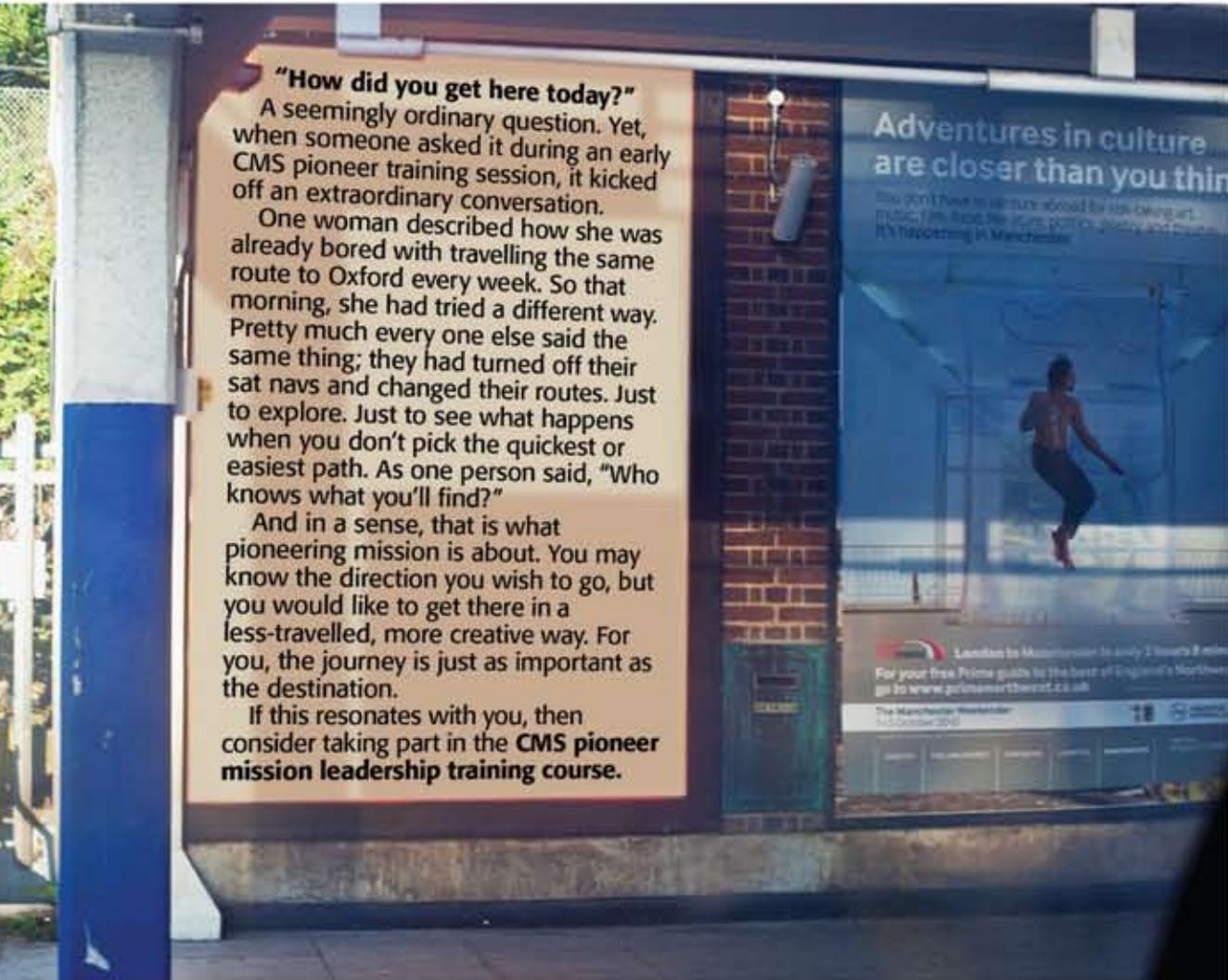


pioneer mission

leadership training



prospectus



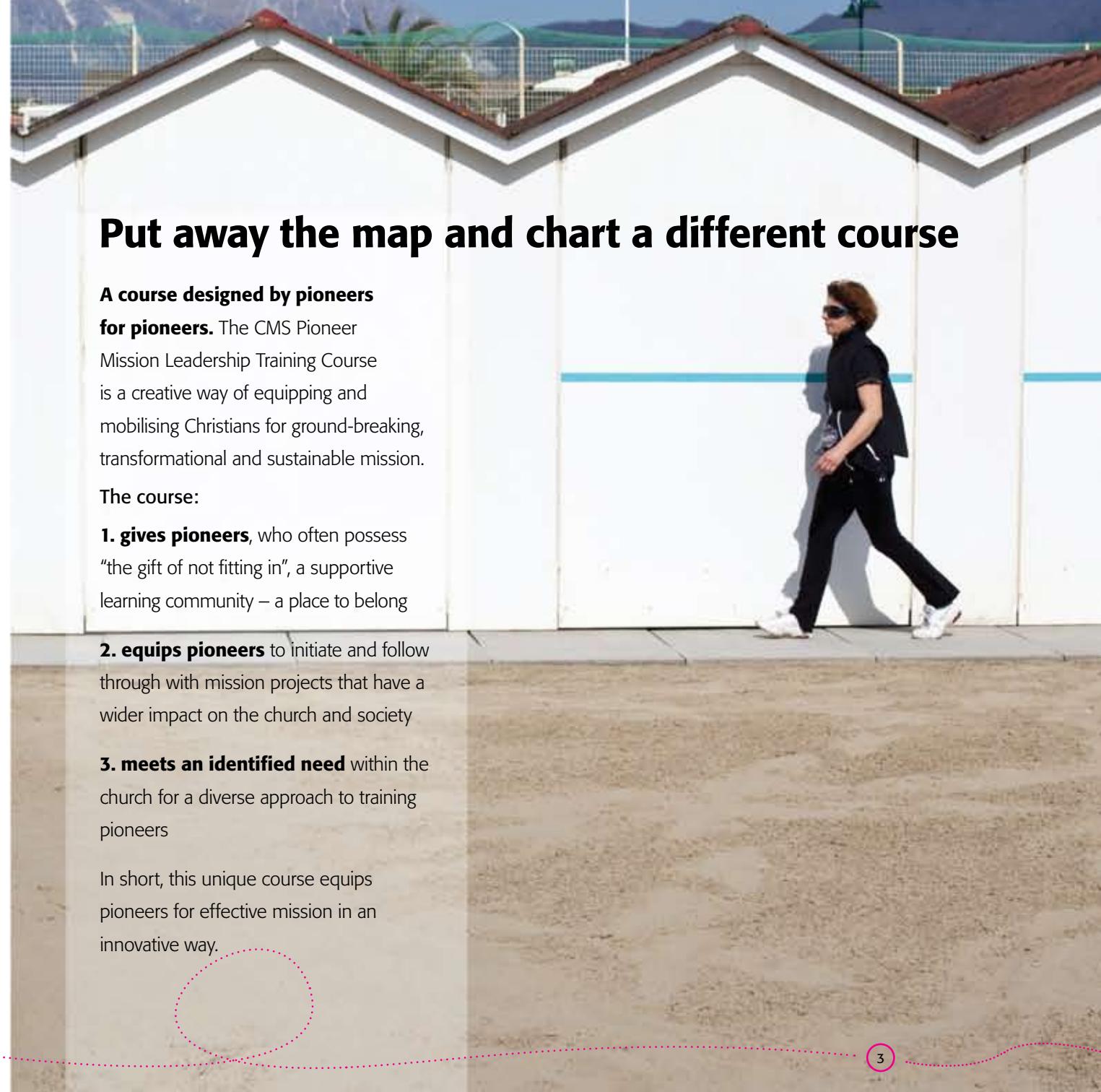
“How did you get here today?”
 A seemingly ordinary question. Yet, when someone asked it during an early CMS pioneer training session, it kicked off an extraordinary conversation. One woman described how she was already bored with travelling the same route to Oxford every week. So that morning, she had tried a different way. Pretty much every one else said the same thing; they had turned off their sat navs and changed their routes. Just to explore. Just to see what happens when you don't pick the quickest or easiest path. As one person said, “Who knows what you'll find?”
 And in a sense, that is what pioneering mission is about. You may know the direction you wish to go, but you would like to get there in a less-travelled, more creative way. For you, the journey is just as important as the destination.
 If this resonates with you, then consider taking part in the **CMS pioneer mission leadership training course**.

Adventures in culture
 are closer than you think



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Put away the map and chart a different course

A course designed by pioneers for pioneers.

The CMS Pioneer Mission Leadership Training Course is a creative way of equipping and mobilising Christians for ground-breaking, transformational and sustainable mission.

