

EDINBURGH BIBLE COLLEGE



*preparing God's people
for God's purposes*



PROSPECTUS
2020/21

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FOR GOD'S PURPOSES

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Welcome! My name is John Brand and I have the immense privilege of being Principal of Edinburgh Bible College. Thank you for giving me the opportunity of introducing EBC to you.

We have four key passions:

The Bible. We are convinced that it is the inspired and living word of God on which everything we do and teach at EBC is based. However, we believe that Bible College training should be much more than simply passing on information; ultimately, it should also be about spiritual transformation.

Jesus. We are passionate about Christ and the gospel and want to see Him radically impact the lives and ministries of all those who God brings to us.

Church. We are passionate about the local church and want to work with congregations to equip them for relevant and effective gospel ministry either in Scotland, the wider UK or somewhere else in the world.

Practical Training. We also believe that good training is not limited to the classroom, so we emphasise practical experience and placements within partner churches.

If you have a desire to study and train for your own spiritual growth, or because you sense God's call on your life for some form of vocational ministry, we would love to hear from you and explore together what God is up to! We have a reputation of being both flexible and accessible so we look forward to serving you soon.

Revd John D. Brand
Principal



WELCOME TO EBC

Edinburgh Bible College was established in August 2012 with the encouragement of a number of church leaders who recognised a need for an independent, church-based, robustly biblical training facility in central Scotland.

The College is governed by and accountable to local churches across the evangelical spectrum and all the teaching and training is done by practitioners, rather than professionals – in other words those whose daily ministry is the teaching and preaching of the Word of God.


We are concerned by the situation which is almost 'the norm' now, where Christian training Colleges are accountable to and accredited by secular bodies whose worldviews ought to be far removed from the

convictions of the Bible College. We remain committed to the historic truths of the Christian, biblical faith and will not compromise on those beliefs for the sake of supposed academic respectability.

At EBC, we take great joy and confidence in knowing that faithfulness to both the Scripture and to the Spirit will mean a life of discipleship and ministry as the Lord intends. When training in the Bible - and when lives of worship in response - is stripped of its supernatural power, we become sitting ducks to legalism, pragmatism and anti-intellectualism. Life in the Kingdom of God is none of the above. There should be no disconnect between the book of Acts and our lives of service and ministry following Christ.

We take great delight in welcoming you into a training environment of grace, freedom and joy in God's beautiful Word!

PREPARING GOD'S PEOPLE FOR GOD'S PURPOSES



WHERE WILL YOU BE STUDYING?

Voted in recent years as the no.1, most desirable place to live in the U.K., the City of Edinburgh is, quite simply, one of the most uniquely beautiful cities in the entire world!

The annual Fringe Festival and Christmas market attracts tens of thousands of visitors each year. Filled with world-renowned history, attractions, coffee shops and libraries, theatres, restaurants and uniquely arranged little nooks and crannies, Edinburgh's intimate charm will feel like home in no time at all.

Just a short car journey away from Edinburgh's bustling centre is the town of Broxburn where EBC is based. Whether you are driving or using the superb bus/train/tram services the city affords, you won't be far from the hustle and bustle, should you so wish, and equally close to the alternative option of fresh air and reprieve provided by the Pentland Hills.

Partnering with a local independent evangelical church in Broxburn, provides regular opportunities for outreach and evangelism/street work which will make your time here at College all the richer.

Studying hard at EBC will be punctuated with times of fellowship and recreation as well as extended times of prayer and devotion.

As a key, global location, we have no doubt that Edinburgh is one of the best options in the world to facilitate your growth in spiritual discipline, biblical literacy and missional outlook.



WHY STUDY THE BIBLE?



"EBC IS COMMITTED TO TRAINING THAT PRODUCES MEN AND WOMEN WHO ARE STEEPED IN THE SCRIPTURES AND WHOSE LIVES ARE SHAPED BY THEIR TEACHING"

The need of the unbelieving world, the need of the local church, the need of the world of missions – now more than ever – is a generation of men and women who are:

- conversant with the whole Bible;
- convicted by the truths of the Bible;
- convinced of the inerrancy, infallibility & sufficiency of the Bible;
- captivated in their own mind and heart by the Bible;
- conformed to the teaching of the Bible;
- committed to the ultimate authority of the Bible;
- confident in the supernatural power of the Bible;
- competent in teaching & preaching their Bible in such a way that doesn't rob it of its supernatural power.

