



Certificate in Pioneer Mission 2022-2023

Modules

Below you'll find a brief outline for each module - please note these are subject to change.

Pioneering Mission

There are many ways to come at mission but we use John Taylor's description of mission as an adventure of the imagination to unpack mission in today's world. There will be a mix of exploring contextual mission and theology to grasp some of its themes; a look at mission that crosses cultures; and a consideration of pioneering mission practice in our own situations and contexts and how to develop a strategic approach to discern what God is doing and to join in. The particular gift that the pioneer brings will be explored in the light of this mission.

Reading the Bible & Doing Theology

This course starts with two simple questions: what is the Bible, and what do we mean by 'theology' – and how do the two relate to one another? It's easy to get the impression that this is all deep stuff that might interest people detached from the realities of everyday life and will have little relevance to mission in today's world. So notice the emphasis here on 'reading' and 'doing' rather than just 'thinking'. Don't be put off if you are a thinker – but the starting point for this course is that we learn best by exploring things in creative ways. We will take a look at the contours of the Bible's storyline and ask how God's story of mission found in the Bible (the *missio Dei*) can inspire today's pioneers as we connect with those who have no connection with traditional church, and in the process of doing that we will take time to identify what we ourselves bring to the task as unique individuals made in the image of God. Story, culture, creativity, imagination – they're all in there. And expect to have some fun as well.

Church in Mission

We are in an odd situation where it seems possible to talk about the church and mission as though they are separate entities. What would church be like if it was missionary by nature (the Catholic phrase from Vatican ii), if church and mission were not so separated, if church was mission shaped? This module will explore the nature of the church in mission, particularly looking at the theory and practices surrounding mission shaped church or fresh expressions. It will also look at local examples of creating new church communities as case studies for how this is working out on the ground.

Missional Leadership

Leadership: Science, Art, or Craft? What is the best way to develop leaders? These questions are vital to the way leaders see themselves, enact their roles, and run their organisations, churches or fresh expressions. The aim of this module is to introduce leadership as a radical form of self-inquiry. Self inquiry is an auto ethnographic approach which asks three critical questions: What time is it, What does this have to do with me and what should I do now? It addresses issues of belonging through exploring nature, culture and place using the first, second and third person inquiry as a framework for leadership. First person inquiry is about being self-reflective, identifying our own values etc, second person inquiry involves others who share similar concerns to us, and third person inquiry brings in the wider community such as the organisation, a local area/region in some way.

Missional Spirituality

To create space to...

- Reflect on our own faith journey
- Reflect on inner and outer work (prayer and action)
- See spiritual formation at the heart of your training
- Share the wisdom in the room
- Learn knowledge, skills and practices (spiritual practices to nurture faith)
- Explore the context in which we are pioneering and praying
- Nurture lives of prayer without ceasing (Paul's call to us)
- Step more deeply into your calling

Do this through...

- Imagination and inspiration as we explore our calling to be missional
- Be open to questions throughout
- 'What is the gift' – what is the one thing you needed to hear in that session?
- Don't write things off if there's a challenge – work with it.
- Playful – play with a concept of idea
- Conversational – introduce yourself the first time you speak
- Prayerful – a variety of prayer practices

Missional Enterprise

This module is designed to help you explore the “why?” behind your enterprising idea, consider how you and others relate to your idea, and begin to develop a resource model so that your idea can begin to take flight. The process is deeply collaborative. All voices, opinions and experiences are not just welcome – they are needed. The ideas we bring to this module are not abstract thoughts plucked out of some entrepreneurial heaven. They are part of our stories, emerging from our experience, context, gifts and struggles. Therefore, wrestling with our idea is often



deeply personal. We encourage you to embrace the vulnerability this might involve. There are three key factors that need to be aligned for an idea to have maximum impact and for it to grow into a resilient entity. We will look at these, alongside a design thinking approach that will equip you to better get to grips with your idea.