



RIDLEY HALL
CAMBRIDGE

GROWING IN
WISDOM
TO PROCLAIM
JESUS CHRIST



WELCOME FROM THE PRINCIPAL

RIDLEY HALL IS AN EVANGELICAL ANGLICAN THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE IN THE UNIVERSITY CITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

WELCOME TO RIDLEY HALL!

God calls us together at Ridley Hall to grow in wisdom in order to proclaim Jesus Christ. The college exists to enable lay and ordained Christian leaders to contribute wisely to the renewal of the Church and to the

WE LONG TO SEE PEOPLE RECONCILED TO GOD AND INSPIRED BY THEIR FAITH

well-being of society. We long to see people reconciled to God and inspired by their faith. We want to see neglected neighbourhoods



MICHAEL VOLLAND, PRINCIPAL

redeemed and communities restored. And we seek all of this so that Jesus' transforming gospel of justice, freedom, and new life can reach every corner of the earth.

Ridley Hall began training Christian leaders when the first eight students

arrived in 1881. Since then women and men from Ridley Hall have served Christ all over the world. Guided by the Holy Spirit, Ridley Hall continues to change and grow but our vision for the transformation that God desires to bring remains the same. We prepare a diverse group of students to participate in the renewal of the

Church and the world through their faith in Jesus Christ. They are lay and ordained, male and female, single and married, from a wide age range and from a variety of social, cultural, ethnic and national backgrounds.

Those who train at Ridley Hall continue to be sent out from

this wonderful theological college to share the transforming love of Jesus with individuals, neighbourhoods and communities. They are able to do this with confidence because during their time at Ridley our students participate in transforming worship that sustains the soul and they immerse themselves in theological study that is rooted in the collaborative practice of ministry.

When theological training is approached like this, it ignites the heart and empowers the whole self to serve Jesus Christ. This is what we do here at Ridley Hall. We look forward to meeting you in person and to welcoming you to a community that is dedicated to making 'the unsearchable riches of Christ' (Eph 3:8) known in the world.

THE REVD DR MICHAEL VOLLAND
PRINCIPAL OF RIDLEY HALL



OUR AIM AT RIDLEY HALL is that our common life and all of our activities enable our students to grow in wisdom in order that they are equipped to serve and lead Christian communities in faithfully proclaiming Jesus Christ.

Jesus commissioned his followers to, 'Go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.' (Matt 28:19–20a). He followed this with a wonderful promise, 'And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.' (Matt 28:20b).

Ridley Hall was established because the founders believed that a faithful

response to Jesus' commission and to the witness of the Church through the ages was to establish an evangelical residential college in Cambridge to train and equip those who sought to give their lives in Kingdom service. The vision of the founders was, 'That the good news of Jesus Christ be proclaimed throughout the world for the transformation of individuals, communities and cultures.' This desire remains at the heart of the vision for Ridley Hall today. As we seek to carry out this vision we are encouraged by the presence of the life-giving Spirit of God with us.

Whatever the particular shape of your calling, studying at Ridley Hall is an expression of your desire to be better equipped to share the good news about Jesus and to lead others





in doing this. As a student at Ridley Hall you will do this through studying the Bible, engaging in teaching and learning that is rooted in the practice of mission and evangelism and through participating in transforming worship. This happens in the company of staff and students who, like you, are committed to responding to the love

of God in Jesus and to working with the whole people of God to make him known in the world.

Ridley Hall celebrates its Anglican identity and describes itself as an open evangelical college. This represents our desire for a confident sense of rootedness in evangelical commitments, which at the same time seeks to engage constructively with other traditions and with the world around us. We recognise the truth of orthodox Christian belief as expressed in the early Creeds of the Church. We are evangelical in our understanding of the uniqueness of Jesus Christ and the free gift of eternal life for humankind made available through his atoning death on the cross and his glorious resurrection to new life, and in our commitment to the authority of Scripture, the importance of personal faith and the call to the whole people of God to be engaged in mission and evangelism.

