



PROSPECTUS

www.west.org.uk

WEST
Wales Evangelical
School of Theology

3
Follow your calling

6
What people say

4
About

8
Faculty

12
Undergraduate Courses

11
English for Theology

14
Postgraduate Courses

18
Sabbaticals

16
Research

20
Campus

24
Partnerships

22
Accommodation

26
Global Community

23
Location

27
What's Next?



The front cover is a modern take on this well known representation of George Whitefield preaching. It was created by Rob Jones.

Follow your calling



If you are considering how and where you might best lay a foundation for a lifetime of fruitful gospel ministry, then this is an extremely significant moment in your life. I don't wish to be alarmist, but the wrong move at this point could hinder your usefulness to God's kingdom for many years to come.

Our aim is to deliver theological training at every level and through various delivery methods. At WEST students are taught how to think biblically and theologically, so that they may challenge an ever changing world with the unchanging truth of the gospel. WEST provides an environment where men and women can grow in the grace of God and prepare for Bible-centred ministry — wherever the Lord may lead them.

If you believe the Lord may be calling you to gospel work, please come and visit; we'd love to pray with you about your options. I very much hope that you will become part of WEST's vibrant community and allow us to equip you for a lifetime of fruitful service.

Jonathan Stephen
Principal

About WEST



The right doctrine

Reformed, evangelical, Bible-centred; keeping the Spirit and the Word connected; teaching an integrated framework of biblical, systematic and historical theology from which we can move on to consider the issues of the day.



The right aims

To provide biblical, vocational training. To encourage students to love God with all their heart, soul, mind and strength. To integrate the academic, practical and spiritual. To develop trained leaders with a heart for mission.



The right people

Men and women with a clear testimony to the saving grace of God in their lives, who are keen to develop their gifts and are strongly committed to following the Lord's leading... And a faculty of the highest-calibre.



The right options

A variety of courses at all levels, to suit both churches and students alike, meeting kingdom needs and personal circumstances.



The right cost

Affordability is a priority. WEST is one of the lowest cost places in the UK to study theology, with bursaries and scholarships to help wherever possible.



The right plans

Constantly striving to improve the quality, relevance and delivery of our training. WEST offers internationally recognised degrees, and upholds the highest educational standards.



Firmly rooted in our heritage of Bible-centred and Spirit-driven evangelicalism, WEST is committed to the belief that gospel growth is best fuelled by directly 'Bringing the Academy into Missional Church'. Our passion is to open up new learning pathways, bringing theological education into church community contexts. For us, this is 'The Right Direction', as we seek to equip those God is calling to bring the light of Christ into the darkness of a post-Christian world.

What People Say



“

As a pastor of a young church, I regularly encounter situations that require clear biblical thinking and applied wisdom, be they matters of preaching, pastoral care, or leadership.

The standard of teaching at WEST contained a great balance of academic rigour and practical application. The range and flexibility of modules ensured that I had a good grounding in core subjects and skills while having the freedom to pursue studies in subject areas that particularly interested me.

Rather than being an exhaustive course of training that transformed me into a perfectly rounded pastor (which doesn't exist), the course at WEST has given me a set of tools I will continue to use to develop my heart, mind, and hands for the good of the church as I go on thinking biblically about every aspect of my ministry."

Andrew McKenna G.Dip, MA

Pastor, Christchurch, Market Harborough



“

I'm thrilled I decided to study at WEST for my theology degree. I looked at a number of other colleges and seminaries before I chose WEST, but none of them offered the quality of theological training that is offered there. Not only is the teaching doctrinally sound and academically rigorous, but WEST has a warm pastoral heart with a desire to grow and shape men and women for Christian ministry who are Christ-centred, Gospel-driven and Bible-based.

Not only was WEST a great place to study, but it was a great place to make friendships that will last. The community at WEST is great and it was a joy to study, worship and live alongside brothers and sisters in Christ from all around the globe. If someone were to ask me where they can get a solid theological education to prepare them for life or ministry, I could not recommend WEST highly enough!"

Doug Clark BA

Assistant Pastor, Worthing Tabernacle

Faculty



Jonathan Stephen

Jonathan has been the Principal of WEST since September 2006. He completed nearly 28 years in pastoral ministry, first at Amyand Park Chapel in Twickenham and then at Carey Baptist Church in Reading. Jonathan is a past President of the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (1998-2001) and Director of Affinity (2003-2009).

