



**Westfield House**  
**Cambridge**

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**Would you like to learn more about the foundations of Lutheran theology and the confessional documents to which we, as Lutherans, subscribe?**

**Does your congregation wish to equip members for service in the Church?**

If you answered 'Yes' to either of these questions, then the *Westfield House Certificate in Lutheran Theology for Ministry*, designed for Lutheran ministerial and diaconal candidates, church workers and laity, may be for you!

Westfield House is offering an online course of study focussed on a close reading of the Lutheran Confessions as the foundational text for introducing the history of Christian doctrine, Reformation history and a Lutheran approach to systematic theology, spirituality and practice. The Certificate can be completed in one academic year or spread out over 2 or more years. We pray that this programme will be a blessing to the ELCE, our partner church bodies and especially all who wish to learn more about the basis of our Lutheran teaching.

#### **Format**

The topics to be covered are listed overleaf. Once per week, students participate in a synchronous online seminar with the instructor to provide the opportunity to receive new material and discuss the reading assignments.

#### **Cost**

The cost for each module is £450, with a total cost for the Certificate of £1800. We hope that congregations will be willing to support their member students.

#### **Financial Support**

Students who are members of an ELCE congregation may be eligible to apply to the 'ELCE Student Aid Fund' for a partial or full tuition grant. International students may be eligible to apply for a 'Friends of Westfield House' scholarship for a partial or full tuition grant.

#### **To apply**

You will need to complete a Westfield House application form which can be obtained from Westfield House and send it to [Principal@westfield.cam.ac.uk](mailto:Principal@westfield.cam.ac.uk).

There are no formal entry requirements and we welcome applicants without traditional academic qualifications. There is an expectation of a certain level of academic ability (equivalent to English A/AS level) and we will offer places based on our own assessment of your qualifications, knowledge and previous work experience. We will take into account the knowledge and skills that you have developed outside formal education, but we may ask you to submit a piece of written work in support of your application.

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Westfield House, a member of the Cambridge Theological Federation, is the House of Theological Studies of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of England (ELCE) which is a registered charity in England and Wales (registered number 220466) and in Scotland, via ELCE Trust Ltd (registered number SC041204).

Registered Office: 28 Huntingdon Road, Cambridge CB3 0HH, England, UK.

## **Certificate Programme Content**

### **Creeds and Catechisms**

Taught in the Michaelmas term (October-December), the first module introduces the Creeds and Catechisms of the church. Study of the ecumenical Creeds introduces the foundational Christian teachings in the area of Christology, Trinity and Salvation, their development in the early church era of the ecumenical councils, and the Lutheran approach and use of these patristic sources. Christology, Trinity, and Soteriology are then explored within the ethos of Luther's Small and Large Catechisms as primary teaching resources of the church. The goal of this study is twofold: firstly, to systematically and critically reflect upon the close relationship between the doctrinal and catechetical content of the three ecumenical creeds and Luther's Catechisms; secondly, to demonstrate the confessional Lutheran Church's fidelity to these foundational doctrines of the Western and continuing commitment to their teaching.

### **Augsburg Confession and Apology**

Taught in the Lent term (January-March), the second module systematically develops the foundational topics of the first module through a close reading of the Augsburg Confession and the Apology of the Augsburg Confession. Here the central topics, issues and controversies which define the theology of the Lutheran Church are explored in the historic context of the Reformation. A key emphasis is placed on the historical circumstances which led to the emergence of Lutheranism as a confessional movement in Western Christendom. The doctrinal foundations of Lutheran ministry, sacramentology and ecclesiology are also examined in relationship to anthropology, the doctrine of man.

### **Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope, Smalcald Articles, and Formula of Concord**

Taught in the Easter term (April-June), the third module examines the Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope and the Smalcald Articles as historical documents in their socio-political context where the problem of "power, authority, war and emergency situation" is theologically redefined and re-evaluated. The module concludes with a close reading of the Formula of Concord, analysed as a theological resource for contemporary parish life, which also provides a distinctive and unique Lutheran contribution to the ecumenical concerns of the wider church.

### **Readings in Luther**

Throughout the academic year, a fourth, seminar-based module will engage in extensive reading from Luther's essential writings translated in English, concentrating on important insights, controversies and debates in the life of the reformer. This module is organized as a monthly seminar with emphasis on close readings of the texts. The writings are set in the context of their historical, cultural and theological background with a view to understanding their continuing relevance to Lutheran spirituality and the application of Law and Gospel in particular. The guiding idea of this module is to recognize, extrapolate and analyse the most important categories of Luther's thought, not to provide yet another "new" reading of Luther, but rather to ask, "how would Luther read us today?" The goal of the seminar will be an endeavour discern the continuing relevance to Luther's works in contemporary theology discourse and what we can still learn from him.

### **Assessments**

Assessment takes place throughout each module, through a combination of course work, papers and quizzes.

### **Further Information**

Email the Study Director, Revd Dr Boris Gunjevic. [Bg381@cam.ac.uk](mailto:Bg381@cam.ac.uk)