Using the phrase *'Bible Training that is Biblical'* ought to warrant an accusation of tautology, of repetition of words; yet sadly today it is possible to get training that is described as Bible Training & yet is not truly biblical – either because it has little real biblical content or because much of the teaching is not truly consistent with the Bible.

Partly, but not exclusively, because of the pressure of secular academic regulators, too much time these days is taken in too many courses in studying subjects that may be about the Bible or related in some way to the Bible, but not enough time in actually studying the text, the content of the Bible itself.

STUDENT STORY



My professional background is nursing but my passion these days is supporting people who live with autism. The daily challenges of being a wife and a mum to loved ones with additional needs, means that any study I partake in must be part-time and flexible. EBC provided this!

The highlight of my studies at EBC has been the growing awareness of the need to combine my relationship with the living God with studying his Word, in order to learn more about him, point others to him, enjoy him, and glorify him.

I love Jesus, he is my Lord and my Saviour and studying God's Word is giving me a fuller understanding of what this means. Following Jesus in obedience has been costly but having the assurance that putting my trust in him and his death on a cross, for the forgiveness of all the wretched thoughts, words and deeds, of my past present and future, fills me with a joy that's 'better felt than telt'.

I am seeing daily the blessings of increasingly relying on God for wisdom, strength and persistence, to live out my faith in a way that is worthy of my calling. My thankfulness and worship to God has led to a life of serving him, increasingly, in all areas of my life. In his mercy and grace, God has taught me to rely on him to get through the day in a way that glorifies Him.

Gillian Glancy

AMAP Student, member of Grace Community Church, Broxburn



PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

In keeping with our key distinctives of being *flexible* and *accessible*, we have a range of course options with something to suit everyone.

Whether you want to do a full Diploma course (*which usually involves 3 days a week at college over 2 years, but can be done over a longer period of time if it suits you better*), or whether you just want to study some individual subjects and Bible books, the choice is yours!

Our courses are especially designed to allow you to work in your local church for some time each week giving you valuable hands-on experience, or fulfill family commitments or, indeed, to have a part-time job and earn some income.

If what we have to offer still doesn't seem to fit the bill, please contact us because we can almost certainly tailor something appropriate. Remember too that almost everything we teach at EBC can be followed on-line (see page 15).

If you would be interested in exploring any study options with us please take a look at the details on the website or email info@edinburghbiblecollege.co.uk and we will happily talk and pray with you and try and help you discern the Lord's will for you.

Finer details of EBC's curriculum and individual modules can be downloaded from the EBC website.



DIPLOMA IN APPLIED THEOLOGY

This is our core course, structured around four disciplines, all of which are vital for an effective equipping and preparation for ministry.

Biblical: The Scriptures – the inspired and inerrant Word of God – are at the very heart of everything we believe, teach and practice. A large proportion of the course consists in studying the Bible, both at an overview level – stressing its unity and discovering its dominant theme – and also at the detailed level as we study individual books and passages.

Doctrinal: All Christians need to clearly grasp what they believe and why they believe it. Over the course students will engage with all the major doctrines of the Christian faith and consider something of the historical development of those truths as well as some of the ongoing debates about them.

Applied: In this part of the course students will study a range of subjects that demonstrate the practical application of biblical truth; subjects like church history, missions, preaching, and ethics. Equally importantly, a strong emphasis of the course is on the personal application of biblical truth that is designed to transform the believer into the likeness of the Saviour. Be prepared to spend quality time in prayer and worship, memorising Scripture and being challenged about your spiritual life and growth.

Practical: The best training for ministry is one in which the student gets their hands dirty, as it were. There is a learning and training that can't be done in the classroom and we provide that. There are opportunities for evangelism and outreach, public speaking and preaching. All students are formally attached to a local evangelical church where they will have opportunities to serve and learn and some of these practical aspects of the course can be carried out under the auspices of the church following discussions between the church and the College.



DIPLOMA IN APPLIED THEOLOGY CONT.

What Do Others Say?