Bob Letham

Bob is Director of Research and lectures in systematic and historical theology. A Presbyterian minister, Bob has served congregations in New Jersey and Wilmington, Delaware, the latter for over 17 years. He has taught theology at London School of Theology, Westminster Theological Seminary (Philadelphia) and Reformed Theological Seminary (Washington DC/Baltimore).



Mike Reeves

Mike is a member of WEST's Executive Management and Director of Union. Previously, Mike was Head of Theology for UCCF, providing theological fuel for student mission and supporting undergraduates studying theology. Before that he was an Associate Minister at All Souls Church, Langham Place, in London.

Cor Bennema

Cor is Senior Lecturer in New Testament. Originally from Holland, prior to coming to WEST he served as Associate Professor and Head of New Testament at the South Asia Institute of Advanced Christian Studies in Bangalore, India. He has published many articles and books.



Mark Pickett

Mark is our Director of Undergraduate Studies and lectures in missiology. For twenty years he was involved in evangelism, Bible teaching, leadership training, research, writing, and publishing, principally in Nepal and India. Nepal's Tribhuvan University awarded him a PhD for his study of the Newar people of the Kathmandu Valley.



John Kendall

John is the Undergraduate Admissions Tutor, dealing with undergraduate enquiries. After teaching high school biology for 13 years, John came to WEST first as a student. John teaches Greek grammar, Greek text and introductory Bible reading skills. His passion is to help students interpret the Bible with both exegetical rigour and contemporary relevance.

Iwan Rhys Jones



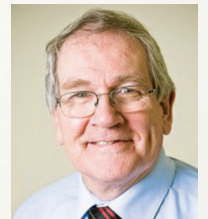
Iwan is Director of Postgraduate Studies and lectures in Hebrew and Old Testament, having obtained his MPhil from the University of Wales. Iwan entered the pastoral ministry, ministering in Welsh, with churches affiliated to the Union of Welsh Independents (Congregational), and then served as Associate Pastor at Deeside Evangelical Church.



Phil Hill

Phil has been appointed by WEST as Lecturer in Pastoral Theology and Church Theologian at Large. Phil has immense pastoral experience in both Wales and England. Previously, he served as Dean of Students at Nazareth Evangelical Theological Seminary in Galilee, while also working with Arab Baptist churches. As well as teaching Pastoral Studies, he is a Modern Church historian, specialising in the history of British evangelicalism.

Tom Holland



Tom obtained his PhD in Pauline Studies from the University of Wales. He is the author of many academic papers, but it is his ground breaking book *Contours of Pauline Theology* and, most recently, *Romans: The Divine Marriage, A Biblical Theological Commentary* which have given him an international profile and attracted students to WEST from around the world.

Adjunct Faculty



Lee Gatiss

Lee is the Editor of 'The Theologian: the internet journal for integrated theology', (www.theologian.org.uk), and Review Editor of the international theology journal 'Churchman'. He read history at Oxford University before training for Anglican ministry at Oak Hill Theological College in London. He has served in churches in Oxford, Kettering, and London, most recently as Associate Minister at St. Helen's, Bishopsgate. He holds a ThM in Historical and Systematic Theology from Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia.

Marcus Honeysett

After postgraduate studies in Postmodern Philosophy, Marcus worked for many years for UCCF, including leading the work for the Greater London area. He is Director of the training ministry 'Living Leadership', providing training and on-going pastoral nurture for leaders and spouses. Marcus serves on the leadership team of Crofton Baptist Church as elder for training and discipleship.



Ted Turnau

Ted was raised in Pennsylvania. In 1999, shortly after completing his PhD, Ted and his family relocated to Prague in the Czech Republic, where Ted has been teaching cultural and religious studies at Anglo-American University in Prague. He has also taught as a visiting lecturer at the Social Sciences Faculty of Charles University, also in Prague. In 2004, he helped to found the Christian International School of Prague.

(A number of practitioners in ministry complement the faculty as visiting lecturers.)

English for Theology

Do you need to improve your language skills?

