

Department for
Continuing Education

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UNIVERSITY OF
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OXFORD UNIVERSITY THEOLOGY SUMMER SCHOOL

2 - 15 August 2015

at Christ Church, Oxford

COURSE INFORMATION

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COURSE INFORMATION

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Theology Summer School

2-8 August 2015

Augustine's Confessions: A Model for Self-Discovery

The Reverend Dr Carolyn Hammond

Description

Augustine's writings have had a lasting influence on how Christians understand themselves and inhabit their faith; yet his reputation is overshadowed by the subject of original sin in particular, and his attitude to embodied human individuals, male and female, in general. This course reappraises Augustine by looking afresh at his writings on becoming Christian, staying Christian, and communicating Christianity—hence the focus on three particular works: *Confessions*, *Enchiridion* (or *Manual on Faith and Practice* or *On Faith, Hope and Charity*), and *On Christian Teaching*.

1-3. Becoming Christian:

The Confessions. Because of its unique status, and the way it represents to the reader the relationship between the human individual and the activity of God, *Confessions* provides the unifying thread, as we explore how it ties together individual religious experience and intellectual principles of reasoned interpretation.

4. Staying Christian:

The Enchiridion. This work written at a much later stage in Augustine's life gives a pattern of the Christian life as a whole.

5. Communicating Christianity:

On Christian Teaching. This work points to the future, educating those called to teach Christianity on principles for interpreting Scripture, and understanding how words can signify religious truth. Taken together, these three works become a framework, not only of careful Christian thought but also of visionary prayer and spiritual insight.

Reading list

Works marked * need to be brought to the course

Fitzgerald, Allan. 1999. *Augustine through the Ages: and Encyclopaedia*. Grand Rapid, Michigan.

For preparation, background and specific topics in the study of Augustine

It is also helpful to read in advance a biography, either:

Brown, Peter. 2000. *Augustine of Hippo: a Biography*. London: University of California Press, second edition.

Lancel, Serge. 2002. *Saint Augustine*. SCM-Canterbury Press.

Participants will need to bring (or have access to) a copy of each of the three works being studied: the editions listed below are examples; any appropriate edition is allowed, including online versions available at ccel.org and elsewhere.

*CONFESIONS

Chadwick, Henry. 1991. *Saint Augustine: Confessions*. Oxford University Press.

*ENCHIRIDION

Ramsey, Boniface. 2008. *The Augustine Catechism: The Enchiridion on Faith, Hope and Charity*. New City Press, New York.

*ON CHRISTIAN TEACHING

Green, Roger. 1999. *On Christian Teaching*. Oxford University Press.

Tutor

The Reverend Dr Carolyn Hammond studied Classics at Oxford, from 1991 became a Research Fellow in Classics at Downing College, Cambridge. She took holy orders in 1998 and worked for seven years in the Benefice of Gamlingay and Everton. Dean of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge from 2005, she has published a translation of *The Gallic War* by Julius Caesar (1995); a trilogy of books on prayer with SPCK—*Passionate Christianity: A Journey to the Cross* (2007), *Joyful Christianity: Finding Jesus in the World* (2009), and *Glorious Christianity: Walking by Faith in the Life to Come* (2012). Her new edition and translation of the *Confessions* of S. Augustine for the Loeb Classical Library (HUP) was published in 2014-5. *The Sound of the Liturgy* for SPCK was published in January 2015.

Theology Summer School

2-8 August 2015

Uncomfortable Calling: The Summons of God in the New Testament

Nicholas King SJ

Description

Can the maker of the countless galaxies actually make direct personal contact with us ordinary mortals? This course will attempt a scriptural approach to this very topical question, starting with a brief survey of Old Testament vocation stories and then going on to examine New Testament approaches. The over-arching theme of these seminars will be the realisation that God does call human beings, unexpectedly and uncomfortably. Human beings, though, are at liberty to refuse, and they will always make mistakes, but there is no better way for to proceed than by responding to the invitation.

1: We shall look at what Paul says in the Hauptbriefe (Romans, 1 and 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Philippians, 1 Thessalonians, and Philemon) of the way in which God calls in human life.

2: The idea of calling (of Jesus and of disciples) as it plays out in Mark's gospel. This day is provisionally entitled "Listen to him".

3: We shall read the relevant texts in Matthew's gospel; two that might be helpful are "Congratulations to the destitute in spirit" and "Go ye also into my vineyard". But there will be others.