The course:

- 1. gives pioneers**, who often possess “the gift of not fitting in”, a supportive learning community – a place to belong
- 2. equips pioneers** to initiate and follow through with mission projects that have a wider impact on the church and society
- 3. meets an identified need** within the church for a diverse approach to training pioneers

In short, this unique course equips pioneers for effective mission in an innovative way.

Who is this course for?



Alfred Korzybski

Walking into a CMS pioneer training session, you'll find people from a cross section of denominations, ages, locations and passions.

The course exists for the benefit of:

- leaders starting something from scratch
- mission entrepreneurs
- people who do not want to stop doing while they're learning
- people who want to learn alongside other pioneers
- lay people
- ordained people
- people who have been selected as Ordained Pioneer Ministers by the Church of England
- those studying elsewhere who want to take independent modules

What makes this course unique?

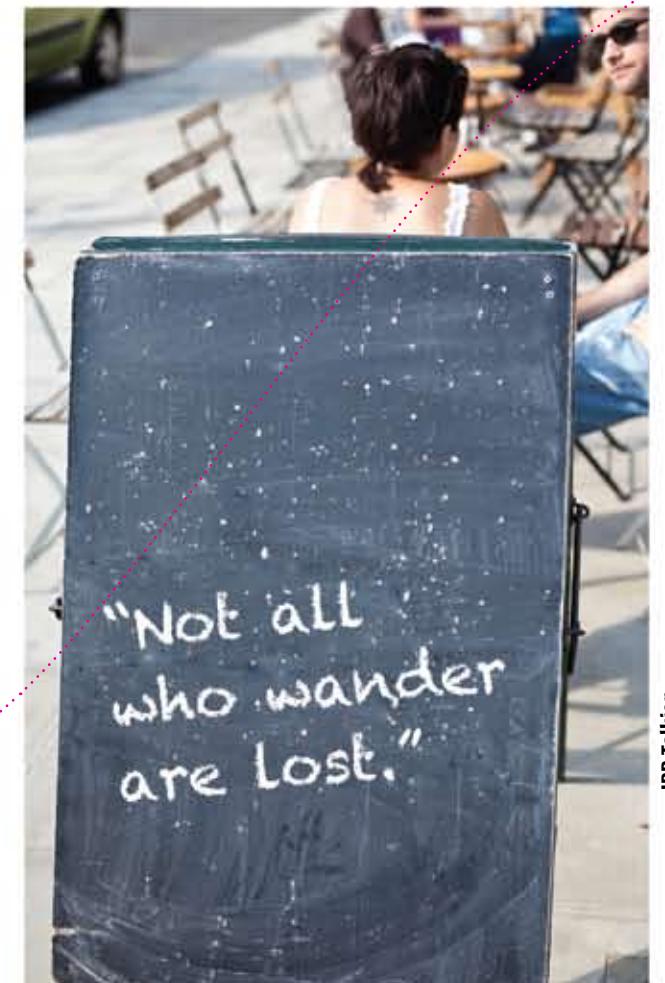
- Everything viewed through a mission lens
- Plenty of input from experienced pioneers
- Structured yet flexible
- Practical, portfolio assessment
- "On the job" learning
- Mentoring
- Pioneer network and hub
- A learning community

Here with this group of people, they understand the feeling of being on the edge, of not having everyone 'get' you.

Helen

This course seemed just the right blend of action and theology...

Sarah



JRR Tolkien



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What do you mean by pioneering?

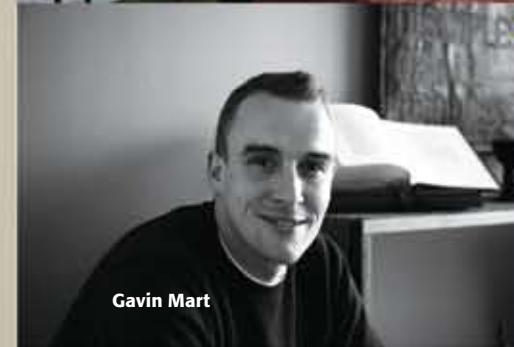
People currently on the course are pioneering in all sorts of contexts: prisons, colleges, YMCAs, local parks, pagan festivals, Urban Priority Areas, NCT groups, art galleries, community centres, churches, cafes, gyms, comedy clubs, advocacy...the list goes on. Here are just a few stories.