The testimony of more than one of our graduates has been that as a result of studying for our core *Diploma in Applied Theology* course they have got "a bigger God and a bigger Bible". This is music to our ears and the very reason we have structured our course in this way.

We design our teaching to do three things - teach the mind, touch the heart and target the will. This would be a great investment of time as you get equipped for whatever form of service and ministry you sense the Lord has prepared for you.

Finally, what does it cost? The usual cost for this course, when taken over two years, is £3,500 per year. You can download the application form for this course via our website.

Please note that as part of the application process we will require a full commendation and reference from your home church.

"If you're worried Bible College isn't for you because you're concerned about the faithfulness of teaching, or the content of the course is too demanding or intimidating, or for whatever reason, worry not! EBC isn't about academia or becoming a 'good Christian,' it's about God! And when you invest your time in God, learning about His ways and getting to know His character, you really can't go wrong. These last two years have made me forget about myself and remember that God is what everything is all about. So indescribably thankful for all that I've learned, and thank you Edinburgh Bible College for all the teaching!"



Graduate of 2015, Rachel Adamson



AMAP

The Advanced Ministry Apprenticeship Programme (AMAP) is a nine-month vocational training course conducted in diverse settings under the leadership of EBC staff and external mentors.

AMAP exists to transition students from the full-time college environment to full-time Christian ministry while transforming them in five key areas of personal development:- *Knowing the Scriptures, Self, People, God and Ministry Skills.*

At the AMAP's core are one or more mentored placements over a total of 25 weeks. Students will observe, participate and receive assessment in the everyday work of a minister, missionary or evangelist. Running alongside the placement ministry will be a number of assignments set by EBC staff.

The focus of the AMAP is on preparation for full-time sustainable ministry and the assignments will be set up and reviewed during three periods of on-site teaching at EBC. *Students will need to achieve a total of 60 credits in order to successfully complete this apprenticeship programme.*

The AMAP consists of a total of 600 hours/60 credits:

Residential Lectures & Teaching (5 weeks, 30 hours per week) 150 hours
Private Study (Reading, Preparation & Follow-up Work) approximately 150 hours
Placements (25 weeks, 12 hours per week) approximately 300 hours

Students' ministry and academic activities will be assessed in the field by the mentor and by EBC staff at SCQF level 9 (SVQ Level 4). Most assignments are summative assessments which are designed to measure the student's achievements. However, there are also formative assessments which provide feedback to the student regarding how she or he is developing and to encourage and steer that development. The essential elements of character, calling and competence will be the three main areas under review.

STUDENT STORY



I grew up in the countryside of County Down, Northern Ireland, in a family who knew and loved God. With a combination of their faithfulness, children's meetings and other services, and the grace of God, I came to a saving faith in Christ as a child. After God opening and closing particular doors along my life's journey, I was led to study at EBC in 2017.

After feeling the call to ministry and to spend the foreseeable time in Scotland, I started looking at Bible colleges. As I came across EBC and saw what they stood for and practised in study, everything just seemed to click for me. The key was not their advertisement as an academic institution, but a place where people are in a transformational process into the types of people God would want them to be. They also aimed to focus on some of the more practical aspects of ministry that can be lacking in other colleges.

Studying the Bible at EBC was not practised purely in an academic format, but for a deeper understanding and longing in the heart and mind for the things of God. Even if there were things I didn't fully understand, I never felt out of my depth or out of touch with the lecturers and other students, who encouraged each other in drawing as much from the Bible as possible. Coming from a quiet rural area of NI to the Scottish capital with only a vague idea of what my next steps were was perhaps confusing at times, but being part of the college has brought a sense of peace and contentment to my soul. It's just as if God has been saying to me "This is still the way, keep walking in it." (Isaiah 30:21)

Joshua Truesdale

AMAP Student, member of Banbridge Free Presbyterian Church



E-LEARNING

We want to make our courses as widely available as possible, so almost everything we teach at EBC is also available online.

This means that you can pursue a training course from the comfort and convenience of your own home. So, even if you don't live within easy reach of the College itself, you can still benefit from our training and equipping.

This will also make study accessible for overseas students, and those who are outside the EU and so prevented from coming here for training by the current restrictions on students imposed by the UK Government.