4: Reading Luke's gospel from this point of view. This day might be called "Look! The Lord's slave-girl".

5: Texts dealing with calling in the 4th Gospel, and a title for that day might be "What/Whom are you looking for?"

In addition, since on each day we have two-and-a-half hours, it is proposed, if time allows, to use the second portion of each morning to examine the OT background of call narratives. This provides the indispensable background to the NT texts. Then, if there is room, it is proposed to look at the later history, in the thinking about calling in the Spiritual Exercises of Ignatius Loyola, which are currently enjoying something of a revival.

Reading list

At least one copy of the bible, in any language, will be needed in class.

Plus, for those who wish:

Brown, Raymond. 1997. *An Introduction to the New Testament*. Doubleday, NY

King, Nicholas. 2008. *The New Testament Freshly Translated*. Kevin Mayhew, Buxhall

Wansbrough, Henry. 2015. *Introducing the New Testament*. Bloomsbury

Tutor

Nicholas King SJ is currently a Visiting Professor at Boston College, MA, USA. He has been for several years Fellow in NT studies at Campion Hall, Oxford; before that he taught for more than 12 years in South Africa. He has recently produced a translation of the entire Greek Bible (published 2013 by Kevin Mayhew); since then he has published, also with Kevin Mayhew, a book entitled "The Helplessness of God", on models of governance in the Church. His research interests include almost anywhere in the New Testament area.

Theology Summer School

2-8 August 2015

The Vocation to Lead

The Revd Canon Professor Jane Shaw

Description

How do we, as lay and ordained people, discern the call to lead within the church, and find the models of leadership that are appropriate for the challenges we face as leaders? This course will discuss and assess a range of leadership models from inside and outside the church and consider their relationship to Theology and Ecclesiology. Participants will work on finding their leadership 'style' and developing a theology of leadership for their particular contexts.

Our seminar will cover the following topics, with the aim of enabling each participant to develop their own theology of leadership for their particular context.

1. What is the vocation to lead and what does obedience to that call mean? The traditional model of Christian leadership is that of 'servant-leader.' How much can this model serve *any* religious leader, lay or ordained, male or female, in the twenty-first century?
2. The churches have, in recent years, turned to leadership models from business and management. Can a distinctively Theological grounding ever been given to such models? What are the distinctive tasks of a *religious* leader?
3. How do our individual experiences and gifts equip us for leadership? What styles of leadership suit us, and what are the biblical and theological underpinnings of such styles?
4. As leaders in all areas are assessing anew the life/work or success/well-being balance, what distinctive contributions can a Christian pattern of life make? Is there some irony in the fact that just as churches are taking on business models, so people working in corporate environments are seeking spirituality?

Throughout our conversations we will ask what role gender plays in considerations of power and leadership.

Class sessions will incorporate lecture, discussion and small-group work.

Reading list

Michael, Ramsey. 2009. *The Christian Priest Today*. SPCK.

Session 1. This should be read ahead of time and, if possible, brought with you.

Lamdin, Keith. 2012. *Finding Your Leadership Style. A Guide for Ministers*. SPCK.

Session 3. This should be read ahead of time and must be brought with you, as we will be using it for group work in class.

Talent Management for Future Leaders and Leadership Development for Bishops and Deans: A New Approach.
Report of the Lord Green Steering Group. 2014. This can be downloaded at:

<https://churchofengland.org/media/2130591/report.pdf>

Session 2. This is not a long document, and should be read ahead of time; you can bring this to class if you wish.

Huffington Ariana. 2014. *Thrive. The Third Metric to Redefining Success and Creating a Happier Life*. W H Allen.
Session 4. Reference will be made to this book in class; please read the book ahead of time, and bring it with you to class if you wish.

Sandberg, Sheryl. 2013. *Lean In. Women, Work and the Will to Lead*. W. H. Allen

Session 5. This is optional reading for those who want more material on both gender and corporate models. Reference will be made to this book in class from time to time, but it is not necessary to read it or have the book with you.

Tutor

Jane Shaw is Dean for Religious Life and Professor of Religious Studies at Stanford University in the USA. Prior to that she taught at Oxford University for sixteen years, and was Dean of Divinity and Fellow of New College, Oxford; she was then Dean of Grace Cathedral in San Francisco for four years. She has also served as Canon Theologian of Salisbury Cathedral, and is now Canon Emerita. She writes about modern religion, and her books include *Miracles in Enlightenment England* (Yale 2006), *Octavia, Daughter of God: The Story of a Female Messiah and her Followers* (Yale 2011) and *Practical Christianity* (Morehouse 2012).

