



WTC
Admissions
Policy &
Procedure

July 2022

WTC Admissions Policy and Procedure	
Purpose	To set out clearly WTC's programmes and admissions process.
Enquiries	Enquiries should be directed to the Registrar (Alex Collishaw) at registrar@wtctheology.org.uk
UKPRN	10030973
Legal Address	Suite 5, Winchcombe House, 37-39 Winchcombe Street, Cheltenham, GL52 2NA
Author	Registrar
Approved by	WTC Executive
Next Review	July 2023
Staff member responsible for update	Registrar
Policy / procedure relevant to	Internal/ Public / Students and where to find it: <i>Internal - Board, Exec Team, Ops Team, Registry Team, Finance Team. - G-Drive</i> <i>External - WTC Website, MyWTC</i>

1. Introduction

WTC is a not-for-profit, interdenominational, charismatic theological college with the vision of taking rigorous and accessible Kingdom Theology into the heart of the local church across the UK. Our goal is to equip and empower people of all ages and backgrounds for leadership, mission, and discipleship and, through this, to effect personal and community transformation. We offer part-time, university-accredited qualifications in theology to around 230-250 students per year.

2. Who are our programmes for?

Our student body currently consists of a wide age range with the majority aged between 35-60. Students are drawn from a broad cross-section of professional and socio-economic backgrounds in the UK. Students come from a range of church denominations but the majority (c. 70%) are members of the independent church sector (i.e. not affiliated with a formal denomination), which have no dedicated theological colleges. WTC encourages students from a variety of educational backgrounds, including those who have struggled with formal education in the past. A number of our current students left school with no formal qualifications while others came to study with WTC already having multiple degrees. This richness in backgrounds, thought, and experience is part of what makes studying with WTC such a rewarding experience. Please see our [Access and Participation Statement](#).

3. Mode of study

All WTC programmes are part-time and are specifically designed to fit around our students' busy lives. The flexibility of our programmes allows our students to study where they are, but also in community, avoiding the isolation of traditional distance learning. Students are able to remain in their jobs and communities. For Undergraduate (UG) programmes, students attend the residential teaching events and then a weekly Hub evening (20 teaching evenings a year, and two additional induction and celebration events). For Postgraduate (PG) programmes, students attend the residential weeks and one teaching Saturday per module studied.

4. Programmes in Kingdom Theology

WTC offers programmes in 'Kingdom Theology' because at the heart of our study is the belief that Jesus came proclaiming the good news of the Kingdom of God: God's Kingdom means hope for humanity and the earth in salvation, healing, freedom from oppression, reconciliation in relationships, joy, peace, creativity, and untold blessing. The Kingdom touches all aspects of life, and invites us to reimagine our life, work, and mission. Through his life, death, and resurrection, he has brought the reality of the Kingdom to this world.

Level 4

4.1. Church Universities Certificate (CUC)

This is a one-year Level 4 programme, worth 60 credits. Due to its one-year period of study, this programme will suit church and other interns who have left school and have no higher education. This is a foundational and introductory programme in biblical studies, Christian theology and Spiritual formation. Students who successfully complete the CUC can progress to either the CertHE or the BA.

4.2. CertHE in Kingdom Theology

This is a two-year, Level 4 programme, worth 120 credits. This programme will suit students who have left school and have no higher education. This is a foundational and introductory programme in biblical studies, Christian theology, Spiritual formation, mission and church history. Students who successfully complete the CertHE may progress to the BA programme at Level 5.

4.3. BA (Hons) in Kingdom Theology

This is a six-year programme worth 360 credits, (120 credits at each Levels 4, 5, & 6). This programme will suit students who have left school and have no higher education. This degree programme comprises the core disciplines of biblical studies, Christian theology, spiritual formation, and mission, and the associated disciplines of Church history, spirituality, ethics, and world religions, in order to equip Christians with extensive biblical and theological knowledge, and a critical understanding of their own traditions.

Level 6

4.4. Graduate Certificate in Kingdom Theology

This is a one-year, Level 6 programme, worth 60 credits. Due to its one-year period of study, this programme will suit church and other interns who have a first degree in a discipline other than theology. This is a foundational and introductory Programme in biblical studies, Christian theology and spiritual formation. Students who successfully complete can transfer to the full Graduate Diploma.

