

Length of course

Students have a one year registration period in which to submit all assessed work. There is no submission schedule of deadlines, but we advise that as a rule students should submit assignments for each unit within one month. Students are free to work at their own pace and are responsible for organising their own study and writing time, although they can discuss this with their tutor.

How do I apply to study the course?

In the first instance contact the Director of Celtic e-Studies on celtic.estudies@gmail.com to discuss registration.

Forthcoming courses

We will be launching other distance learning e-studies courses in due course. Subjects will include:

From Ancient Celtic to New Monasticism
Soul Friendship
Great Celtic Christians ('In the Steps of the Saints')
Healing Creation

If you would like to pre-register your interest for information on these courses when they are available please send an email to celtic.estudies@gmail.com



Celtic Christian e-Studies courses

'Head through the heart' learning

A link project of the Community of Aidan and Hilda

We are excited to launch a new series of distance learning e-studies courses on aspects of Celtic Christian spirituality.

The first of these is:

Introduction to Celtic Christian Spirituality



Introduction to Celtic Christian Spirituality

This one-year course has been developed by Ray Simpson (founder of the international Community of Aidan and Hilda), and Peter Sharpe (Learning Development Officer at Aberystwyth University). The course is designed to introduce students to the key components of spirituality that characterise the Celtic Christian tradition in its first and subsequent waves. Subjects covered in course units include:

- What is Celtic Christian Spirituality?
- Borderlands
- Presence
- Prayers penance & praise
- Love of the poor, justice & hospitality
- Womanhood, wisdom & nurture
- Awareness of heaven
- Community & church, mission & Kingdom
- Poetry & art
- Humanity, nature & creativity
- Manhood, desert athletes & living martyrs

Who is this course for?

Anyone who feels drawn to explore Celtic Christian Spirituality, for example:

- People who seek to know God in a more holistic way; and who intuitively feel that 'Celtic spirituality' may develop this
- Christians who are otherwise well-grounded in Bible or Church teaching who want to fill a gap in their knowledge or experience.

How much does it cost?

The course costs £300

Course level and approach

The course is approximately equivalent to work done at under-graduate degree level, but differs quite significantly in approach. You should not be discouraged from applying if you have not studied at degree level.

We design courses with the aim of facilitating what we call 'head through the heart' learning. This approach sets out to lead students to consider and reflect upon the personal meaning and relevance of what they are learning about, not just to engage with subjects in a purely intellectual or 'academic' way.

We are aiming for a holistic approach where the intellectual, the spiritual, and the practical applications of learning are integrated and support each other. This makes for a rich learning experience with the student's personal responses and reflection at the centre.

Students registering for the course are allocated a tutor whose role is to assess submitted work and provide feedback about it. Students may also contact tutors for advice about studying and producing assignments.

Assessment

Students are required to submit three pieces of work to be assessed by the course tutor. Two of these can be chosen from a number of different essay titles that reflect different areas of the course content. The third assignment is a more personal piece in which the student is asked to reflect on what they have learned while studying the course.

The work is not graded in the traditional academic sense (i.e. no mark or score will be given). Rather, the tutor will comment on the degree to which the work satisfactorily demonstrates that students have been able to engage with, reflect upon, and think critically about the material the course introduces.

The course is divided into units, each with a specific theme. The text in each unit introduces and discusses the core subjects and ideas related to this theme. Students are directed to read particular sections of core texts and to look at online web pages and other relevant materials.

In each unit we ask students to undertake particular exercises which are not assessed. This may be to explore a particular subject more deeply, or reflective exercises that help students to consider the personal applications of what they are learning.

Students who satisfactorily complete the course, as confirmed by their tutor, will receive a Certificate. The course is not credit-bearing for academic purposes.