

Church Colleges' Certificate in Ministry *delivered in British Sign Language*

The University of Chester is leading the cause for accessibility by offering a ministry course taught in British Sign Language.

It is often hard for Deaf people to access training in Christian ministry because most courses are taught exclusively in spoken and written English and Deaf people have had to learn through interpreters.



Now there is a course that is taught in British Sign Language (BSL) training Deaf people for Christian ministry and leading to a recognised qualification.

The course is offered in partnership by the University of Chester and the Committee for Ministry of and among Deaf and Disabled People (CMDDP), which is a committee of the Archbishops' Council of the Church of England.

The course is open to Deaf lay people who are BSL users and wish to train for lay ministry in their local church. The course will be delivered by 'Signs of God', an organisation specialising in training through BSL, in residential weekends and home based, on-line learning with local tutor support.



There are three modules: *Using the Bible, Introduction to Theology* and *Liturgy and Worship*.



"It's been an interesting course – full of good information. It's good that a lot of it is from a Deaf perspective, using examples from Deaf culture. So much training is hearing; it's good to have something Deaf."

The course is aimed at people who are active in their local church so if you think that the course might be for you, talk to your chaplain or church minister who will need to agree to your application and sign the application form.

"It's been good for me to meet other Deaf Christians and to study theology with them. It's been a new experience for me to be involved with Deaf worship. It's been great and I've learnt a lot."



The cost of the course and all accommodation is £900 but we don't expect you to pay it all at once! We will need £300 when you register, £300 when you start the course and the last £300 about halfway through. Remember, this covers everything except your travel. You should be able to get help towards the cost from your local church.

"It's brilliant – so much information! It makes me want to go home and share what I've learnt with others."



University of
Chester

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Request an application form from:

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