Whether you just want to study one subject or book of the Bible, or whether you want to do a number of modules and perhaps work toward an EBC Certificate or Diploma, EBC's e-learning facility is here to help you!

How does it work? There is a simple registration form to complete. Once registered, we give you access to Moodle, our online virtual learning hub, where all our course materials are uploaded. Each module is linked to PayPal, so as soon as you make the payment, that module is unlocked and you can get started.

You can choose from a long list of modules and, as you complete each module, you gain study credits which can be accumulated, leading to an award: 120 credits will earn you a Certificate in Biblical Studies or a Certificate in Expository Preaching; 240 credits will earn you a Diploma in Theology (please ask for more details).

Included in your tuition costs is regular face-to-face time with your tutor via Zoom. If you are able to, you can even combine online studies with attending some classes at College, and so benefit from the interaction with the staff and the other students.



E-LEARNING: CONT.

E-LEARNING: CERTIFICATE IN BIBLICAL STUDIES

This course can be taken over a maximum period of 5 years, accumulating sufficient study credits and can be studied at college, on-line or via a combination of both.

The Certificate in Biblical Studies includes many of the modules that are in the *Diploma in Applied Theology* course but leaves out the practical elements and the spiritual disciplines that require one-to-one mentoring and involvement.

All Christians need to clearly grasp what they believe and why they believe it. During this course, students will engage with all the major doctrines of the Christian faith and consider something of the historical development of those truths as well as some of the ongoing debates surrounding them.

Students will study a range of subjects that demonstrate the practical application of biblical truth; subjects like church history, missions, preaching, and ethics.

In order to gain this award, a total of 120 study credits must be achieved from a combination of modules, including those that are mandatory and marked * on the list of modules on the EBC website.

Please see the EBC website for more details, including for individual modules.

PREPARING GOD'S PEOPLE FOR GOD'S PURPOSES



SPIRITUAL FORMATION

"EBC IS COMMITTED TO A TRAINING THAT RESULTS IN GROWTH IN SPIRITUAL MATURITY AND CHRIST-LIKENESS; WITH AN EMPHASIS ON SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES"

As a teacher and preacher I love the emphasis Paul places on the mind in Romans 12. It is all too fashionable in some Christian circles today to despise – and I use the word carefully – reading, study and anything that remotely smacks of academic study. I have witnessed it at first-hand and it's often cloaked in a spiritual and pietistic guise. I know Christian workers who boast about the fact they haven't read a serious Christian book in ages, and a student at another Bible College who gloated that he hadn't visited the College Library in a whole year. Now, of course, what and how we read and study is enormously important but true spirituality doesn't bypass the mind and the intellect and we are in real need today of men and women who can think biblically and whose minds have been trained to do so.

JOHN BRAND
Principal, EBC

For more information about spiritual formation, please see the EBC website.

PREPARING GOD'S PEOPLE FOR GOD'S PURPOSES



I currently serve as an assistant pastor for an evangelical church in eastern Poland, in the city of Siedlce.

Pretty quickly after my conversion I was convinced that God was calling me to a preaching ministry. Because I didn't have a high enough level of theological education in Poland, our pastor suggested that I should search for a Bible college in the UK. So, we started searching for theological courses with a strong emphasis on expository preaching - that's how we found Edinburgh Bible College.

I contacted other colleges before but their reply was not very encouraging. It was not so with EBC. The Principal replied personally in a brotherly tone and encouraged me to go forward with an application process even though we were not sure yet whether we will get the needed finances for tuition fees. I became a student and it turned out that choosing EBC was one of the best choices of my life! Studying under experienced lecturers who were involved in pastoral ministry gave me many practical tips. This shaped my leadership skills enormously.

The EBC course prepared in me a firm gospel-centred foundation for my present ministry with a great focus on expository preaching. I can honestly say with no exaggeration that the time spent at EBC was the most encouraging, shaping, challenging and equipping time in my life. If you want to learn how to read, teach, preach, love and cherish the Word of God in a warm kingdom atmosphere with a focus on the centrality of the Gospel EBC will be a perfect place for you.

Adam Urban
Graduate, Diploma in Applied Theology



OUR STAFF

"CARRY EACH OTHER'S BURDENS, AND IN THIS WAY YOU WILL FULFILL THE LAW OF CHRIST."