The International Foundation Course (IFC)

Cambridge ESOL
Exam Preparation Centre

The International Foundation Course (IFC) provides students from non-English-speaking countries with sufficient English skills to progress confidently to further theological study, or simply to communicate more effectively in both Christian and secular situations.

The unique feature of the IFC is that it teaches English specifically for theology and gospel communication – with extensive use of the Bible and other Christian sources. The course prepares students for University of Cambridge English language examinations up to university entry level.

Living with students from the UK and all over the world provides students with daily English practice on WEST's campus. As students attend a local church, their confidence and spiritual maturity can grow through opportunities to serve and meet with other Christians. There are regular day trips to local and national tourist attractions and Christian heritage sites, as well as a trip to a European country.



Tim Steele (Programme Leader)

Tim spent several years teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) both in the UK and abroad before coming to study at WEST. He has been involved in ministry amongst international students over the past five years.

Undergraduate Courses

Want to equip yourself for mission and ministry?

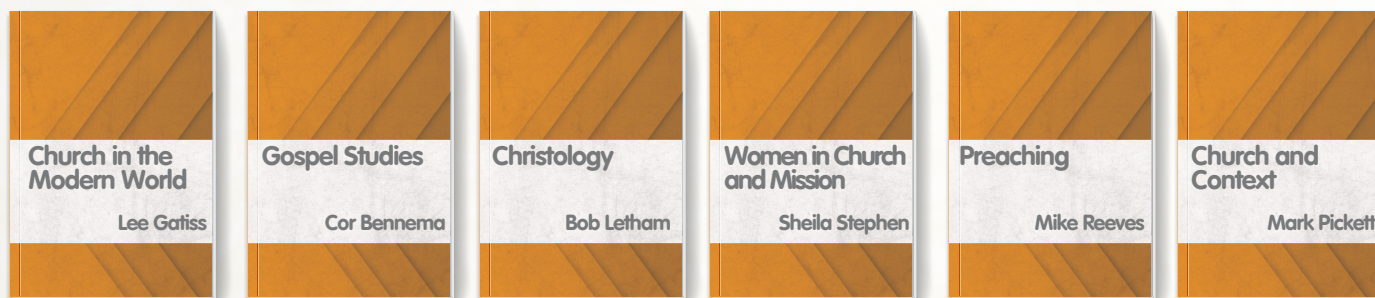
BA (Hons) Theology & BD

The BA is designed to equip students for a wide range of ministry opportunities in all cultural settings. The flexibility of the programme meets the needs of those from a broad spectrum of backgrounds and with a variety of ministry goals. Students cover all the foundational aspects of a good theology degree while being able to explore many differing options. The Bachelor of Divinity (BD) is awarded to those who have completed a minimum of 60 credits of language modules spread across the three levels.

The course can be followed full-time (3 years) or part-time (up to 7 years), on campus or by distance learning. (Students may exit after the first or second level with a Certificate or Diploma of Higher Education in Theology.)

If you are still considering your future, why not expand your theological knowledge by signing up for one or two modules on a non-accredited basis?

See below for sample modules:





Struggling to access the best theological education?



Graduate Diploma in Theology

This two-year, part-time, off-campus programme is aimed at those who already possess significant ministry experience and a good degree (upper second class or above) in an unrelated subject.

The course covers all foundational aspects of theology while offering options (including biblical languages) to meet differing needs. The course is particularly suited to those who cannot spare three years for full-time study. It can be taken as a standalone programme or as the foundation for a Master's degree.

The Graduate Diploma is only delivered in church-centred learning communities. These operate at the regional level and are intended to provide enhanced support for distance learners. Through the learning community, students can meet and encourage one another and access local theological resources.

Experienced pastors and theologians provide tutorial and mentoring support to students, in addition to the primary delivery of teaching via digital environments. All staff are trained in, and integrated into, WEST's culture and systems.

WEST is forming a network of learning hubs, educators, churches and students, all interacting with the main Bryntirion campus – truly 'Bringing the Academy into Missional Church'.

“ Here in the North West we are really excited about being able to mentor a group of WEST students preparing for ministry through the excellent Graduate Diploma and Masters courses so students get top quality training, learn with a group of others and can stay serving in their local churches.”

