**The Missions Academy - Training for Elim Missionaries**

Welcome to the Missionary Academy. The Missionary Academy is designed for those who are exploring the potential call into long term missions. The Missionary Academy incorporates learning, discipleship, preparation and hopefully transformation. This pack will explain what’s involved in a little more detail, however please feel free to contact Danielle.face@elimhq.net if you have any further questions.

*\*Completing the Academy is a requirement to become an Elim Missionary, although completing the course does not automatically guarantee a student’s acceptance as an Elim Missionary.*

**Training Pathways**

Whilst the training can be individually tailored to suit your needs, there are two main pathways of training:

1) Missionary Academy

2) Missionary Academy: Pioneer.

The Missionary Academy is ideal for those looking to serve overseas with Elim or also in partnership with another organization. Whereas the Pioneer training is designed for those who could explore the possibility of representing Elim to pioneer new gospel communities in unreached areas.

If you are unsure which option is the best for you, we would be happy to discuss this with you during your application process.

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| **Missionary Academy** | **Missionary Academy: Pioneers** |
| Ideal for those looking to serve overseas with Elim or vocationally, in partnership with another organization. | Run in partnership with Seedbed in Warrington, this course is for those who could explore the possibility of representing Elim to pioneer new Gospel communities in unreached areas. |
| **Course Cost** Individual: £435Couple: £785 | **Course Cost** Individual: £585Couple: £785\*Excluding Residential Costs |
| **This course starts twice a year:** Start Date: September 2022; March 2023. Application Deadline: 22nd August 2022; 20th July 2023.  | **This Course starts once per year** Start Date: September 2022. Application Deadline: 22nd August 2022.  |
| **Residential:** Malvern | **Residential:** Warrington |
| **Hubs:** Once per fortnight | **Hubs:** Weekly (Thursday Evenings) |
| **Requirements**:Ongoing accountable Elim Church Membership and the full support of the senior leadership of the Church.Agreement to the fundamental truths.Experience serving in Church or ministry. | **Requirements:**Ongoing accountable Elim Church Membership.Elim Pastors must have the support of their regional leader. Agreement to the fundamental truths.Experience serving in Church or ministry.Preferably: Experience pioneering new ministry. |

Course fee includes your deposit, Criminal Records Check. This does not include the books you will need to order or your missions placement.

One month before the Missionary Academy starts, a deposit of £100.00 per person is required. If you would like to spread remaining costs over the length of the pre-field pathway, then students are invited to set up a standing order throughout the duration of their course. This can be discussed with the Missionary Training Coordinator.

**Timing**

In communication with the training coordinator, timings of modular training and preparation can be amended to suit your personal needs. This can include assistance with the practical preparations so that graduates, who have also been accepted as Elim Missionaries, are able to travel immediately after completion of the first 15 online modules. The hubs will continue for a set time frame of 9-12 months.

Every student’s timeframe will be unique, therefore at the appropriate time determined by the Elim Missions Department, students may also be connected to the Member Care team who provide pastoral care and support for Elim Missionaries.

**Hubs**

Missionary Academy: Once a fortnight, students participate in a discipleship hub on zoom. This provides an opportunity to share fellowship with those also preparing to serve overseas, as well as intentional discipleship as resources are explored together with the training coordinator and International Missions Director.

Missionary Academy Pioneer: In partnership with Seedbed, there is a training session on zoom with other students exploring ministry in the UK and overseas every Thursday evening, from 19:30 – 21:30.

**Modular Training**

The Missionary Academy incorporates training from all over the globe, with content from over 60 international speakers who are experienced missionaries, theologians, and global practitioners. Each module contains multiple video files, with MP3s also available.

The Missionary Academy consists of 15 modules and 22 modules in the pioneer pathway includes an additional 7 modules. Students may be asked to complete additional modules as required depending on their placement location or previous experience. Students are expected to complete the reflective journal for one module per fortnight, although this can be discussed with the training coordinator.

On average each module contains between 80-100 minutes of video content. This is followed by quick quizzes, further reading, reflective assignments and follow up actions to prepare you for serving overseas.

**One to Ones**

During the Missionary Academy, all students will also have regular mentoring meetings with the training coordinator to explore the next steps for their journey and for regular support throughout the preparation process. The training coordinator will then be able to connect students with relevant Elim Missions staff when needed.

**Zoom Training Days**

Missionary Academy Pioneers have 2 online training days from 10:00-17:00 held on zoom, one in the middle of the course and one to mark the end of the course. These will cover Biblical themes of mission, followed by sessions on practical preparation and leadership.

**Church**

The Elim Missions Department not only supports the student, but also their sending Elim Church. Training is intended to be holistic, so the sending Church would be an integral element to a student’s pre-field training.

The Elim Missions training coordinator will communicate with the sending Church leadership to explore how students can incorporate practical training experience in their Church context. For those undertaking the pioneer pathway, this could be exploring opportunities to potentially pioneer something within their Church, in partnership with the Church leadership, that could have lasting benefit.

**Books**

Students will be asked to complete a reading list with follow up assignments. These resources have been chosen to cover certain topics in more depth. Students may also be asked to read additional books as relevant for their context. Students will have to purchase their own books but this can be done for a reasonable price from second hand retailers, such as Amazon or Ebay.

The following books will be explored together through our online hubs:

1. The Discipleship Gospel by Bill Hull
2. Movements that Change the World by Steve Addison
3. Finish the Mission by John Piper

The following books are for individual reading and will have follow up online assignments:

* Foreign & Familiar by Sarah Lanier
* Misreading Scripture with Western Eyes by E. R. Richards and B. J. O'Brien
* Axe and the Tree by Stephen Griffiths
* Funding the Family Business by Myles Wilson
* Building a Discipling Culture by Mike Breen
* The Mission of God's People by Christopher Wright
* Spiritual survival handbook for cross cultural workers by R. Miller
* A Wind in the House of Islam by David Garrison (dependent on your location)

**Mission Experience**

Students may already know where they would like to serve overseas, whilst others are still seeking clarity, which is also normal at this point in the process. The Elim Missions department will be available to support students throughout this process.

Before any long-term placement, students are highly encouraged to undertake a short-term placement at their location to determine if it is a suitable fit and to determine practical considerations, such as accommodation etc. The cost for overseas visits will vary, however students will be asked to budget for this accordingly. The Elim Missions staff will be available to guide students throughout this process. For approximate costs, please see: <https://www.elim.org.uk/Articles/517947/Go_Overseas.aspx>

Students undertaking the Pioneer pathway may be asked to undertake an additional placement to serve alongside current Elim Missionaries to gain invaluable overseas experience and insight before pioneering into unreached areas.

**Commissioning**

Upon completing the course students will receive a certificate of graduation. Graduates who are also accepted to continue as an Elim Missionary can then begin the mission field placement process, which includes the Missionary Agreement. Where possible, once graduates are ready to move overseas, they shall be commissioned from their local sending Church with a representative of Elim Missions. This provides an opportunity for family, friends, supporters, Church leadership and Elim Missions to pray for you and continue to be a part of your journey overseas.