Theology Summer School

2-8 August 2015

Homo Ludens, Deus Ludens

The Revd Dr Robert Ellis

Description

The human instinct to play appears universal. This course will consider why we play and what our play means theologically as well as examining Christian attitudes to leisure through the centuries. It will also consider sport as an important contemporary social form of play, and will ask whether sport could be taking over some of the functions previously fulfilled by religion in contemporary society.

1. *Why play? Are we ‘homo ludens’?*

The opening seminar asks what we mean by ‘play’ and why it might be an appropriate topic for theological consideration. Participants will share their experience of and attitudes to play and how this coheres with questions of faith and vocation and various theories for the importance of play in human culture will be considered.

2. *Biblical perspectives on play – is God ‘Deus ludens’?*

What, if anything, does the bible say about leisure in general? This seminar turns to the Christian Scriptures and asks in what ways does the bible suggest we might think about play? We’ll look at a range of texts and consider a number of thematic and doctrinal angles on the subject.

3. *The church on play – historical themes*

This seminar traces the interaction of the church with various forms of play – including the early church’s response to the barbaric Roman games, the medieval church’s sometimes uneasy alliances with play and games, the Puritan reaction to this on both sides of the Atlantic and the muscular Christianity movement of the nineteenth century that transformed Christian attitudes to sport.

4. *Sport and religion: parallel or converging lines?*

Looking at sport in particular, this seminar examines the debate about whether sport and religion are in some sense ‘doing’ similar things. This will involve an examination of religious experience as well as practice, and an investigation into the motivations involved in, and actual experience of, sport.

5. *Play, sin, salvation, and vocation*

The final seminar will draw together many of the threads of previous sessions by considering aspects of play and leisure within the framework of key theological ideas: sin and salvation. Is play a frivolous activity, nurturing bad habits and distracting us from more important matters? Or might play rather be thought to contribute to elements of human flourishing – to ‘salvation’?

Reading list

None of these texts needs to be read in advance, but all will be referred to during the seminars.

Berger, Peter. 1970. *A Rumour of Angels*. Doubleday Anchor.

Callois, Roger. 2001. *Man, Play and Games*. Urbana: University of Illinois,

Johnston, Robert K. 1983. *The Christian at Play*. Grand Rapids MI: Eerdmans.

Ryken, Leland. 1995. *Redeeming the Time: A Christian Approach to Work and Leisure*. Grand Rapids MI: Baker.

Tutor

Robert Ellis served in local ministry for twenty years. He was Tutor in Christian Doctrine at Bristol Baptist College before being appointed Tutor in Pastoral Theology at Regent’s Park College Oxford in 2001. He was appointed Principal there in 2007. He teaches and has published on a range of subjects on the interface between belief and practice including pastoral theology, spirituality, and theology and film. His *Answering God: Towards a Theology of Intercession* was published in 2005, and more recently his work has addressed his own life-long passion for sport: *The Games People Play: Theology, Religion and Sport* was published just as the 2014 World Cup began. He is now beginning another project on ‘place’ in sport and religion.

Theology Summer School

2-8 August 2015

Seeking God: New Forms of Religious Life

The Revd Canon Dr Robin Gibbons

Description

Christianity has always had some form of religious life. Monasticism is the best known early movement and has remained strong in Eastern Christianity. The West developed other ways of living out the ‘vowed way’; wandering friars, missionary Jesuits, communities of women nursing and teaching outside a cloister. However, in recent years while traditional religious life has declined, new expressions have emerged. This course will explore some of these movements including lay and new monasticism; virtual, dispersed and ecumenical communities of single and married people, the growth of hermit life and ‘renewed’ expressions of old forms.

To seek God is what Christians are called to do, but some manage the search in a more intense manner that draws on ancient wisdom, spiritual teaching, tested pathways and people who have a deep insight into the divine human encounter. They do this in community or alone, but always under some form of rule supported by spiritual teachers or guides.

In modern times there has been growth in new expressions of ancient monastic or religious ways of life following Christ. These can vary from formal structures in an ecclesial setting to very free expressions much more loosely connected to churches. Some communities can be very ecumenical and allow for married couples as well as celibate single people, some follow a more ‘traditional’ approach often under the oversight of older established religious orders. Yet others break old boundaries to explore different patterns and ways of living out a defined and distinct call.