WHILE IT SOUNDS like a building, Ridley Hall is really about the people.

Each year, our small community in Cambridge welcomes new members from around the country and the world. With God’s help we live and learn and worship together. This is where we grow in Christlikeness. This is our fertile ground.

WHAT WILL I DO?

During term, we have a set weekly timetable that helps us pray, grow

and learn together. The table below shows what you can expect in a typical Ridley week.

WHERE WILL I LIVE?

The Ridley campus is home to a significant proportion of our community, along with a Barn Owl and a family of woodpeckers. Single students and some staff live here permanently while our commuting students live in college from Monday to Friday. All students who live in are given their own room on one of our six residential staircases. Non-resident

	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
AM	Church Attachments	Morning Prayer – in chapel or in Emmaus Groups					Godly rest!
		Learning – Bible, Church, Mission ... all sorts of good stuff!					
Lunch – in the Dining Hall. Very important.							
More learning!		Exercise (optional)		Even more learning!			
Spouses Group					College Com-munion		
PM							



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students and their families live outside the college in flats and houses around Cambridge and its neighbouring villages.

HOW ARE SPOUSES AND FAMILIES INCLUDED IN RIDLEY LIFE?

While students with families tend not to live in Ridley, there are many

occasions when partners and children are welcomed and included in our shared life. Each week during term, our spouses group meets on Monday evenings and the whole community gather for College Communion and Ridley Kids groups on Thursday evenings. Many spouses meet again on Friday morning, when a crèche is provided, and all are welcome to stay for our Friday Mission Lunch. Our Chaplain regularly meets with spouses and families as they settle into life in Cambridge.

WHAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECT OF RIDLEY LIFE?

We're glad you asked! Worship is the foundation of our lives together and so we begin each day in prayer and praise. Through our weekly Emmaus Groups we grow in fellowship and in our Thursday services of Holy Communion we gather to give thanks for all Jesus Christ has done for us and to receive all we need from God.

BEING EQUIPPED for ordination is not primarily about filling your metaphorical backpack with ministerial skills and theological knowledge.

It's first and foremost about allowing Christ to be formed in you (Galatians 4:19). This happens as you open yourself up to God and to others, listening and looking out for ways that the Holy Spirit is transforming and renewing your mind, your heart, your soul and even your body, so that 'you may discern what is the will of God – what is good, acceptable and perfect' (Romans 12:2).

This kind of transformational learning can happen in surprising places and at surprising times – around the meal table, in chapel, in the Common Room, on the football pitch, in the library. Here at Ridley we create some intentional opportunities to capture, reflect and build on this kind of formational learning.

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Each ordinand has a pastoral tutor whose responsibility it is to 'check in' regularly with you to find out what God is doing in your life. Your pastoral





tutor meets with you at least twice a term and is available at any time to talk through your experience of training and any issues that might arise for you and your family.

You, your pastoral tutor and the other ordinands in his/her care form an Emmaus Group. This group meets once a week for morning worship and for informal discussion, learning and Bible study together. This is your 'family within a family' at Ridley as you will get to know each other well, look out for each other and learn what it means to love one another.

All first and final year ordinands take part in the Emmaus Programme which takes place from 9 to 12 on Friday mornings. The course is shaped around the Church of

England's Formation Criteria for ordinands, covering areas such as mission, evangelism, spirituality, worship, Anglicanism, leadership and relationships. The teaching is interactive involving Ridley staff and occasional outside speakers. It is not a

YOUR EMMAUS GROUP IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN ABOUT AND WRESTLE WITH IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF DISCIPLESHIP, MINISTRY AND MISSION

formally accredited course: all Ridley ordinands participate, regardless of which academic pathway they are on. It's a great opportunity to learn about and wrestle with important aspects of discipleship, ministry and mission together with peers and staff.

JESUS CHRIST is the same yesterday, today and forever but the world and the church is changing!

At Ridley you will be preparing for service not just in the church of today, but in the unknown church of tomorrow. This means you will need to develop your ability to 'double listen' – to the world around you and to what the Spirit is saying to the church.