Galatians 6:2

We are big enough to cope and small enough to care; our door will always be open!

During your time as an EBC student, you will be surrounded by practitioners not academic tutors; men and women who are, on a day-to-day basis, engaged in a range of ministries themselves. This means that we offer a uniquely warm culture not only for learning but also for wider student support. We are small enough as a faculty to ensure that your time at EBC will be as much like a family in practice, as well as theory, as is humanly possible.



**REV JOHN BRAND,
PRINCIPAL**



**REV DR THORSTEN PRILL,
VICE PRINCIPAL & ACADEMIC DEAN**



**KERSTIN PRILL,
ADMINISTRATOR**



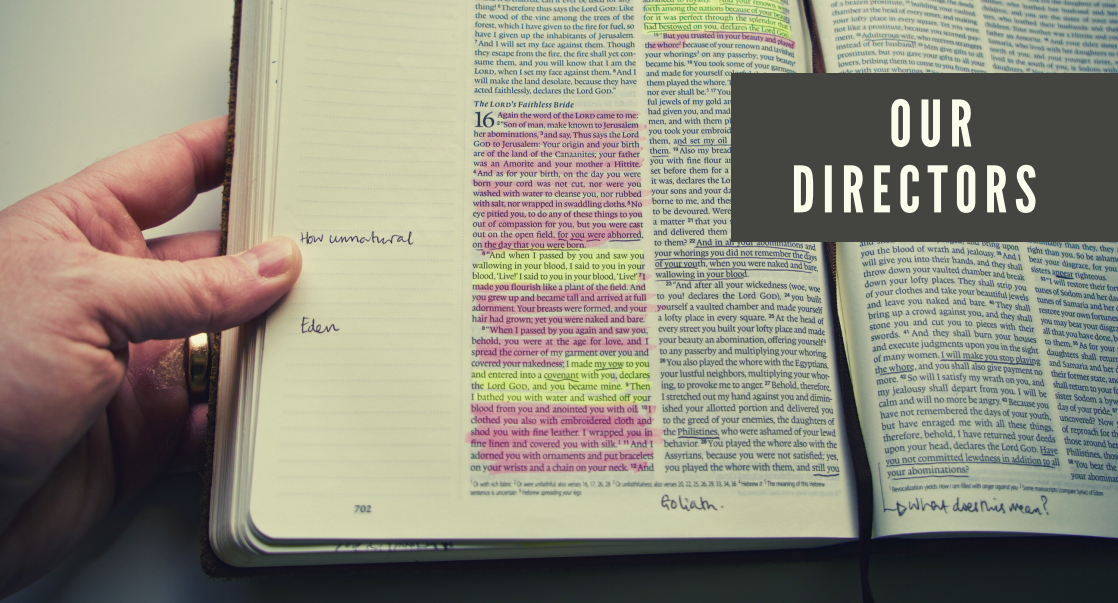
**ERIC PURVES,
BUSINESS MANAGER**



**VALERIE ROBERTSON,
LIBRARIAN**

If you would be interested in exploring any study options with us please take a look at the details on the website or email info@edinburghbiblecollege.co.uk and we will happily talk and pray with you and try and help you discern the Lord's will for you.

PREPARING GOD'S PEOPLE FOR GOD'S PURPOSES



OUR DIRECTORS



MR GEORGE INNES (VICE CHAIRMAN)
RETIRED PHARMACIST,
LAY PREACHER, EDINBURGH



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CHURCH (FIEC), GLASGOW



REV DAVID RANDALL (CHAIRMAN),
MINISTER OF FALKIRK FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

PREPARING GOD'S PEOPLE FOR GOD'S PURPOSES



NEXT STEPS

PRAY:

HAVING READ OUR PROSPECTUS,
WHAT IS GOD SAYING TO YOU?

TELL:

LET A COUPLE OF TRUSTED FRIENDS
KNOW YOU'RE APPLYING TO EBC & SEEK
THE SUPPORT OF YOUR CHURCH LEADERS

WRITE:

DROP US AN EMAIL
AND WE'LL BE IN TOUCH WITH YOU!



EDINBURGH BIBLE COLLEGE

PREPARING GOD'S PEOPLE FOR GOD'S PURPOSES