4.5. Graduate Diploma in Kingdom Theology

This is a two-year, Level 6 programme, worth 120 credits. This programme will suit mature students who have a bachelor's degree in a discipline other than biblical studies or theology. This is an introductory programme in biblical studies, Christian theology, spiritual formation, mission and church history. Students who successfully complete the Graduate Diploma may be able to progress to the PG Diploma or MA programmes.

5. Vocational Graduate Diplomas

In addition to our range of degree and certificate programmes in Kingdom Theology, WTC offers two vocational Graduate Diplomas in Church Planting and Leadership and Kingdom Theology and Student Ministry. These programmes are unique in the UK.

5.1. Graduate Diploma in Kingdom Theology and Student Ministry

This is a two-year, Level 6 programme, worth 120 credits. This programme will suit mature students who have a bachelor's degree in a discipline other than biblical studies or theology, and who have, or desire to have, a ministry among students in the UK. This is an introductory programme in biblical studies, Christian theology, spiritual formation, student ministry & mission, and student culture.

5.2. Graduate Diploma in Church Planting and Leadership

This is a two-year, Level 6 programme, worth 120 credits. This programme will suit mature students who have a bachelor's degree in a discipline other than biblical studies or theology and will equip them with theological and practical knowledge for church planting and leadership in the UK, Europe and beyond. This is an introductory programme in biblical studies, Christian theology, spiritual formation, church planting theory and practice.

Level 7

5.3. PG Diploma in Kingdom Theology

This is a two-year, Level 7 programme, worth 120 credits. This programme offers deep engagement with core theological disciplines, applying critical insights to church life, ministry, and practices with a view toward Christian engagement with the world. This programme also enables students with an interest in the MA programme to discern whether they are able to progress to the full Masters degree. The taught modules are the same on the PG Diploma and the MA Programmes.

5.4. MA in Kingdom Theology

This is a two or three-year, Level 7 programme, worth 180 credits. This programme offers a part-time postgraduate degree programme that comprises deep engagement with core theological disciplines, applying critical insights to church life, ministry, and practices with a view toward Christian engagement with the world. It also gives students the opportunity to engage in independent theological study and research dissertation (15,000 words), engaging critically with primary texts and sources. This programme encourages students to become well-grounded

in orthodox theological perspectives while exploring the breadth of current theological debates. The taught modules are the same on the PG Diploma and the MA Programmes.

6. Admission Requirements

6.1. BA/CertHE/Church Universities Certificate

A typical applicant will have a minimum of 72 UCAS Tariff points.

Applicants who have studied formally within the last seven years and hold fewer than 72 UCAS points will be interviewed and may be asked to complete a short writing exercise, in order to assess their ability to complete the programme.

For those applicants who have been out of formal education for more than seven years and have fewer than 72 UCAS points, their professional and life experience may be taken into consideration. Should it be deemed necessary, an interview and/or short writing exercise may also be required, to assess their ability to complete the programme. All applications require a reference.

6.2. Graduate Diploma Programmes

These programmes are aimed at Level 6 entry (i.e. the final year of an UG degree), so students applying must demonstrate their ability to undertake a programme at this level successfully. Ordinarily, students must be graduates of a Bachelor's programme or equivalent in a subject other than Theology. In addition, students who hold a DiplomaHE in Theology may be eligible for the Graduate Diploma.

Consideration is given to applicants who are not graduates of a Bachelor's programme or equivalent in another subject. Such applicants must demonstrate that they would both benefit from the programme, that they have prior experiential learning and maturity in a professional and/or ecclesial context that prepares them for graduate, Level 6 study, and that they would be able to complete the programme. In such cases the applicant will be interviewed by the Director of UG or PG Studies. The applicant may also be asked to submit a piece of existing written work or write an assignment that demonstrates their readiness for the programme.

6.3. Vocational Graduate Diploma Programmes

In addition to the requirements outlined in 6.2, students applying on the vocational graduate diplomas may have up to two interviews. An initial interview with the Programme Director may be used to help the applicant understand the programme's aims and outcomes, and to determine whether the vocational programme is a good fit for their particular ministry needs. If necessary, a further interview with the Director of UG Studies may be used to establish whether an applicant is to be offered entry, on the

basis of an assessment of their ability to successfully complete the programme.

