



# Postgraduate Chaplaincy Studies

Including Postgraduate Certificate,  
Diploma, and MA awards



## A Unique Provider

St Padarn's Chaplaincy Studies programme is a unique development that supports in-service chaplains in their practice and ministry. We offer postgraduate education in chaplaincy studies in association with relevant professional bodies. Our programme is UK Board of Healthcare Chaplaincy accredited. If you seek UKBHC registration, please contact us for details. The programme will expand your thinking and broaden your awareness of the theoretical and practical aspects of your work.

We are part of St Padarn's Institute, the training arm of the Church in Wales. Under its statement 'formation in community for mission,' St Padarn's equips and empowers God's people across the world to communicate God's transformative love. St Padarn's has 23 years' experience and an internationally recognised reputation as the UK's lead provider of specialist chaplaincy training. We welcome students of any faith or belief or none.

## Equipping Effective Practitioners

You can enrol part-time for a Certificate (one year), Diploma (two years), or Master's (three years). The course is validated by Durham University, one of the Russell Group's 24 world-class research-intensive universities.

The aim of St Padarn's programme is to offer postgraduate education in chaplaincy studies in partnership with the relevant professional bodies:

- as continuing professional development at an advanced level for individuals engaged in chaplaincy work
- for candidates for chaplaincy ministries who have already studied theology to degree level
- for individuals wishing to pursue chaplaincy studies at postgraduate level.

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At St Padarn's, we offer learning targeted at your specialism (education, health, military, prison, sport etc). Most of your modules will be studied alongside peers working in the same or a similar sector. Your teaching will be delivered by expert chaplains and academic specialists who have been carefully selected for their ability to equip you for leadership in your role. We are proud to have held the national Ministry of Defence contract since 1999.

A particular strength of St Padarn's is the chance to study alongside chaplains serving in other specialisms. On some modules, over lunch, and in the evenings, airport, education, health, military, and sports chaplains have opportunity to share experiences and form lasting friendships.

Given our 21 years' experience at equipping chaplains from across the UK and beyond, there are plenty of good reasons to join us at St Padarn's.

## An Expert Teaching Team

**David Crees** is Deputy Principal and Chief Instructor at the Defence Academy Armed Forces Chaplaincy Centre. He heads up the Royal Army Chaplains' Department ethical teaching to Junior and Commanding Officers. Since 2004, David has served eleven units including tours of Iraq and Afghanistan. He is pursuing doctoral research in the leadership styles adopted by British Army chaplains.

**Andy Dovey** is the Bishop of Southwark's Advisor for Healthcare and Lead for Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care and Manager for Bereavement Services Croydon Health Services NHS Trust. He has managed worldwide procurement strategies for a major transnational corporation.

**Alun Evans** is the latest addition to the St Padarn's having recently completed his PhD. Until joining the team he was a vicar in the St David's Diocese of the Church in Wales. He is Tutor in Mission.

**Jim Francis** is Assistant Chaplain General, Regional Command (CF1) in the British Army. He has been Chaplain to several Infantry Battalions, deployed on numerous overseas exercises and three Operational Tours. In 2016, he was appointed Staff Chaplain in MOD Chaplains, Army HQ.

**Mark Griffiths** is part of the St Padarn's team with responsibility for all postgraduate programmes. He has worked for local churches over many decades holding positions from children's pastor and associate pastor to senior minister. His PhD is in church growth and child evangelism.

**Charlie Hadjiev** has recently joined the team at St Padarn's, and he is Programme Director for the MA Theology course. He has extensive experience in theological education with a specialism in hermeneutics and Biblical studies. His DPhil from Oxford University is in Old Testament Studies.

**Paul Nash** is Chaplaincy Manager and Spiritual Care Lead Birmingham Women's and Children's Hospital. He has published widely on children's and youth work in chaplaincy. Paul has served as Paediatric Chaplaincy Advisor to NHS England Chaplaincy Guidelines review group. He has co-authored 'Tools for Reflective Ministry' and brings that expertise to the programme.

**Andrew Parker** is a freelance leadership consultant with specific expertise in the 1-1 coaching of aspiring and in situ high-level leaders. His work extends across a range of organisations and sectors including education, healthcare, law, financial services and elite sport.

## A Course for Working Professionals

To meet the needs of working professionals, teaching is delivered in three intensive blocks each year<sup>1</sup>. Residentials take place from Monday to Wednesday at our site in Cardiff where we enjoy an extensive library and well-equipped teaching rooms. Our en-suite accommodation is modern and purpose-built. Meals are freshly cooked onsite, and we cater for special dietary requirements.

You are welcome to worship alongside members of our theological college in our attractive chapel. In addition to our comfortable common room, you may wish to explore the nearby cathedral, shops, cafes, pubs, and riverside walks.

In the master's programme, students study three modules a year for two years, followed by a year's dissertation writing. In year three, students are encouraged to attend the residentials as members of our learning community and work on their dissertations with access to the library, teaching staff.

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<sup>1</sup> Military Chaplains attend a fourth residential, but others can attend also as an optional extra.



To obtain the MA Chaplaincy Studies, students must complete six taught modules and a 15,000-word dissertation.

	Year one Postgraduate Certificate	Year two Postgraduate Diploma	Year three MA
Autumn Residential (October)	Research and Reflection <sup>2</sup>	Reflective Practice	Dissertation on an aspect of chaplaincy:  Title agreed with supervisor
Winter Residential <sup>3</sup> (January)	Moral Issues in Chaplaincy & Chaplaincy in an Organisational Context		
Spring Residential (April)	Chaplaincy and Christian Mission	Relationships and Emotional Management	
Summer Residential (June)	Formational Residential with Alumni Invited and Key Voices in Chaplaincy		

## UKBHC Accreditation

For those working in the health care sector it is possible to combine any of our courses with the UK Board of Health Care Chaplains Accreditation. The UKBHC registration requires both a PG Cert in Chaplaincy Studies and evidence of safety to practice in the form of a portfolio. The latter is compiled under the supervision of a Practice Placement Assessor (PPA). We advise you to contact us at the earliest possible opportunity so we can work together to identify your PPA. Learners seeking UKBHC accreditation will need to:

1. Conduct an initial assessment of practice experience and development needs; and identify capabilities and competencies to be developed through the placement.
2. Take part in monthly reflective practice supervisions.
3. Submit monthly reflective practice reports (verbatim, journals, etc).
4. Set up observed sessions on specific elements of practice.
5. Complete and sign placement professional practice reports on development, capabilities and competencies.

## Closing Date, Entry Criteria, and Application Process

The closing date for applications is end July. The usual entry criteria are a 2:1 degree with two years' experience of chaplaincy or a 2:2 degree with substantial professional experience. If you do not meet these criteria, please get in touch to discuss your available options. For further information contact [Tina.Franklin@stpadarns.ac.uk](mailto:Tina.Franklin@stpadarns.ac.uk) (Postgraduate Co-ordinator) or call **(02920) 838009**.

[www.stpadarns.ac.uk/en/courses/MA-CHAPLAINCY/](http://www.stpadarns.ac.uk/en/courses/MA-CHAPLAINCY/)

**St Padarn's Institute, 54 Cardiff Road, Cardiff, CF5 2YJ.**

<sup>2</sup> Those taking only the Postgrad Certificate will take Reflective Practice instead of Research Methods. If at the end of year 1 you decide to continue onto the MA, you can do Research Methods at the start of Year 2.

<sup>3</sup> Moral Issues and Chaplaincy in Context are taught on alternative years – But taught in specialisms (all military together and health, education, prisons, together). In the 2024-25 academic year we will be teaching Chaplaincy in Context.