

# en route online

## INFORMATION FOR ENQUIRERS

### Description

*en route online* is a 14 week course providing a foundation for cross-cultural service. Our hope is that *en route online* will be part of a journey in on-going training and service.

The programme consists of material written and facilitated by a training team who has current experience in integral mission.

*en route online* is a course that comprises online lessons, community learning through weekly discussion and personal reflection through downloadable workbooks.

### Participants

The course is aimed at those who are thinking about/planning to work cross-culturally and have little or no training or experience:

- Those who are not able to attend a residential course.
- Those preparing to go on a first placement.
- Those who have had some mission experience and want to know more and 'fill in the gaps'.
- Those seeking the basics with a view to a long-term journey in cross-cultural work.
- Agency or church personnel supporting others in cross-cultural service.

Participants will be committed Christians with a desire to learn more about how to live, work and witness cross-culturally.

This course requires commitment to full participation in the weekly activities, in particular, the discussion forums.

### Ethos

Bible based, holistic, head-heart-hands, practical, equipping, participatory, current, foundational, transformational, an experience.

What it is:

- An opportunity to prepare by learning but also a time for personal and spiritual growth.
- An opportunity to explore ideas and gain tools from the experience of others.

What it isn't:

- A substitute for in-depth training for longer term service.
- A course that emphasises academic achievement.

### Components

Online lessons/Individual study

Learning through peer review in the Discussion Forum

Personal development through 'directed reflection' in workbooks  
 Community building through informal forums (Prayer Room & Virtual Café)  
 Regular feedback from the facilitator

## Training Team

Lessons are written by the All Nations Training Team and outside trainers.  
 Facilitation: All Nations trainers.

Information & enquiries	<a href="http://www.allnations.ac.uk/eLearning">www.allnations.ac.uk/eLearning</a> <a href="mailto:eLearning@allnations.ac.uk">eLearning@allnations.ac.uk</a> 01920 443517/ 443504
Application process	Forms are available on the website or from All Nations.
Application fee	£10
Course dates & deadlines	8 <sup>th</sup> September - 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2008 (applications by 31 <sup>st</sup> July 2008) 5 <sup>th</sup> January - 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2009 (applications by 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2008) 27 <sup>th</sup> April - 31 <sup>st</sup> July 2009 (applications by 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2009)
Cost	To be confirmed
Deposit	None
Exit award	All Nations certificate of participation
<b>Selection criteria:</b>	
Age	From the young (ideally over 21 years) to the retired and all ages in between.
Nationality	All
Language	All parts of the course are in English. Full benefit will come to those who are able to express themselves in written English. There will be some written work but no lengthy assignments
Acceptance	<b>1. Candidates already accepted by mission/aid agencies*</b> Automatic acceptance in most cases Requirements: Bio-data (either from the individual or the agency) Letter of recommendation from agency Presence of local 'mentor' (see notes below)
	<b>2. Independent applicants*</b> Acceptance subject to application information: Full application form + Bio-data Reference from church pastor/minister Reference from one other Christian (not family member), preferably one who has known the applicant for a number of years.) Presence of local 'mentor' (see notes below)
* Special Note	<b>Application coming from outside the EU, North America &amp; Australia</b> All references will be followed up. Those who do not speak English as a first language must have an IELTS pass of at least 6.0. Please send a copy of the transcript with the application.

## Guidelines on local 'mentors'

The purpose of *en route online* is to help participants develop on a personal and spiritual level. Some pastoral support can be given by the facilitator, however, we recognise that there may be a need for more immediate support and care. We therefore request that participants ensure they have a friend, colleague, pastor or mission agency contact who will act as a 'mentor' and give pastoral/prayer support for the duration of the course.

We recommend that the mentor makes regular contact with the participant to review their progress with respect to personal and spiritual development.

Our hope is that participants will benefit from developing within the context of both online and face-2-face communities.