Andrew Evans



The NWP is a group of Bible believing local churches in the North West of England and North Wales. NWP is one of a number of 'Gospel Partnerships' that exist across the UK.

Address: 2 Blackburne Place, Liverpool, L8 7PE

Tel: 0151 703 1873

Email: info@northwestpartnership.com

Website: www.northwestpartnership.com

Please contact ugadmissions@west.org.uk for more details.

Postgraduate Courses

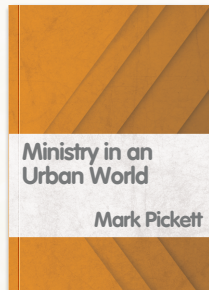
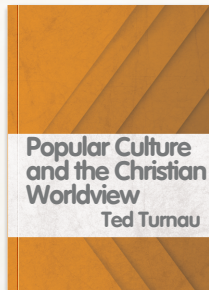
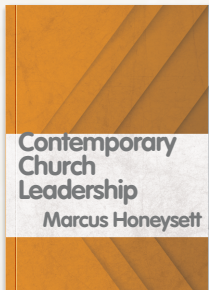
Are you a working pastor looking to sharpen your skills for ministry?

MA in Contemporary Church Leadership

The MACCL is a programme of study which is vocationally orientated, with the needs and concerns of the pastoral ministry in mind. The course considers aspects of church leadership and pastoral ministry in a scholarly way.

The MA would be equally suited to individuals embarking on serious theological study with a pastoral dimension, or to working pastors wishing to have some intellectual stimulation in the context of ongoing ministry.

Sample modules:





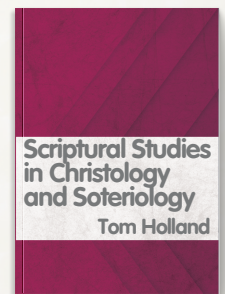
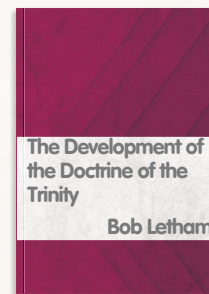
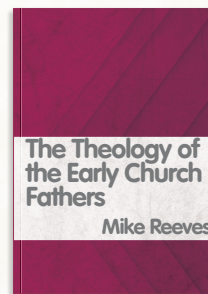
Looking to deepen your appreciation of Scripture?

MTh Theology in Scriptural Context

This course is a taught postgraduate programme which provides an opportunity to explore and reflect critically upon a range of topics from an evangelical and specifically reformed perspective. The doctrine of Scripture is at the heart of the programme and is a core module. This module is complemented by others which seek to relate Scripture and theology to diverse topics.

The MTh Theology in Scriptural Context is suitable for serving pastors or other Christian workers seeking an intellectual stimulus and challenge in their ministries. The programme also serves as an excellent preparation for further academic theological study by research.

Sample modules:



Research





Passionate about research that benefits the worldwide Church?

MPhil and PhD

The MPhil and PhD are postgraduate awards achieved following the production of a thesis and its successful defence in an oral examination. Research students must have the necessary theological and academic background and their chosen field of research must be judged as capable of edifying the Church worldwide. Benefits of a research degree at WEST include the ability to study a subject in considerable depth within a confessionally reformed context.

There are no taught modules but optional Research Seminars may be held at intervals during the academic year. These provide an opportunity for visiting scholars, WEST lecturers and WEST research students to present and discuss their current work.

WEST appoints two supervisors for each research student, at least one of whom is a faculty member. Student places are limited and WEST cannot guarantee the availability of a suitable supervisory team.

Sabbaticals

Taking a break?

Pastors and missionaries often want to take time away from ministry to receive fresh stimulation and make space for reflection and studying. WEST offers an ideal setting, with its wide range of learning resources and supportive community. Churches and agencies also benefit as a direct result of representatives spending sabbaticals here at WEST.

WEST welcomes applications from pastors, missionaries and other Christian workers who desire to make use of our facilities in this way. The School endeavours to be flexible concerning the length of such periods of study, although this may be subject to student numbers and availability of accommodation.

