW ORLEANS

DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE
EDUCATION SERVICE

LIMEX

Loyola
Institute
Ministry
EXtension Program



*A response to the
educational concerns of
a new generation of
ministers and educators*

THE NEED

Since the Second Vatican Council in the 1960's there has been an explosion of new ministries within the Church, and the lay people have been responding with enthusiasm and commitment.

They especially feel the need to update their knowledge of their faith and to develop skills to enable them to carry out their baptismal commitment.

Access to full time religious formation has become a priority for the local church: the need to ensure that people have an informed and contemporary theological vision. Professional competence and practical skills in ministry.

We are now offering this course in Hexham and Newcastle Diocese. The course takes three and a half years, including time for degree students to write their papers. It is divided into three terms of ten weeks each year.

In order to apply for the Masters Degree Course, students should already have a first degree or an equivalent qualification.

All students follow the same course of studies, but Certificate students are not required to submit the written paper expected from Masters Degree students at the end of each ten week course, but all students are required to write a final reflection paper at Course 10.

The programme is made up of ten courses, each with ten sessions. For each session students are expected to do several hours personal study, using course books provided, and then attend a three hour group reflection, led by a trained facilitator and using printed manuals, videotapes, and other selected texts.

THE RESPONSE

Co-operation with Loyola Institute for Ministry at the Loyola University, New Orleans, has made it possible for the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle to offer:

- A Certificate in Religious Education or in Pastoral Studies (CRE or CPS)
- A postgraduate Masters degree in Religious Education or in Pastoral Studies (MRE or MPS)

The programme is designed to provide people in a variety of ministerial roles with the information and practical expertise demanded by their situation. These roles include:

- Lay persons seeking to bring their faith to bear more directly on their work and witness (kingdom ministries)
- Diocesan and parish workers involved in various forms of church life and ministry (ecclesial ministries)
- Catholic school teachers and administrators seeking a fuller theological vision and sense of ministry
- Clergy and religious seeking on-going formation

The LIMEX programme's educational philosophy and curriculum are based on sound principles of adult education and theological reflection. Two major principles have shaped this programme.

- The learner is central
- Ministry always takes place within a context

Each individual has the task of correlating, by means of the reflection process, the four aspects of the four contexts of ministry (represented by the four arms of the cross). Throughout the curriculum this reflection process is used.

CURRICULUM

COURSES 1 - 6

Context: Tradition

Introduction to Practical Theology engages students in a rhythm of disciplined reflection and action by participants in a community's life for the sake of the reign of God. Students explore the interplay of the Christian tradition and the personal, sociocultural, and institutional contexts of their ministries, using a theological reflection model based on the work of David Tracy and Bernard Lonergan. S.J.

Jewish Roots of Christian Faith explores the religious heritage of ancient Israel largely through reference to its sacred writing (the Old Testament). The events, metaphors, symbols, stories, and persons that become the interpretive background for New Testament authors will be highlighted.

Christian Origins attempts to uncover "the kingdom of God" in the experience that Jesus effected during His earthly ministry, partly through studies of parables, healing, table fellowship with outcasts, and intimacy with "Abba". The progress of faith developed in the network of early Christian communities will be studied, as that is reflected in the major documents of the Christian scriptures (New Testament).

Grace, Christ and Spirit reviews important moments and major shifts in the history of Christian thought and how language, culture, and history have affected our interpretation of God's saving acts. Karl Rahner's work is studied as an example of a contemporary theology of grace.

Church, Sacraments and Ministry reviews major developments in the history of ecclesiology as a background to the study of Vatican Council II's theology of Church, Sacraments, and Ministry and later developments, especially with their relevance to the theology of the local church.

Spirituality, Morality and Ethics looks at the connections between personal, spirituality and Christian living and how these influence one's own moral choices, decision-making and social ethics today. Careful discernment of and reflection on the basis of these choices and decisions are important parts of the course.