## en route online in more detail...

### Cross-Cutting Themes:

Three themes run throughout the 12 weeks of study:

- Biblical foundation - Exploring and developing a Biblical foundation for our life and work.
- People skills - Developing our ability to work with others.
- Practical issues - Putting the theory into practice and being equipped with a range of tools for life and work.

### The en route journey:

- **Who am I?**

Understanding who we are; our identity, motivation and personality in relation to God and others. How strong is our faith and spiritual walk with God? We will look at some of the challenges we may face; how to prepare and deal with them by developing spiritual disciplines (prayer, study, meditation, etc.).

- **What does the Bible say about mission?**

What is God's mission to the world? We give an overview of mission in the Old and New Testaments. As well as looking at Biblical mission methods we also look at what lessons can be learned from post-New Testament mission. Finally, what are current trends and contemporary issues?

- **Culture and living in community**

Why do they do things differently? Develop an understanding of culture and worldview and get an introduction to major & minor religion. What are the effects of our cultural differences? Culture shock, ethics, conflict, understanding contextualization & syncretism. How do we deal with our differences? How do we live and work in community? Learning to relate and integrate and developing the right 'heart' and attitudes. What about our boundaries and how do we prevent burnout?

- **Integral Mission**

Understand poverty and the principles of secular and Christian development. What's it all for? Building the Kingdom of God. Understanding God's 'calling' on our lives and being the people that God wants us to be within the context of our personality and our environment.

## En route to?

Preparation for the next step, 'know the work the Lord has for YOU', practical tips for preparing to go - healthy mind, body & spirit, security, agency information, etc.

## Learning methods

Our vision is to develop participants' 'Head' (knowledge), 'Heart' (character, spirituality) and 'Hands' (skills). Each theme will be Bible-based and will focus on equipping and facilitating personal development.

## Schedule

*en route online* will run in January, April and September.

The course generally follows a repeating weekly pattern of working through online lessons, submitting 'posts' to discussion forums and personal reflection through the workbooks.

Students must be prepared to make time available for participation in this routine, much like they would commit to attending a face-2-face class.

Core time commitment is approximately 5 hours per week. Additional material will be made available to those who want to study in more depth.

Our desire is for sections of the course material to be devotional and we encourage participants to use this as part of their regular time with God.

## Is e-Learning for you?

The internet is a learning medium that is highly suited to some personalities and situations but not to all.

You will be most suited to participating in *en route online* if;

- You set aside several periods of quality time per week for study and discussion
- You already enjoy communicating online (eg. email, skype, forums)
- You are self-motivated
- You enjoy learning through reading
- You are ready and willing to learn
- You want to grow personally & spiritually
- You have a mentor/pastor/friend you are accountable to
- You have good internet access
- You are familiar with using and navigating around websites

Agreement to participation in this course requires a commitment to participate fully in all aspects. A core value of this course is to promote learning in community. This is an outworking of our vision to help prepare people to live and work better with others.

A questionnaire will soon be available to help you assess your suitability for online learning.

A demonstration page will soon be available.

## Technical requirements

- 33.6 kb per second dialup or any broadband connection (including WiFi)  
Internet browser (preferably FireFox - this can be downloaded free from <http://www.getfirefox.com>)
- Email
- Wordprocessor (Microsoft Word, OpenOffice or anything capable of reading and writing files written in Word format. OpenOffice can be downloaded free from <http://download.openoffice.org>)
- Acrobat reader. This can be downloaded from <http://www.adobe.com/uk/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>
- A sound card and speakers (although optional) will allow you to play any audio files that will enhance your learning experience. Most modern computers come equipped with these as standard.

Send enquiries about en route online to [eLearning@allnations.ac.uk](mailto:eLearning@allnations.ac.uk)

For further information about other courses at All Nations visit [www.allnations.ac.uk](http://www.allnations.ac.uk) or contact [admissions@allnations.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@allnations.ac.uk) or 01920 443500.

Please send the completed form (can be downloaded from the website) and accompanying documentation and fee to: The Admissions Registrar, ANCC, Easneye, Ware, Herts SG12 8LX, UK.