In this seminar we will explore and examine five distinct themes and patterns of these ways of life. This will include examining ancient examples that inform and provide some rationale for new developments.

1. Monasticism, an ancient form of life was in origin radical and lay, much more flexible and experimental than is often thought. By looking at examples from history we lay the foundations for exploring new insights!
2. The eremitical vocation, the first way of life, a source of growth today.
3. Renewed expressions of older forms of religious life.
4. New Monasticism, on the border of ecclesial structures,
5. Ecumenical and radical forms of religious life

Reading list

These books are indicative, you are not required to bring any to Oxford, except for one book I will use, difficult to obtain but still out there on Amazon is David Knowles (no 1). IF you are able to get hold of a copy in paperback , do bring it with you and we can share between the class .

Knowles, David. 1969. *Christian Monasticism*. Littlehampton Book Services Ltd.

Hartgrove, Jonathan Wilson. 2008. *New Monasticism*. Baker House USA (Brazos Press).

Mobsby, Ian & Berry, Mark. 2013. *A New Monastic Handbook: From Vision to Practice*. Canterbury Press

Adams, Ian. 2010. *Cave Refectory Road: Monastic Rhythms for Contemporary Living*. Canterbury Press

de Dreuille, Mayeul. 2000. *New Monasticism as Fresh Expression of Church*. The Crossroad Publishing Company.

Tutor

Robin Gibbons is a member of the Oxford Theology and Religion Faculty and also the Director of Studies for these subjects in CONTED. A Fellow of the Centre for Christianity and Culture at Regents Park College he is directing and researching in the field of Religious Diversity particularly Middle Eastern Christianity.

Research includes liturgy (liturgical Art and Architecture), Monasticism, Eastern Christianity and St Frideswide.

An active ecumenist as Ecumenical Partner and Canon, Melkite Church Representative, and member of the UK Middle Eastern Christian Church leaders group.

He writes extensively. His latest book ‘*Life of the World’ Some Eastern Christian Perspectives on the Environment*’ is due out this summer.

Theology Summer School

2-8 August 2015

The Psalms: A Guide to Being Human

Dr Andrew Mein

Description

The Psalms have always had an extraordinary capacity to reach beyond their ancient origins into the lives of those who read and pray them. What is it about the book of Psalms that makes this so? What connections can we draw between the worlds these ancient poems evoke and the experience of contemporary readers? What theological and ethical questions arise for us as we read them? The course aims to explore the richness of the Psalter as a resource for reflection on the human condition.

Session 1: Approaching the Book of Psalms (Pss 1, 6, 23, 33, 117)

Session 2: Out of the Depths: The Psalms and Human Experience (Pss 22, 30, 88, 130, 145)

Session 3: The Wicked and the Righteous: The Psalter as a Guide to Ethics (Pss 1, 9-10, 15, 72, 101)

Session 4: All Too Human? The Violence of the Psalms (Pss 58, 9-10, 109, 137)

Session 5: Being Human in God's World (Pss 8, 19, 24, 82, 104)

The first session will offer an orientation to both the book of Psalms and current approaches to its interpretation. The remaining four will each focus on a particular theme within the book. Much of our time will be taken up with working through a selection of particular Psalms together, focusing in detail on a couple of Psalms in each session.

Reading list

The most important reading will be the Psalms themselves. Please read each of the Psalms set for each session, ideally in more than one translation.

Specific advance reading

Jacobson, Rolf (ed.) 2011. *Soundings in the Theology of Psalms: Perspectives and Methods in Contemporary Scholarship*. Minneapolis: Fortress

A helpful collection of short essays reflecting current trends in scholarship. Please read the first **six** chapters before coming to Oxford. We shall discuss the essays by Brueggemann, Creach, deClaissé Walford, and LeMon in class.

Other useful reading

Brown, William. 2010. *Psalms* Interpreting Biblical Texts; Nashville: Abingdon.

An up-to-date introduction

Walter Brueggemann. 1995. *The Psalms and the Life of Faith*. Minneapolis: Fortress.

A classic collection of essays

Wenham Gordon. 2012. *Psalms as Torah*. Studies in Theological Interpretation; Grand Rapids: Baker.

A study of the Psalms and ethics

Recent Commentaries for Reference

Alter Robert. 2007. *The Book of Psalms: A New Translation with Commentary*. New York: Norton.