6.4. PG Dip & MA Programmes

Students who have successfully completed the Graduate Diploma in Kingdom Theology, the BA in Kingdom Theology, a BA in Theology, or equivalent, are eligible for admission to either the PGDip or the MA in Kingdom Theology Programmes.

Students who have an equivalent award at Level 6 in Theology (a BA at 2:1 or higher, or another Graduate Diploma in Theology) may be admitted to the programme. However, in some cases where a student has not achieved the specific learning outcomes achieved on the Graduate Diploma in Kingdom Theology, even if they have a Level 6 qualification in Theology and Religious Studies, they may be expected to complete individual Level 6 modules in the Graduate Diploma before admittance to the MA programme. In cases where students do not have a BA or Graduate Diploma in theology, they may be eligible for the programme if they can demonstrate prior learning in theology (through a technical essay) and have a degree in the humanities and significant ministry experience.

7. Exegesis/Evidence

Some applicants may be required to carry out a written exercise to gauge their level of academic engagement, and if necessary, level of study.

MA applicants are required to submit a piece of written work as part of their application to the programme.

8. Language Requirements

For our UG programmes, if English is not the first language of the applicant, an IELTS score of 6.0, or a TOEFL IBT score of 72 is required.

For our PG Programmes, if English is not the first language of the applicant, an IELTS score of 6.5, or a TOEFL IBT score of 88 is required.

9. Residential Teaching

It is important and expected that students attend both Residentials in person in order that they receive critical student orientation information, study skills tutoring and 60% of their modular teaching. Where students are unable to attend in full, they need to disclose and discuss attendance with WTC as part of their application process.

10. Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL)

Some applicants may have gained credits from other HEIs, or have

extensive experience that may contribute to an APL application.

10.1. Accreditation of Prior Learning (APCL)

Some applicants will join WTC with prior accredited learning that holds equivalence to some specific modules. Applicants can request that these credits be transferred to their new programme. Any claims need to be:

- Five years or less
- Hold equivalency to modules on WTCs programme
- If older than five years, additional evidence to show currency of original award
- Not more that $\frac{2}{3}$ of the programme may be subject to APL
- All applications must be approved by WTC Directors of UG & PG Studies, and the Theology and Religious Studies (TRS) department at the University of Chester.

10.2. Accreditation of Experiential Learning (APEL)

Some applicants will join WTC with prior experiential learning that holds equivalence to some specific modules. Applicants can request that this experience is considered as credit towards their new programme. Any claims need to:

- Provide written evidence and references to verify the experience of the applicant
- Details of how this shows equivalency to module/s being applied for
- Not more that $\frac{2}{3}$ of the programme may be subject to APL
- All applications must be approved by WTC Directors of UG & PG studies, and the TRS department at the University of Chester.

11. International Students

WTC is unable to accept international students onto its programmes, unless they hold residential status in the UK on an incidental basis, such as a work visa. In these instances, the relevant visa must cover the full duration of the programme that they hope to study.

12. Admissions Procedure

Applicants wanting to study with WTC are required to complete an online application via the WTC Website. These are then processed initially by the Registrar and Assistant Registrar who carry out checks which will include:

- Ensuring that the applicant has applied to the appropriate programmes based on their former education
- Checking for any evidence required (i.e. visa, exegesis)
- Acknowledge receipt of references

- Ensure any Learning/Disability/NeuroDiverse issues are acknowledged and alert any appropriate members of staff to additional student needs
- Contacting the applicant if there are any other issues or concerns regarding their ability to study
- Applications are reviewed and approved by the Director/s of UG and PG Studies.

13. Admissions Deadlines

The deadline for applications to be submitted to WTC is determined each year by WTC's Executive team, but is usually the end of July/early August. Students are then registered with the University of Chester in time for the first residential teaching week at the start of September.

For some PG Dip/MA students, their studies may begin in the January of each academic year, and applications are accepted until mid-December.

14. GDPR

Applications are processed in line with our GDPR policy. All data provided in applications is treated and processed in line with our Data Handling Policy, which is aligned with GDPR requirements.