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Andrea takes a special interest in people who are seeking fulfillment in alternative spiritualities and New Age practices – people she says that churches often write off. Recently, she took part in leading a workshop on reaching spiritual seekers at a diocesan healing day. Someone there suggested it would be great for Christians to have a tent at the Lammas Festival, which is organised by the Eastbourne pagan community. With her experience of running stands at Mind Body Spirit fairs, Andrea pulled together a team of other pioneer students and people from local churches to go to Lammas. “The response to our offer to pray with people was overwhelming,” Andrea said. “Many expressed surprise that Christians would attend and be so welcoming.” At the end, festival organisers asked Andrea and her team to return the following year and suggested other pagan festivals to attend.



Andrea Campanale



Gavin Mart

Gavin is a Methodist Venture Fx pioneer based in Colwyn Bay, north Wales, where he has been able to build relationships with churches and encourage them to support mission using the arts. He took on the lease of a large run down hotel (raising several thousand pounds to do so) in the town centre and engaged local and national artists, both Christian and not, in telling the Easter story in a public exhibition. Hundreds of people attended this exhibition and other events he planned during holy week, many of whom would have not engaged with the gospel otherwise.



Matt, course participant

Just set to retire, Angela and Chris Howarth found themselves called to lead a church in Canley, an urban priority area of Coventry. They got to know the community through the local pub, cafe and the church's family centre. "Though we weren't ordained, people looked upon us as 'vicars' and accepted us." The bishop ordained the Howarths as deacons in 2010. It was thought that Angela and Chris could benefit from some training. "The CMS pioneer course was an answer to prayer. We felt so blessed that the diocese allowed us to be part of it. It has been great to bounce ideas off others and to continue looking at new ways of being church.

"We love to look at the folks around us and know that God loves them. People have come to know the Lord through our two tots groups: the after school group and family nights that have come out of that group." The Howarths were recently ordained as priests. "God never said he had a retirement plan – we take vitamins regularly!"



A pioneer prayer

Yes we are still fools
Yes we are still dreamers

Who else would keep looking at desolation
and in the end
only respond by imagining beauty?

Who else would stay in manure and wait for seeds
because they remembered a rumour of fruit?

Who else would reach right into the deepest
pain and fear and try to love there
even continue to try when hope dies
and love's flame flickers in the cold wind
of selfishness?

May we be saved all the more
from the false sanity of comfort
and numbly knowing all the answers

James Henley: MA programme

James leads the Lab, a new form of church with young adults in Newport, Wales and is training to be an ordained pioneer minister in the Church in Wales.

Darren James: taking individual modules

Darren is training at Regent's Park [Baptist] College and doing a couple of modules a year with CMS. He works with communities in mission around Oxford.

Andree Lee: foundation degree

Andree initiated a homeless shelter scheme in her West London borough last winter. Newly re-commissioned as community outreach pastor for her church, she is drawing churches together to reach out to the marginalised and broken in different ways.

Johnny Sertin: ordained pioneer

Johnny and his family have been involved in several adventures: starting a community of faith in the rave and house scene, operating a late night bar and moving to London to found the Earlsfield Friary – a group of friends living missionally in their neighbourhood. He is also a pioneer ordinand and works as a child carer.

May our questions old and new
be transfigured into
the kernels of graced dreams
and grow our deep rooted imagination
of creation healed and whole
And in our becoming begun again
May the ancient first fruit of inspired hope
nurture enough new foolish wisdom
to go on living the love that makes no sense

Prayer written
by Karlie,
a participant
in the
pioneer course





The course syllabus and shape

Viewing all subjects through a mission lens, we cover the following topics through a series of modules:

- vocation
- mission spirituality
- theological reflection
- Bible: new testament and old testament
- the mission story of the church
- missional entrepreneurship
- pioneer ministry and ministry skills
- creativity and imagination
- culture and context
- mission leadership
- mission in contemporary society
- church in various forms
- emerging worship
- community
- cross cultural settings
- pastoral care

Distinctive elements

- Supportive learning community
- "Sink or swim" component
- Bespoke placements with other pioneers, communities, cultures
- Worship and prayer together
- Annual retreat or pilgrimage
- Mentoring
- Pioneer practitioner sessions



Pathways of participation

There are several ways to participate in the CMS pioneer course and a number of qualifications available.

Certificate in ministry A good foundation in pioneer ministry training. All modules are assessed by portfolio, so students can demonstrate their learning in practical ways.

Foundation degree/diploma in ministry This thorough training option can be completed in a minimum of three years, or longer if needed.

MA Candidates who already have a degree can join other pioneer students in studying mission spirituality, faith seeking understanding, pioneer ministry skills, theology in global perspectives, mission in contemporary society and mission entrepreneurship. MA students also explore research methods and ecclesiology and are required to submit a final dissertation.