You will also need to make connections between the theology you learn in the classroom and the

experiences you have had and will have in local churches and the communities they serve. Facing an unknown future with hope will take a willingness to be surprised and an openness to new ways of proclaiming Christ.

At Ridley we offer a number of ways to make sure you stay connected to – and learn from – the gritty reality of a local church during your training. You will have an attachment to a church or group of churches during the whole of your time at Ridley, getting involved in Sunday services and a midweek activity, with opportunities to preach and lead worship. If you are a pioneer ordinand, this will be in a Fresh Expression context.

During the summer you will have the opportunity to be on a month-long church placement in a

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different church, which could be in the Cambridge area, or elsewhere in England – or even abroad in a church that is a member of the Anglican Communion.

In your first year you will also be able to participate in a social placement of your choice. This could be in a hospital, prison, the armed forces, a homeless project, a hospice, a care home, a school, youthwork etc. It's a wonderful opportunity to explore, learn from and reflect on, what it means to proclaim Christ in a setting that you have not encountered before.

In order to put your experiences in a theological framework and to put your theology to practice, we will equip you to learn to reflect theologically. We will

encourage you to ask hard questions of the context: where is God? what does it mean to proclaim Christ? – as well as of theology: what does it look

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like to inhabit the kingdom of God? to be a disciple of Christ? to exercise a public ministry? We will help you to be attentive to these questions and to begin to cultivate an entrepreneurial fearlessness that is prepared to hear disturbing answers and an entrepreneurial imagination that allows the Spirit to take you beyond yourself to surprising new places.

AT RIDLEY we firmly believe that our academic studies are vital in helping leaders to grow in wisdom.

After all, part of the personal transformation that the Apostle Paul calls us to is the 'renewing of our minds' (Romans 12:2). We need to be deeply rooted in the Biblical and theological disciplines so that we understand our faith more fully and are able to communicate it simply and clearly. And the more deeply we are rooted, the better equipped we will be — says Paul — to discern God's direction in all that he is calling us to be and do.

Each of our courses is designed to help achieve this goal, and further details can be found on the chart overleaf. The course that you follow will depend on your age, whether you've done theological studies before, and the kind of learning that suits you best.

**AN OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY
AND LEARN WITH OTHERS**

A unique aspect of studying at Ridley is the opportunity to study alongside students from various faith traditions in the Federation, providing a rich and stimulating context for learning.



A DIVERSITY OF STUDY OPTIONS

Ridley Hall offers more study pathways than many training colleges. We offer the Common Awards courses, a number of Cambridge degree courses (subject to acceptance by the University), as well as a range of research degrees.

**A CITY OF ABUNDANT
LEARNING RESOURCES**

Cambridge is a world-class learning environment. There are three exceptional libraries within a 10-minute walk from Ridley, and we are connected to a wealth of experienced thinkers and practitioners who will work with you to guide your learning and formation.



OUR COURSES AT A GLANCE...