The benefits of taking time out at WEST include:

- Opportunity for reflection and rest
- Informal fellowship with staff and students
- Participation in prayer and worship services within the international WEST community
- Links with good Bible teaching churches in the area
- Assignment to a personal tutor
- Use of library facilities
- Guided reading
- Formal study



Campus

Library — WEST's recently computerised library is well-stocked, with over 25,000 specialist books, DVDs and CD-ROMS (a figure which is continually being added to). We currently subscribe to over 100 periodicals, some of which are available electronically, and students have access to a vast array of online materials through both Chester University's and our own e-learning portals. Study facilities with wireless internet access are available within the library area.

IT Facilities — Wireless internet access is also available throughout the campus. WEST provides email facilities for all students as well as access to an e-learning portal for information relating to courses of study. Each student is provided with a School email address to keep them up to date with news and changes to their timetables. Printing is available through a web portal.

Bookshop — There is a well-stocked Evangelical Movement of Wales bookshop and coffee shop in the College, which makes the ordering and purchase of books very straightforward. Students receive a discount on their book purchases.



Morning worship is held at 8.30 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays during semesters. On Thursdays, the School welcomes distinguished guest speakers to preach at our longer midday service, which is open to the public.

Students are introduced into small pastoral groups, which meet once a week and are led by a lecturer. Time is spent in discipling one another, studying the Word and sharing needs and prayer. WEST staff are readily available to give private and confidential support, whether spiritual or purely practical.

Being at WEST is about building community. As we grow in our knowledge and love of God, we learn to better appreciate and serve each other. The lessons we learn together extend far beyond the classroom to mission, ministry and life as a whole.

Throughout their time at WEST, students are expected and encouraged to commit themselves actively to the life and witness of a local congregation, while maintaining and developing links with their home churches. Many churches locally also look to WEST for preachers, assistance in evangelism and youth/children's work.



Accommodation

WEST has two residential accommodation areas which, between them, contain over 30 comfortable, fully furnished study and twin bedrooms. A few double rooms with en suite bathrooms are available for married couples with no children. Each of the accommodation blocks has its own lounge and dining area, with fully equipped kitchen. There is a new, spacious student common room, a great place to relax and feel at home.

We provide mouth-watering lunches and evening meals to full-board students. Meal tickets can be purchased at a very reasonable cost by non-residents and College staff.



Accessible facilities — WEST has some ground floor rooms suitable for students with disabilities, affording wheelchair access and disabled shower facilities.

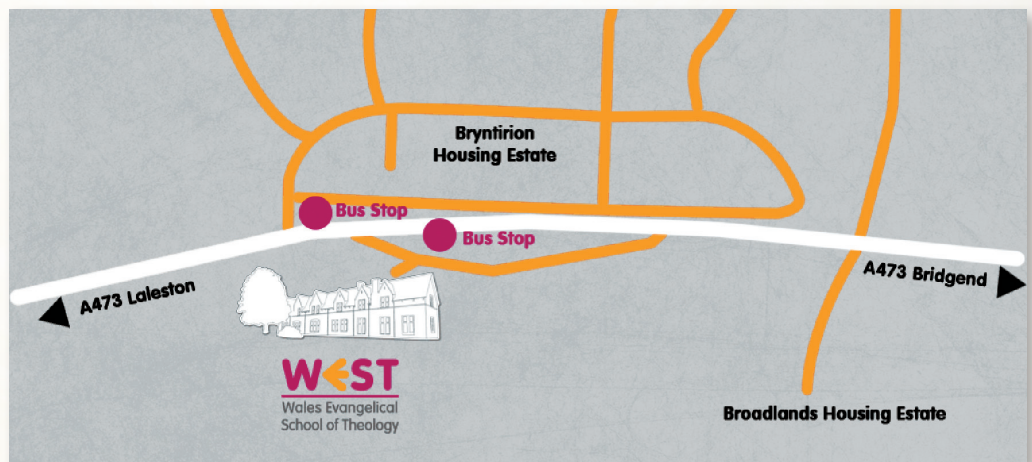
For those who live off-campus, Bridgend has a good property rental market. There are two large housing estates surrounding the College grounds.

Location

WEST's campus is on the western outskirts of the town of Bridgend, in the Vale of Glamorgan. The School has excellent motorway and mainline transportation links and Cardiff airport is just 10 miles away.

Whether you are looking for beautiful beaches or a designer outlet retail store, both are within easy reach.