Brueggemann, Walter & Bellinger, William. 2014. *Psalms*. New Cambridge Bible Commentary; Cambridge: CUP.

Tutor

Dr Andrew Mein is a Scottish Episcopalian by background. He studied theology at the Universities of Oxford and Edinburgh, returning to Oxford to complete his D.Phil. on Ezekiel's ethics. He has been Tutor in Old Testament at Westcott House in Cambridge since 1997, and is also editor of T&T Clarke's *Library of Hebrew Bible / Old Testament Studies*. His research interests include Ezekiel and the Psalms and he is also interested in the reception and interpretation of Biblical texts by Church and society.

Andrew is currently Senior Research Fellow in Biblical Studies at Westcott House, Cambridge and divides his time between Cambridge and Germany.

Theology Summer School

9-15 August 2015

The Call to Pray: Contemplation and Beyond

Dr Santha Bhattacharji

Description

This course will explore the possible reasons behind the current explosion in hermit vocations and forms of ‘new monasticism’, and the resurgence of traditional monasteries all over the world and in all religions. Is this a surprising phenomenon in our supposedly secular age? We will examine these reasons by looking at different examples of ‘praying lives’ from past historical periods, and asking in what ways they translate into modern forms of dedicating one’s life to prayer and in what ways they differ. In particular, we will address the issue of ‘Human Vocation’: in what sense are these lives ‘human’?

Session 1: Overview of what we might mean by ‘a call to pray’, distinguishing different strands, such as intercession, repentance, struggle against evil, and contemplation.

Session 2: Spiritual Combat: the Desert fathers and Mothers. What were they fighting against?

Session 3: The enclosed monastic orders, such as the Carthusians and Cistercians: holier than thou?

Session 4: What do Christians mean by contemplation? Is it off-putting that the Christian tradition focuses so strongly on the Crucified Christ? We look at some Franciscan and Carmelite writings.

Session 5: Hidden in plain sight: lay contemplatives in the medieval period, in the Reformed churches and now.

Handouts with passages from relevant texts will be provided in class.

Reading list

No books will be needed in class, but it might be helpful to look at some of the following in advance:

Williams, Rowan. 2011. *Silence and Honey Cakes*. Lion Books

Lawrence, Clifford. 1989 *Medieval Monasticism*, Longman

Wilson, Jonathan. 2010. *Living Faithfully in a Fragmented World*, Cascade

Pilgrim, Peace. 1998. *Her Life and Works in her Own Words*, <https://books.google.co.uk/books?isbn=0943734290>

Raven's Bread Hermit Ministry. www.ravensbreadministries.com/

Tutor

Santha Bhattacharji completed her BA in Old and Middle English at Oxford. She was then an Anglican enclosed nun for six years, before doing a doctorate at Bristol on medieval Liturgy and Middle English Literature. She has been a member of the English Faculty at Oxford for over 20 years and is currently Senior Tutor of St Benet’s Hall. She publishes on Old English poetry and on the medieval English Mystics. Her most recent publication is *Prayer and Thought in Monastic Tradition* (Bloomsbury, 2014).

Theology Summer School

9-15 August 2015

The Human Spirit and the Scientific Quest

The Reverend Dr Shaun Henson

Description

How has the ascendancy of science affected Christian thought on the human vocation? This course will explore connections between various ideas of vocation important both to Christian spirituality and the scientific quest. 'Science and religion' dialogue has largely neglected 'vocation'. In Christianity, vocational thinking tends to highlight supernatural notions, and in the sciences entirely natural concepts. Reality is far richer than choosing between these apparent opposites might imply. With contributions from Catholic and Protestant viewpoints, the course will investigate models of saints and scientists from whom we can learn more comprehensive ways forward.

Session One: 'Vocation and the Human Spirit' examines vocation as a concept foundational to a Christian understanding of human spirituality, considering Biblical, historical, and current models. An argument that vocation is foundational to faith works even if 'vocation' is defined and discussed differently throughout history. People still talk of matters like the call of God to conversion, and to act in service to God and humanity.

Session Two: 'Vocation and the Scientific Quest' details how the rise of 'the scientific method' brought with it a new calling – to the scientific quest. Many early architects of science, like the Franciscan Roger Bacon, considered investigating the natural world as a vocation from God. Eventually, persistent disparities erupted between ideas of vocation in the Church and the scientific quest.