Name	Length	Summary	Awarded by	Qualification	Assessment	Taught by	Entrance Requirements (4)
Certificate of Higher Education (Common Awards)	1 yr	A one-year introductory course for Christian ministry with a creative mix of theology and application	DU	CertHE	Essays	CTF (1)	At least one A Level or equivalent (5 + 6)
Diploma of Higher Education (Common Awards)	2 yrs	A two-year vocational Diploma in Christian theology offering a blend of theory and practice	DU	DipHE	Essays	CTF (1)	At least two A Levels or equivalent (5 + 7)
Bachelor of Arts (Common Awards)	3 yrs	A full three-year vocational degree in Christian theology which offers opportunities for independent study	DU	BA	Essays and dissertation	CTF (1)	At least three A Levels (grade AAB) or equivalent (5 + 8)
Graduate Diploma (Common Awards)	1 yr	A one-year Diploma for theology graduates preparing for ministry offering a range of options	DU	GradDip	Essays	CTF (1)	A previous degree in theology
Bachelor of Theology	2 yrs	Cambridge University's vocational degree for Christian ministry combining theological and practical study	CU	BTh	Essays and exams	Primarily CTF (2)	At least a good 2:1 in a previous degree in another subject (9)
Bachelor of Arts in Theology (Tripos)	2 yrs	Cambridge University's traditional theology course that promotes learning through rigorous individual study and small-group supervisions	CU	BA	Primarily exams	CU	At least a high 2:1 in a previous degree in another subject (10)
Master of Arts in Theology, Ministry and Mission	1 or 2 yrs	A flexible course in theology, ministry and mission delivered through a mixture of lectures and seminars	DU	MA	Essays and dissertation	CTF (3)	Normally the successful completion of at least two years of theological study
Diploma in Theology for Ministry	1 yr	A course for theology graduates with an outstanding degree who have been recommended as 'potential theological educators'.	CU	DTM	Essays and exams	Primarily CTF (2)	At least a high 2:1 in a previous theology degree
Master of Philosophy	1 yr	A one-year course in advanced theology which includes the opportunity for independent research	CU	MPhil	Exams and dissertation	CU	At least a high 2:1 in a previous theology degree
Doctor of Philosophy	3 or 4 yrs	A unique opportunity for serious independent study and original research at an advanced level	CU	PhD	Thesis	Supervisor from or appointed by CU	At least a high 2:1 in a previous theology degree
Professional Doctorate	P/T over 3-6 years	A unique opportunity for practice-based research on some aspect of Christian ministry at doctoral level	ARU	DProf	Thesis	Supervisor appointed by ARU	At least a high 2:1 in a previous theology degree and an MA in theology or related subject

Key to institutions

- DU Durham University (Common Awards)
- CU The University of Cambridge
- ARU Anglia Ruskin University
- CTF The Cambridge Theological Federation, including Ridley Hall

Notes on course teaching

- (1) The CertHE, DipHE, BA and GradDip (Durham University, Common Awards) offer a rich variety of subjects taught by a wide range of teachers. Many subjects are team-taught by teachers from across the Cambridge Theological Federation, including Ridley Hall, but some draw on the talents of people with expertise from outside the Federation.
- (2) The BTh and DTM (Cambridge University) are taught within the Cambridge Theological Federation. Many subjects are team-taught by teachers from across the Federation, including Ridley Hall, and includes teaching in small group supervisions. Some subjects are taught alongside Tripos students in the Divinity Faculty.
- (3) The MA is taught mainly by staff from the Cambridge Theological Federation, including Ridley Hall. Teachers with expertise from outside the Federation also make a significant contribution.

Notes on entrance requirements

- (4) Students for whom English is a second language need an IELTS score of 6.5 for Durham University (Common Awards) courses and of 7.0 for Cambridge University courses.
- (5) Many students who do the CertHE, DipHE or the BA (Common Awards) have degrees in other subjects, but they may also be successfully undertaken by students without a degree. When we consider your application we look for evidence of your ability to benefit from and meet the academic demands of the course.
- (6) In the case of mature candidates, relevant work experience may be considered in lieu of formal academic qualifications. Younger candidates without A-Levels can be entered for the Certificate in the first instance before proceeding to further study.
- (7) Alternatively, students who have successfully completed the Certificate may progress to the Diploma.
- (8) Alternatively, students who have successfully completed the Diploma may progress to the Degree.
- (9) The Faculty will expect to see a sample of written work. Students need to be matriculated through one of the Cambridge University colleges (alongside membership of Ridley).
- (10) Applicants will need to be graduates with a first (or an average of 67% in their first degree). A Director of Studies from a Cambridge College may wish to see a sample of written work and/or interview the candidate. The BA Tripos is only available to those studying for ordination who are under 32 at the start of their studies. Training is completed by a further year of study.



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www.ridley.cam.ac.uk

SEND US OUT IN THE
POWER OF YOUR SPIRIT
TO LIVE AND WORK TO
YOUR PRAISE AND GLORY