

ICL FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

Do I have to be a Bible scholar to take these courses? Not at all! These classes are for anyone, and they will encourage you to go deeper in your relationship with God, your study of his Word and your service to His Kingdom.

Do the courses have homework? It depends if you audit the course or take it for ICL credit. If you audit the course, you will just be attending the course sessions, with no homework. If you take the course for ICL credit, you will be asked to read a couple of books and complete some writing assignments.

What is ICL credit? ICL credit is issued upon successful completion of the course. If you earn credit for all twelve ICL courses, you will receive an ICL certificate. That certificate can give you access to serve in an increased capacity in the Evangelical Congregational Church. For example, some of our EC pastors are not interested in entering the ordained ministry, so they do not go to seminary. Instead, they can enroll in the ICL. While the ICL will not lead toward ordination, it can give people the educational foundation they need for pastoral ministry in other ways, perhaps as a local preacher within their congregation.

Must I attend all 7 sessions of each course? If you are auditing, your payment gives you access to the course with no requirement to attend sessions. If you are taking the course for ICL credit, however, you are required to attend all 7 sessions. If you must miss a session, you will need to make arrangements with the class instructor to make up for that absence.

The classes seem long. Do we just sit and listen for 2.5 hours? No. While there will be sections of the class during which the instructor is teaching, our instructors are excellent communicators so class sessions will not be boring. Additionally, the instructors include lots of opportunity for dialogue, for question and answer. There is also a short break in the middle of each class.

What kinds of classes does ICL offer? Here are the twelve courses. People can take any class in any order. We will begin a new cycle in Fall 2025 with the first two courses being Intro to Ministry and Hermeneutics.

Term	Formative Course	Informative Course
Fall 1	Intro to Ministry	Hermeneutics
Spring 1	Pastoral Leadership	OT Survey
Fall 2	Personal Spiritual Formation	NT Survey
Spring 2	Preaching	Theology 1
Fall 3	Healthy Worship & Ministry	Theology 2
Spring 3	Developing a Contextual Missional Mindset	Church History

To sign up or get more information, contact [Adam Roberts](#).