Session Three: 'Science, Religion, and Vocation' investigates the boundaries and possibilities of a new dialogue on vocation involving relevant religious, scientific, and philosophical concepts. 'Science and religion' dialogue has largely neglected 'vocation'. This leaves much room for a fresh focus on this topic so vital to what it means to be human.

Session Four: 'Vocation Transformed' builds on the third session, fleshing out a greater cooperation between science and religion on vocation. With important contributions from Catholic and Protestant viewpoints, we shall study examples of saints and scientists from whom we can learn more comprehensive ways forward.

Session Five: 'A Science of Vocation' looks at how vocational discernment in the Church has become a science in its own right. We shall reflect upon and discuss how this process could either be inhibited or enhanced by taking into consideration all that we have covered.

Reading list

I shall refer to all of the books at relevant points in the seminars. Each volume will aid students especially as background reading for the course. Students are free to decide if they wish to bring and have the books in Oxford as support for our discussions.

Southgate, Christopher (ed.) 2011. *God, Humanity, and the Cosmos*. 3rd edition. T&T Clark.

Warner, Keith Douglass. 2012. *Knowledge for Love: Franciscan Science as the Pursuit of Wisdom*. Franciscan Institute Publications.

Ward, Keith. 2011. *More Than Matter: Is There More to Life than Molecules?* Eerdmans.

Berry, Robert James (ed.) 2014. *True Scientists, True Faith*. Lion Hudson.

Tutor

The Reverend Dr Shaun Henson is Chaplain of St Hugh's College, Oxford. A member of Oxford's Theology and Religion Faculty, he researches and teaches in areas including science and religion and Christian doctrine. Shaun's recent publications include *God and Natural Order: Physics, Philosophy, and Theology* (New York and London: Routledge, 2014), *Academic Vocation in the Church and Academy Today* (Farnham, Surrey: Ashgate, 2015), and 'Quantum Mechanics and a Reality of Randomness' in *Abraham's Dice: Chance and Providence in the Monotheistic Traditions* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015). He is a Franciscan Novice Guardian, and a Vocations Advisor in the Church of England.

Theology Summer School

9-15 August 2015

The Soul: Origins and Destiny

The Reverend Professor Keith Ward

Description

Descartes' 'dualist' view of body and soul is almost universally derided today, and many neurologists dispense with the notion of the soul altogether as an ancient superstition. This course aims to resurrect dualism in a slightly different form, and argue that the idea of the soul is both philosophically sound and morally important. This will involve a tour of philosophical, theological and scientific views of human nature, and plenty of open discussion.

Session 1	Ideas of the soul in different religious and philosophical traditions. Particular attention will be paid to the various Hindu ideas of 'Atman', the Buddhist idea of 'anatta', Hebrew concepts of 'ruach' and 'nephesh' and Greek ideas of 'psyche' and 'nous'. The aim will be to see how different notions of the human person originated and developed into different traditions of thought.
Session 2	The development of the idea of the soul in Christian thought. By reference to Biblical texts and to theological writings, the aim will be to show how a basically Aristotelian idea of the soul became Christian orthodoxy even though this was always in tension with more Hebraic ideas, and also with more dualistic notions of mind and body that were typical of the European Enlightenment.
Session 3	Different visions of life after death: what is meant by the 'resurrection of the body'? What will that body be like? Is this a totally different idea from that of rebirth or re-incarnation? Is the idea of life after death even coherent?
Session 4	Philosophical and religious traditions include speculation on various post-death states of being. We consider ideas of heaven, hell and various intermediate stages and states.
Session 5	Neuro-science and the soul. This final session considers modern challenges to the idea of a continuing responsible self, and to the idea of personal survival of death.

The course will defend a Christian view of the soul, but open and critical discussion will be welcomed.

Please note: This course schedule is intended to give an overview of the topics to be covered in each session; however, it may be liable to change at the tutor's discretion.

Reading list

Texts not required in class

Ward, Keith. 1998. *Religion and Human Nature*. Clarendon Press.

Ward, Keith. 1998. *In Defence of the Soul*. Oneworld Publications.

