

With Jesus
With each other
To the edges

Studying Asian Christianity at CMS Oxford

Theology, Ministry & Mission



CHURCH
MISSION
SOCIETY

Introduction

Welcome to the Asian Christianity stream at CMS Oxford!

At CMS, we have been at the forefront of theological education and pioneer ministry training in the UK for over a decade. Our commitment to equipping individuals for ministry has fostered a rich learning environment where students can engage deeply with their faith and calling. Recognising the dynamic shifts in global Christianity, we have expanded our horizons to embrace **a more intercultural approach**. Our **Asian Christianity** stream is a vital part of this journey.

The 21st century is marked by unprecedented global migration, reshaping communities and cultures worldwide. **Christianity in Asia is experiencing remarkable growth and transformation, offering a wealth of theological insights and missional practices.** This stream, therefore, seeks to equip you to engage with this vibrant context, contributing to a more holistic and globally-minded Church.

Through your studies, you will explore the **history, theology, and mission of Asian Christianity**. You will be part of a multicultural learning community, exchanging perspectives and enriching your understanding of the global Church. **Our aim is to cultivate leaders who can not only understand but also contribute to the flourishing of Christianity in Asia and its diaspora.**

We believe that CMS Oxford, with its commitment to following Jesus to the edges, is the ideal place to embark on this exciting journey.

This handbook is designed to provide you with essential information about the stream. We look forward to accompanying you on this transformative learning experience.

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Asian Christianity Stream at CMS Oxford

➤ Postgraduate

- **Certificate** – the first year of a master's
- **Diploma** – the first and second years of a master's
- **MA** – the first and second years of a master's, **with a dissertation**
- **DTh** – Professional Doctorate in Practical Theology (**in partnership with the University of Roehampton**)

➤ Ordinands and Licensed Lay Ministers

- For Anglicans, depending on the diocese you are in, you may be able to train to be an ordained minister of the Church of England or a Licensed Lay Minister.
- If you are interested in ordained ministry or licensing as a lay minister, contact Helen Harwood (helen.harwood@churchmissionsociety.org) for more information.
- If you are not a member of the Church of England, your denomination may have a different process, but you still may be able to train with CMS.

Why train with Church Mission Society?



Be understood.

A course by pioneers for pioneers. We get it and we will help you help others get it. Our students discover a language that works.



Be recognised.

The pioneering gift should be recognised and appreciated. Our qualifications are accredited by Durham University.



Be trusted.

A whole 200+ year mission community and a vast network behind you who believe in you. Really.



Be supported.

You can't do this alone. You'll be part of a dynamic learning community and wider network of pioneer hubs and friends.



Be you.

Connect and learn with others like you who have discovered the freedom of not fitting in.

For more info go to:
pioneer.churchmissionsociety.org

Master of Arts modules (taught fully online)

MA – Level 7 Modules

Six taught modules over two years; final year for dissertation

Core modules:

- **Advanced Topic in Asian Church History** – A course designed to help students study church history with a particular focus on Asia.
- **Theologies in Global Perspective** – A course designed to help students engage in theologies from around the world and to understand how some of these theologies emerged from particular religious traditions which have shaped a people's identity and theology.
- **Mission and Ecclesiology in Contemporary Contexts** – A course designed to help students reflect on the role and mission of the church both historically and in the contemporary world, bringing their own experience into conversation with various perspectives from around the world.
- **Research and Reflection: Resources and Methods** – A course designed to introduce students to various research methods and approaches to theological reflection. There will be an opportunity to design a research project.

Choose any two modules from:

- **Reflective Practice: Mission and Evangelism** – A course that provides a comprehensive understanding of mission and evangelism from a global perspective while encouraging students to reflect on their context and experiences. Through the exploration of key themes and metaphors, they will engage critically with contemporary mission issues.
- **Reflective Practice: Leadership and Collaboration** – A course designed to enable students to discern appropriate models of leadership and evaluate their own experience in leadership. Material is drawn from both secular and Christian contexts.
- **Political Theology in Mission** – A course drawing on mission and political perspectives to explore how we witness in public spaces as individuals, churches, and Christian communities. This module is residential; students must be able to attend in-person in the UK.

Dissertation (final year)

- A piece of work of 12,000 to 15,000 words which enables you to follow an area of interest in depth.



I feel very fortunate to have joined CMS and the Post-Christian Britain Hub at this exciting moment in its development, and I anticipate great things coming from this stream!

Nuam Hatzaw
Asian Christianity MA Lecturer

Being a student at CMS

Teaching Format

All our teaching days are on Tuesdays and begin with a student-led creative worship session from 10:30–11:00 a.m. Teaching sessions then run from 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. and 2:00–4:00 p.m. (Some undergraduate modules also include a residential component.)

Validated by Durham University

Our programmes are validated by Durham University as part of a suite of Common Awards. The awards are taught in Theological Education Institutes (TEIs) all over the country, of which we are one with Ripon College, Cuddesdon. In other words, at the end of your study, you will be getting a University of Durham qualification.

Cost? Competitively low course fees 25/26

- Certificate **£3,200** (120 credits)
- Certificate **£4,800** (180 credits)
- MA **£6,600**
- DTh **See details at**
<https://www.roehampton.ac.uk/study/postgraduate-taught-courses/practical-theology-dth/>
 - Besides the above fees, there is also the **Durham University annual student fee** (which entitles you to a student card and access to nationwide student discounts).
 - This fee is **£302** per annum or **£86** per annum if you are interested in becoming a licensed lay minister in the Church of England.
 - Fees are payable upfront or by monthly standing order.
 - Bursaries are available by application.

For more info go to: pioneer.churchmissionsociety.org

What our students say...

"Studying with CMS has been stretching and exciting. I've loved meeting so many other believers from all walks of life. Together we have learned how wide and how deep is God's love and his witness across the globe."

Rosie

"Studying with CMS increased my confidence and helped me shape a missional spirituality that sustains me, and I built a network of friends and pioneers that encouraged me to go further."

John



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