

Why We Provide Livestream Access to Classes

As a seminary, we still regard the on-site classroom with in-person teaching as the best way of delivering theological education. During the Covid-19 pandemic of 2020-2, we had to experiment with fully live-streamed and hybrid classes (hybrid = in person and live-streamed simultaneously). Our general conclusion from this experience is that participating in the classroom online is second-best, but much better than being unable to join at all. London Seminary will therefore continue to run all classes as hybrid classes, for the benefit of students who cannot attend in person.

Who Should Access Livestream Classes?

Live, online access is a provision for those students otherwise unable to attend. These include:

- Overseas students who are unable, under current UK immigration rules, to come to the UK to study at London Seminary.
- UK students who live at a distance from London that would make travel to the Seminary impractical, and who are unable to relocate and become residential students.
- Students taking language modules who have no other classes on that day.
- Students who occasionally need to stay at home because of ill health, travel disruption, or because of family or church commitments. Permission for this should be sought in advance of the class, whenever possible.

How To Participate in Livestream Classes

Classes are currently offered online via Zoom and links are posted on Moodle in each module (or Moodle 'course'). We ask online students as far as possible to try to replicate the live classroom and its discipline when they access online. The following requirements apply to all classes and particularly to morning worship.

- Join the class at least five minutes before it is due to start.
- Keep your camera turned on unless your broadband connection is poor. You will be visible to the lecturer, on a screen placed among the students in the classroom. You will only be visible to other students if they turn to look at the screen. You will be audible to all, if you participate in classroom discussion.
- Ensure that the name appearing under your picture is your name, not a family nickname or the name of your spouse. Occasional lecturers, in particular, need to know who you are.
- Do not use virtual backgrounds.
- Be on your own in the room to avoid distractions. **Do not allow access to London Seminary classes to anyone who is not an enrolled student.**
- Don't do other things on your screen, other than accessing lecture notes relevant to the class. Be fully engaged.
- The 'chat' facility should be used very sparingly. Do not use it to participate in discussions. Ask questions verbally. The chat facility can be a distraction and interruption to classes. Do not use it

to carry on private dialogues or make comments that you would not make verbally if present in class.

- Actually raising your hand may be more noticeable to the lecturer than if you use the 'raised hand' facility on Zoom.

These requirements are intended to ensure that you get the most out of the course. They are also so that you do not distract or discourage other students and, particularly, the lecturers. You will get the best out of the course if you get the best out of your teachers. Lecturers are asked to keep in mind those attending lectures online, and to involve them as much as possible in classroom discussion and Q&A.

Online Lecturers

As much as possible, lecturers will be expected (and will want) to teach in person. Sometimes, however, teaching remotely via a large screen in class will enable us to use lecturers who would not otherwise be able to attend seminary in person.

Recording of Classes

NOTE: All classes (and morning worship) are recorded, including breaks. The microphones in the classroom pick up speech from anywhere in the classroom and this means that conversations in the classroom during breaks may be audible to those online. Recordings are used for the following purposes:

- To allow the voice production coach to listen to morning worship, in order to give feedback.
- To be available to students who have unavoidably missed a class.
- For academic staff to listen to lecturers, if need be, to give them feedback on their teaching.

Recordings of sermons may also be sent to the leaders of churches interested in inviting a student to preach, with a view to a possible call to ministry. **Recordings must not be shared outside London Seminary without the express permission of the Principal or Vice-Principal.**

David Green 14 September 2022