

University Information

What is this program?

Concordia University Irvine—a university of the Lutheran church-Missouri Synod (LCMS)—and Westfield House of Theological Studies—the theological college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of England (ELCE)—have established a unique educational opportunity for you. Each year a few Concordia students will be awarded the privilege of studying at Westfield House as a member of the Westfield House International Studies Programme (WHIST), attending Divinity School lectures at Cambridge University, and using the Divinity School library. This exceptional experience will enrich you academically, theologically, and culturally; broaden your confessional Lutheran fellowship; and add to your excellent undergraduate preparation for your future studies and vocations.

When could I study in Cambridge?

Each Fall and Spring semester one or two highly qualified Concordia students may be granted the privilege of studying at Westfield House during the Michaelmas (late September to mid-December), Lent (early January to mid-March), or Easter (mid-April to late June) term. This honor is normally reserved for Christ College majors, but may be extended to exceptional students with a theological interest majoring in another relevant liberal arts discipline. Each student must be of junior or senior status during his/her studies at Westfield and have completed at least two semesters of study at Concordia.

What about coursework?

Courses are composed of lectures, papers, and supervisions. Students attend lectures—often from leading experts—at the Divinity School or Westfield House. Lectures are typically offered in biblical or theological languages, Old Testament, New Testament, Church history, theology, philosophy, and world religions. Papers and supervisions (one-on-one discussion of your paper with a faculty supervisor) are done in-house at Westfield. Students can transfer up to 15 semester units (ca. 5 courses) back to Concordia toward the completion of their bachelor's degree with the prior approval of their course work from the Dean of Christ College in consultation with the Preceptor of Westfield and, if relevant, Concordia's Dean of Arts and Sciences. Each student's academic record will be sent from Westfield to Concordia when the student's term of study is completed.

How can I apply?

To apply a student must have a 3.5 or higher cumulative grade point average (out of 4.0) and fill out the WHIST Application Form. This form must be submitted to and endorsed by Concordia's WHIST representative, the Dean of Christ College, and, if the student has a major in Arts and Sciences, the Dean of Arts and Sciences before being sent for final approval to Westfield House. Applications to study in Michaelmas term are to be submitted by March 15th. Applicants will be notified of their acceptance by May 1st. Applications to study in Lent or Easter term are encouraged to follow the same timeline, but may be submitted by September 15th. These applicants will be notified of their acceptance by November 1st.

How much will it cost?

Each student will be a full-time resident of Concordia and pay tuition and room to Concordia during the semester that he/she studies at Westfield. Concordia will in turn pay Westfield for each student's tuition and room for the term that he/she is studying at Westfield. Each student is responsible for making and paying for travel arrangements to and from Cambridge. Each student is also responsible for paying for his/her board at Westfield as well as any other expenses (e.g., travel or medical insurance, studying for a second term at Westfield during Concordia's Spring semester, etc.).

What documents will I need to enter England?

Concordia students must obtain and bring with them a valid passport, an official written letter of acceptance from Westfield, and a letter written (on university letterhead) to British immigration services from Concordia's WHIST representative that confirms the student's identity, his/her status as a Concordia student, his/her program and length of study at Westfield, and his/her financial solvency. Students do not need to apply for a visa prior to leaving the United States of America as they will obtain a student visitor visa at the point of entry into the United Kingdom.

As a representative of Concordia...

Concordia students are expected to be active members of Westfield, fully engage in its academic and spiritual life, and honorably represent Concordia. During their time at Westfield, Concordia students will be subject to the policies and regulations of Westfield. Westfield and Concordia may dismiss a student from the program at any time for conduct that violates the established regulations of either institution.

For information about Westfield House, including the courses offered there, go to: www.westfieldhouse.org.uk

For a list of courses offered at the Divinity School, go to: www.divinity.cam.ac.uk/courses/timetable

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