Ward, Keith. 2010. *More than Matter*. Lion Hudson.
esp. Ch. 15

Tutor

The Revd Professor Keith Ward is a British philosopher, theologian, priest and scholar. Born in Hexham in 1938 he was educated at the Universities of Wales, Cambridge and Oxford. From 1969-1971 he lectured in philosophy at the University of St Andrews. Between 1975 and 1983 he was Dean of Trinity Hall, Cambridge. In 1991 he was appointed Regius Professor of Divinity in the University of Oxford and a Canon of Christ Church, a post from which he retired in 2003. He is a fellow of the British Academy. He describes himself as an idealist philosopher and has contributed to both to philosophical and religious debate and to the dialogue between religious traditions. He continues to write and lecture on Philosophy, Religion and Christian Theology.

Theology Summer School

9-15 August 2015

Be Still and Know: Vocation and Christian Ministry

The Reverend Dr Edmund Newey

Description

What does it mean to hear and respond to God's call? And how do our hearing and our response shift over time? This course will explore the nature of vocation through the lens of priesthood: the ministerial priesthood, but, just as importantly, the priesthood of all believers, and, what the Orthodox theologian Alexander Schmemann has called 'the priesthood of all humanity'. The goal is to arrive at an understanding of vocation freed from the vice of anxiety through its opposite, the virtue of thanksgiving.

This course will cover:

Session 1 The Image of God: Moses or Xenophones?

We begin by looking at the key question of theological anthropology: what does it mean to be made in the image of God. Was Moses right or Xenophones of Colophon? Is humanity made in the image of God or has humanity made God in its image?

Session 2 The priesthood of Christ

Traditionally Christ has been understood in terms of his status as prophet, priest and king. Focusing on the middle term, we will examine the change and continuity in our understanding of priesthood made by the person and work of Christ.

Session 3 The priesthood of all believers

This session looks at the critique of the ministerial priesthood made by the theologians of the Protestant Reformation. In particular it concentrates on the notion of participation in the liturgy and the Anglican insistence on worshipping in 'such a tongue as the people understandeth'.

Session 4 The priesthood of all humanity

Drawing on the work of Alexander Schmemann, we will explore the priestly role of humanity in relation to the stewardship of creation and the flourishing of the cosmos.

Session 5 'Truly the Lord is in this place and I did not know it': The Call to Wonder

Inspired by the work of the seventeenth century poet and theologian, Thomas Traherne, and the contemporary practice of Godly Play, we will explore the Church's vocation to foster an attitude of gratitude and wonder that has the potential to counter the pervasive angst of contemporary western culture.

Reading list

Texts not required in class

Tomlin, Graham. 2014. *The Widening Circle: Priesthood as God's Way of Blessing the World.* SPCK.

Quash, Ben. 2013. *Found Theology: History, Imagination and the Holy Spirit.* Bloomsbury.

Williams, Rowan. 2014. *Being Christian: Baptism, Bible, Eucharist, Prayer* SPCK.

de Lubac, Henri. 1996. *The Discovery of God.* Eerdmans.

Schmemann, Alexander. 1989. *For the Life of the World.* St Vladimir's Seminary Press.

Tutor

The Reverend Dr Edmund Newey is the Sub Dean of Christ Church, Oxford. He worked as a schoolteacher in Bolton and then as a parish priest in Manchester, Newmarket and Birmingham for thirteen years. He has written on seventeenth century Anglican thought, on liturgical and systematic theology and on the Anglican Communion Covenant. He has also published theological reflections on practical matters of ministry and mission. His book, *Children of God: Theological Anthropologies of the Child* (Ashgate, 2012), looks at how the child helps us to understand what it means to claim that human beings are made in God's image.

Theology Summer School

9-15 August 2015

Vocation and Dying

The Reverend Dr Joanna Collicutt

Description

This course will explore how the Christian story, founded as it is on the death and resurrection of Jesus, can be brought into conversation with contemporary cultural discourse on death. In particular it will examine how the stories, symbols and practices of ordinary people around death can be connected with Christian teaching, especially in relation to hope. This should inform good practice in ministering to people as they approach their own death or deal with the death of loved ones.

The ten sessions will cover

1. Intuitive ways of making sense of death – feelings, concepts, and symbols drawn from course participants and wider culture. Jesus's attitude to death.
2. The nature of death anxiety. The psychology of religion and coping in relation to death.
3. 'Over the hill' - Ageing and death in the New Testament and the implications for Christian ministry.
4. Detailed consideration of one practical approach to ministry with those 'living in the end times'
5. Drawing together Christian theology(ies) of death and contemporary cultural discourse: challenges and opportunities.

The sessions will comprise a mix of interaction, straight didactic instruction, group discussion, and personal reflection. The material will be multidisciplinary in nature, drawing on medical, and social sciences (particularly psychology), biblical material, and Christian theology.

