

‘Hands On’ is a ministry training course provided by WLA in Coventry. The Hands-On approach to learning is based around nine intensive study days throughout the year, pooling the best parts from the other courses which WLA currently offers.

The course offers accessibility for anyone who is looking to enhance their knowledge or for those who are exploring a calling perhaps towards ministry or more formal training options.

The one Saturday a month schedule, over nine months, circles around a two year program so candidates are free to join at any time. This flexible format offers a one year option for students as well with the launch date for this year’s course being October 2017.

This year will see a two-stream option: Urban Ministry and Children’s ministry. All students will study the core intensive modules which will be interspersed with specialist modules in their chosen stream specialisation (see schedule below).

The cost of the course is £550 per year which covers all learning at the Coventry centre and course materials. Relevant text books will be recommended and while these will enhance learning are not essential.





A New Approach to
Gospel-Centred Ministry Training

The vision of WLA is to partner with churches and in many cases course fees have been met either fully or partially by the student's home church.

The next few pages offer an overview of the learning program from October 2017.

HANDS ON INTENSIVE PROGRAMME 2017-18

Date	Intensive
14 th October	Core Module 1 - Reaching a Biblical Theology
18 th November	Option 1 – Urban Ministry Biblical Literary Cultural Analysis Children's Stream 1 "Where Do I Start?"
16 th December	Core Module 2 - Dealing with Self & Others
13 th January	Option 2 – Urban Ministry Social Capital in an Urban Context Children's Stream 2 "Ages and Stages"
10 th February	Core Module 3 - Doctrine
10 th March	Option 3 – Urban Ministry Church Planting Children's Stream 3 "Lesson Planning and Inclusivity"
14 th April	Core Module 4 - Cults & Other Faiths
12 th May	Option 4 – Urban Ministry Urban Project Children's Stream 4 "Telling Stories and Puppetry"
16 th June	Core Module 5 - Theodicy (God & Suffering)



Intensive Topics Summary – Core Modules

Reaching a Biblical Theology

This module considers the big themes of scripture through a biblical theological approach. Student's will trace such themes as creation, redemption, exile, exodus et al through the Bible and will also reflect on the relevance of such themes for their ministry and people groups they serve.

Dealing with Self and Others

This core module assists students in their assessment of self and team well-being. Pressures on ministry staff and volunteers can often be ignored. This module will consider the importance of self-reflection, spiritual formation and mental health for staff, volunteers and teams.

Cults and other Faiths

In a pluralistic and multi-faith society, it is important to understand other expressions of spirituality. Considering several cults and faiths, this apologetics module is designed to equip the student to stand up for the Gospel truth with confidence and insight.

Doctrine

Why is doctrine still relevant in a post-modern era? What doctrinal beliefs are under attack some more subtly than others? This module will look at two very relevant aspects of doctrine and unpack what they are all about and why doctrine is actually more relevant than ever.

Theodicy (God & Suffering)

A common objection and question by many is: "if there is a God, then why does He allow such suffering?" - This module will consider the biblical perspective of God and suffering seeking to equip the student to confidently engage and communicate such truths and hope within a broken and hurting world.

Intensive Topics Summary - Specialist Modules:

Interspersed between the core modules will be 4 specialist modules. These 4 modules can either be taken in **Urban Ministry** or **Children's Ministry**. Should students continue into the second year, 4 more specialist modules will be taken (alongside 5 core modules).

See module summaries below:



Urban Ministry

Literary Cultural Analysis

This module will equip the student to consider the scriptures through a cultural lens and framework. Understanding the text within its original context and culture will enable the student to assess its original emphasis and subsequent missional application within their own cultural context.

Social Capital in an Urban Context

This module will assist the students in assessing their local community sense of well-being and will ask how the church might 'enter the local conversation' with an uncompromising message of hope whilst providing a practical contribution to community life.

Church Planting

While God may never call you to plant a church, much of the material in this module will still be relevant to your learning and the church context you are in. This module will look at some of the theory and models which have driven church planting in recent years as well as a recent case study.

Urban Project

In this module, we will consider how and why an urban missional project should and can take place. What do some of the key missional thinkers of our day have to say and what do you think? We will also look at a relevant case study as part of the learning in this module.

Children's Ministry

Where do I Start ?

This topic starts at the beginning assuming little or no children's work, and few or no children. It looks at strategies to build a children's work in a small church. It will also cover the good practice essential basics such as how to develop a Child Protection Policy, and risk assessments to ensure that the children's work begins and will develop in a safe way. It is designed to be a useful health check for those who are well established, and an essential tool for those who are wondering where and how to begin.

Ages and Stages

In what way should a group for 5-7's be the same, and in what ways should it differ from a programme aimed at 8-11's or 3-5's? This topic looks at the different abilities of different age groups, and considers what age appropriate teaching, worship, and prayer approaches look like for the different age bands. The student will be encouraged to consider different approaches for the different age groups, and look at different ways of achieving the same results for different age groups.

Planning sessions, accommodating special needs and telling stories.

What do I DO with a roomful of kids when they are all different, of different abilities, and with different interests? This topic does what it says on the tin. It will look at the skill of planning sessions appropriately, what the issues are and why things are included in certain orders, or excluded. There will also be a general introduction to the issues surrounding additional needs and preparing programmes that are friendly to them. Finally, there will be a brief introduction to the art of storytelling.

Telling Stories and Puppetry

The power of story is amazing. How can we harness this for our children? This topic will look at the skills of storytelling, what makes a good story, and what techniques are available in different methods of storytelling. There will be a range of different types of creative storytelling considered, and some time will be devoted to the various skills of puppetry particularly in relation to telling stories

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