

Certificate in Jewish-Christian Studies

Introduction

The Certificate in Jewish-Christian Studies is a KEDS programme provided through the school's Jewish-Christian Studies division (JCS). The aim of the programme is to provide primarily Gentile believers with an in-depth knowledge, understanding and skills in the following areas:

- The Jewish root of the Christian faith
- Jewish-Christian biblical interpretation
- The historical and theological relationship between the Church and Israel
- History, thought, nature and issues facing diverse Jewish expressions of faith in Jesus
- Responses to the current debate concerning the Church's relationship with Israel and the Jewish people
- Ministry among the Jewish people

Structure

The programme consists of six modules, listed below. Students successfully completing all six JCS modules and wanting to extend their studies further have the option to take two additional modules (Biblical Hebrew and an extended piece of writing) to earn the Advanced Certificate of Jewish-Christian Studies. These last two modules also earn credits towards the school's BTh programme, should a JCS student decide to continue with further study.

JCS01: The Jewish People, the Church, the Bible and Theology

- Introduction to the module and programme
- Survey of Jewish-Christian relations and Jewish-Christian studies
- Why this matters as a theological issue
- Introducing Christian Zionism and Christian anti-Zionism
- Different expressions of supersessionism (punitive, economic, structural)
- Response 1: Israel in the canonical narrative (calling, covenant, role/purpose, the New Testament, eschatology)
- Response 2: Study of Romans 9-11

JCS02: The Jewish People, the Church and Biblical Interpretation

- Jesus, Paul and the Bible
- What is Midrash?
- Hermeneutics and the New Testament authors
- Rabbinic hermeneutics
- Israel and hermeneutics
- Interpretation of the book of Matthew
- Passover and paschal theology
- Triunity of the Godhead: A Jewish-Christian perspective

JCS03: The Jewish People and Church History

- The New Testament period
- Post-apostolic period and the parting of the ways
- The Ebionites - early church Jewish expressions of Christianity?
- Medieval period
- Spanish Catholicism and the Jews
- Protestants and Israel
- The European churches and the Holocaust
- Post-holocaust theology
- Modern Christian anti-Zionism

JCS04: The Jewish People, the Church and the Gospel

- The Jewish New Testament Church and evangelism
- Forced Jewish conversions in medieval Europe
- Early Christian missions to the Jews
- The Hebrew Christian Movement
- Emergence of the modern Messianic movement
- Modern Jewish evangelism - groups and methods
- Jewish responses to Jewish evangelism
- Engaging in Jewish evangelism - issues, challenges and responses

JCS05: The Jewish People, the Church and Ecclesiology

- A Primer for Gentiles - issues of identity, ecclesiology, Torah-observance and praxis for Jewish believers in Jesus
- Historical survey of the modern Messianic Movement
- Nature, thought and expressions of the modern Messianic movement
- What is it Christians are "grafted into"?
- Gentile fixation with the Messianic movement
- Gentiles and Torah obligation

- Gentiles and the festivals of Israel

JCS06: The Jewish People, the Church, Politics and the Land

- Jewish presence in the land
- Emergence of a modern Jewish homeland and the establishment of the State of Israel
- History of modern Israel since 1948
- Christian Zionism and Christian anti-Zionism
- Christians and the Boycotts, Disinvestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement
- Portrayal of the Jewish people and Israel in the media
- Jews, Christians and the Media
- Evangelicals and the Land
- Israel and eschatology