Ordained pioneer ministry For those who have been selected for ordained pioneer ministry with the Church of England, CMS works in partnership with Ripon College Cuddesdon. Through this partnership, ordinands take modules

with pioneers on the CMS course and attend six weekends a year and two residential weeks over three years with ordinands through the Oxford Ministry Course at Cuddesdon.

The roots of pioneering ministry are in the missionary movement and therefore CMS is uniquely qualified to train Church of England pioneer ordinands for the urgent missionary task in the UK.

Rachel Jordan, national adviser for mission and evangelism for the Church of England

Individual modules Wanting to connect with other pioneers, many people choose to take specific individual modules to help them in their context. Credits are transferable towards another degree.

Summary Typically during the year, the course involves:

- One day a week at CMS in Oxford
- A residential week
- Two weekends visiting/placements with pioneering communities
- A retreat
- For pioneer ordinands, an additional six weekends with Ripon College

How does CMS fit in?

Pioneering mission for more than 200 years

For more than two centuries, CMS has been raising up pioneering leaders in mission who have crossed geographic, cultural and contextual boundaries – sharing the gospel in uncharted territories, planting churches, building schools and hospitals, catalysing indigenous mission movements, bringing about transformation.

So it makes perfect sense that CMS would get involved with training pioneers in the UK as well as elsewhere.

A vast network

Today, CMS is a community of people in mission with a worldwide network of friends and contacts, from our mission



partners to other mission communities and organisations, to links with grassroots, underground movements. Pioneers who study with CMS have access to this ever-expanding array of mission leaders and practitioners.

The Crowther Centre for Mission Education

Pioneer training sessions are held for the most part at CMS in Oxford, which also houses the Crowther Centre for Mission Education. The Crowther Centre contains an extensive mission library with more than 29,000 volumes and important historical archives. The Centre also benefits from receiving frequent visits from leading thinkers in mission and theology who often share their knowledge and experience through public lectures and forums.



The application process

For more information, including a list of fees and an application form, please email pioneer@cms-uk.org

You can also learn more and download an application form via our website: pioneer.cms-uk.org

Once we receive a completed form we will contact you regarding references and to arrange an interview.

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Karlie, lay pioneer



Your leadership team

A note from course leader Jonny Baker

The first time I put together a prospectus for the CMS pioneer training course back in 2009, we were just starting out on the adventure, persuading people to take a risk and join in a brand new course. Now I know for certain that this course makes a genuine difference in people's lives. There are five key ways that difference is made.

It gives people a language around mission in the world, joining in with where God is at work.

It gives people tools and skills to pioneer.

It gives people confidence in who they are and the gift that they bring. That gift is an uncomfortable one, because it doesn't settle for business as usual in the church or in mission.

It gives people a community When you get people together who see things differently and are building something new, it's extraordinary.

It builds something tangible We don't just reflect on ideas. All learning relates to mission projects or communities that are being developed on the ground, so it's earthed and real rather than abstract and theoretical.

Having said all that, the course is still an adventure – we're still breaking new ground, coming up with new ideas, being surprised at doors that open and learning as we go. Together. I wouldn't have it any other way.



Please do get in touch with us if you'd like to explore pioneering possibilities.

A note from MA programme leader Dr Cathy Ross

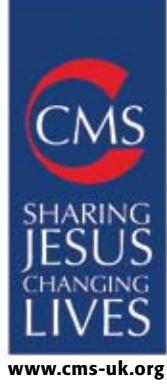
You're invited to be part of a flexible MA programme that allows you to study part time over three years. You will learn the art of theological reflection, dig deeper into spirituality, study theology from a global perspective, refine your pioneer ministry skills, learn about mission leadership, engage in mission entrepreneurship, practise emerging worship and discuss mission issues for our world today. This all takes place alongside other pioneers who will be grappling with similar issues. There are also times of worship and Pioneer Witness sessions, where we hear from pioneer leaders from all over the country.

Candidates are required to produce six portfolios (around 6–7,000 words) and one dissertation (15–20,000) words. The beauty of the portfolio system is that it allows you to play to your strengths and you can follow your passion. You can craft your assignments to engage with issues that are energising or troubling you.

So come and join us, expand your horizons, hone your existing skills and develop new ones alongside other pioneers in a supportive learning community.

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put away
the map
and chart a



CMS is a mission community
acknowledged by the Church of England

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