Reading list

Texts are recommended and are not needed in class.

Gawande, Atul. 2014. *Being Mortal: Illness, Medicine and What Matters at the End*. Profile books

Davies, Douglas. 2007. *The Theology of Death*. Bloomsbury

Frankl, Viktor. 2004. *Man's Search for Meaning*. Rider, new edition

Other editions are also acceptable

Wright, Nicholas Thomas 2011. *Surprised by Hope*. SPCK.

Kastenbaum, Robert. 2004. *On our Way: The Final Passage Through Life and Death*. University of California Press.

Tutor

Revd Dr Joanna Collicutt is an Anglican priest who is the Karl Jaspers Lecturer in Psychology of Religion and Spirituality at Ripon College Cuddesdon, Fellow in Psychology of Religion at Harris Manchester College, Oxford, and Oxford Diocesan Advisor for the Spiritual Care of Older People. She also ministers in a West Oxfordshire parish. Joanna has published several books on the interface between psychology and Christian faith. These include *Self-esteem* (IVP) and *The Dawkins Delusion?* (SPCK) (both with Alister McGrath); *Meeting Jesus* (SPCK) (with Jeremy Duff); *Jesus and the Gospel Women* (SPCK), and *When You Pray* (BRF). Forthcoming books include *The Psychology of Christian Character Formation* (SCM), *Neurology and Religion* (CUP), and *Old Age and the Bible* (Grove).

Theology Summer School

9-15 August 2015

Restoring the Image: Selfhood and Salvation

Reverend Canon Angela Tilby

Description

Our human sense of what it is to be a ‘self’ addressed by God and called to salvation is not a constant – our sense of who we are has changed over time. This course will examine some key points of transition in our sense of being selves before God and focuses on the sources of and challenges to modern identity, bringing together insights from scripture, philosophy, spirituality and psychology.

This course will cover:

1. An exploration of the origins of key terms such as ‘Image of God’, ‘Self; and ‘Salvation’ and a discussion of the use and meaning of such terms in the ancient world demonstrating the formative influence of certain strands of Greek philosophy on the Christian notion of the self.
2. Image, Self and Salvation in patristic thought: the contribution of Irenaeus, Athanasius, Augustine and others and their lasting impact on Christian thought and on the development of Christian spirituality, especially in terms of Christian biography and autobiography. Their work marks an important transition to the idea of the self as a ‘narrated’ self, a story told through time and experience.
3. Image, Self and Salvation in the Age of Reason: the contribution of such thinkers as Newton, Locke and Descartes to the modern understanding of what constitutes the self and what makes for a good life. This class will explore the impact of the Enlightenment on our contemporary ideas about the self-including the importance of the concept of human rights and responsibilities and the growth of the ideals of tolerance and compassion.
4. The impact of psychology: what is a ‘healthy’ self? From Freud to ‘mindfulness’ therapy this class explores various psychological understandings of the self and how it might be thought to develop through time and experience. It also considers theories and practices of how the conflicted self might find healing.
5. Conclusions: what makes for a good life in this world? And what is the impact of that on any understanding we might have of the hereafter?

Reading list

These books are for guidance and preparation – they will not be needed in Oxford.

Taylor, Charles. 1989. *Sources of the Self, The Making of Modern Identity*. Harvard University Press.

Young, Frances. 2013. *God’s Presence, A Contemporary Recapitulation of Early Christianity*. Cambridge University Press
Chapter 4, *From Image to Likeness*

McGilchrist, Ian. 2009. *The Master and His Emissary, The Divided Brain and the Making of the Western World*. Yale University Press.

Williams, Rowan. 2000. *Lost Icons, Reflections on Cultural Bereavement*. T&T Clark.

Tutor

Angela Tilby is a Canon of Christ Church Cathedral and Continuing Ministerial Adviser to the Diocese of Oxford. She is a graduate in theology of Girton College, Cambridge. She worked for 22 years as a radio and television producer for the British Broadcasting Corporation before she was ordained in 1997. She was tutor and later Vice Principal of Westcott House in Cambridge where she taught Early History, Spirituality and Anglicanism in the Cambridge Theological Federation. She took up her present post in 2011. She is well-known as a writer, broadcaster and columnist. She also reviews books for several theological journals. Her publications include *Science and the Soul* (1992) and *The Seven Deadly Sins* (2009).