Just 17 miles east of Bridgend is Cardiff, the capital of Wales, a vibrant city with plenty of shopping and culture on offer. Twenty miles west of Bridgend is Swansea, and beyond that the delightful Gower Peninsula, a designated 'Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty'.



Partnerships



University of
Chester

In September 2010, WEST entered into a collaborative partnership with the University of Chester, which now validates all our degree programmes. The Theology and Religious Studies Department at Chester was ranked 3rd in the UK in the National Student Survey and 8th in the Times University Guide in terms of graduate prospects.

In a recent review of the partnership, WEST was highly commended by the University for its support of students (both academically and pastorally), its commitment to improving its facilities and resources, and the way in which it monitors the quality of teaching and deals with student feedback.





European Evangelical Accrediting Association – WEST is proud to be an EEAA member. The European Evangelical Accrediting Association is a quality assurance network serving evangelical theological schools in Europe. The EEAA is an Affiliate Member of the European Evangelical Alliance (EEAA), a Charter Member of the International Council for Theological Education (ICETE), a Full Member of the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQA) and an Affiliate of the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA).

The EEAA's mission is twofold. Its traditional identity is found in the accreditation of tertiary level evangelical theological education in Europe. In addition, the EEAA represents a dynamic network of European evangelical theological institutions and leaders that connect strategic resources in a common educational enterprise.



Cardiff and the Vale College, Cardiff – CAVC have been engaged by WEST to support and examine the teaching of 'English for Speakers of Other Languages'. This ESOL component is core to the WEST International Foundation Course.



Chongshin University, South Korea – Chongshin University is dedicated to a Bible-centred and reformed world-view, and to raising servant-hearted leaders for the Church of Jesus Christ under the supervision of the Presbyterian Church in Korea (Hapdong). Some Chongshin students have received generous scholarships from WEST for our International Foundation Course. WEST students have spent time in Chongshin, benefiting from classes and cultural interchange.

**Adolygwyd gan ASA
QAA Reviewed**

Asiantaeth Sicrhau
Ansawdd Addysg Uwch
Quality Assurance Agency
for Higher Education

QAA – The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) is the independent body entrusted with monitoring and advising on standards and quality in UK higher education. WEST is now in the second year of quality accreditation through the QAA's Review of Educational Oversight (REO). This assesses the quality of educational provision across the institution. As part of an ongoing process, WEST does not merely rest upon the successful outcome of the QAA assessment, but uses the reporting cycle to critically examine and improve both quality systems and, more importantly, service delivery to our students.

Global Community

Our diverse School community is something we are very proud of at WEST, providing a rich cultural, social, spiritual and educational mix, which appeals to students and staff from all over the world. By choosing to study here you will join students from many countries and every continent. For those who choose to study with WEST through distance learning we aim to provide a support network of learning communities for regional mentoring and support.

For international students who have the academic qualifications but not the English language skills, the International Foundation Course prepares your English for academic study and supports you during your time at WEST. The city of Cardiff is very close to WEST and has a reputation throughout the world as a friendly place with a vibrant cultural life. Local churches are very welcoming and especially to international students who have a passion to connect with local people.

We hope that you will take the time to find out for yourself, and look forward to welcoming you to WEST.



What's Next?

If you think WEST is the right place for you, we encourage you to book in for an Open Day. This is a great opportunity to find out what it is like to study at WEST and sample our unique family feel. If required, overnight accommodation on campus at Bryntirion may be available. To book accommodation, email bookings@west.org.uk. Whether or not you are able to visit, you will need to fill out an application form online.

Once an application has been received by WEST, references are sought, including one from your home church. You will then be invited for an interview, either in person at WEST or via Skype. Where appropriate, an offer of a place will be made immediately, detailing any terms and conditions that may apply.

If you have any queries about the courses offered by WEST and their suitability for you, please do not hesitate to contact us.



Free resources available from



uniontheology.org
@uniontheology

Wales Evangelical School of Theology
Bryntirion House
Bridgend
CF31 4DX
T: +44 (0) 1656 645411
F: +44 (0) 1656 641987
E: info@west.org.uk
www.west.org.uk



Design by Elk Design

Registered number: 1987227 Registered in Wales Charity number: 517324