



Sarum College  
CATHEDRAL CLOSE, SALISBURY

# Learning to Nourish the Human Spirit

Course & Events Programme ♦ Autumn 2023

# Welcome to the Sarum College Community

Sarum College is a centre for study and research where our passion is learning that nourishes the human spirit.

The College is an inclusive, welcoming space for reflection and personal development.

Through excellent teaching, unpretentious hospitality, great food, and a break from the outside world, the College offers a safe haven for challenging exploration and conversation where everyone is valued and heard.

For us, the questions are as important as are answers.

## Affordable Learning

The course programme includes both online and onsite courses, as noted. Most day courses (normally 10am to 4pm) are £60 for the standard rate.

A 20% discount on course fees is available to those who:

- are studying or have studied on one of Sarum College's postgraduate courses validated by the University of Winchester;
- are training or have trained for ministry at Sarum College or previous organisations at 19 The Close, Salisbury;
- are aged 25 or under, are on low incomes or receive government benefits.

A day course with B&B at the educational rate is £115.

If you are eligible for a discount, please contact [courses@sarum.ac.uk](mailto:courses@sarum.ac.uk) for the code to use when making your booking online.





“

The balance between teaching and discussion was exactly right. It all felt very comfortable to be able to speak and voice an opinion or question, and listen to some brilliant insights. The style of teaching was remarkably engaging and inclusive, and I felt no fear at entering into the conversations or break-out rooms. It was expertly delivered, most notable too for the atmosphere of listening and kindness. Thank you.



## Waiting for God: An Exploration of the Poetry of R. S. Thomas

3 July  
10am to 4pm  
£60 onsite

Examine the poetry of Thomas's struggle to relate to hill farmers and his anguished exploration of the nature of God.

**With Tony Brown,  
Bangor University**



## Reading, Reflecting and Responding - A Day with Richard Rohr

4 July  
10am to 4pm  
£60 onsite

Explore some of the writing from Richard Rohr to look at the key themes and questions in his work.

**With James Woodward,  
Sarum College**



## Summer School: Bonaventure on The Life of St Francis of Assisi

10 to 13 July  
From £410 onsite

This course will examine this specific text, the lives of Francis and Bonaventure, and their impact in the following eight centuries.

**With Michael Hahn  
and guest lecturers**

### B&B discount

There is a special rate for B&B before and after a course, so why not take the opportunity to extend your stay?





## AI and Theology: What Can Robots Teach Us About Love?

17 July  
1pm to 4pm  
£35 online

An exploration of love as revealed through relationships with robots – from sexbots to carebots.

With **Scott Midson**,  
University of Manchester



## Biblical Hebrew

6-11 August  
From £345 online or onsite

A fun and intensive week on the early stages of learning a language which is radically different and beautifully rich in its theology and world view.

With **Rachel Montagu**



## New Testament Greek

7 to 12 August  
From £345 online or onsite

An intensive study of Greek to give you the tools to better understand the Gospels and theological terms.

With **Stuart MacWilliam**

## Taster Session on Postgraduate Study

Christian Spirituality ✦  
Theology, Imagination & Culture

18th July ✦ 7pm to 8pm ✦ (online via Zoom)

- Flexible programmes to shape around your interests and schedule
- Research-led teaching by faculty and outside experts in the field
- Personal attention & study skills support to develop your research
- Wide range of optional modules on contemporary themes



Scan here to book  
your free place



# Modern Mystics on Mondays series

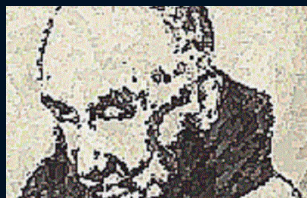
18 & 25 September and 2 October ♦ 7pm to 9pm ♦ £10 Online Each

---

Many 20th- and 21st-century figures exemplify mysticism, which is part of all contemporary world religions today.

This series looks at three prominent figures who have been described as modern or postmodern mystics: Thomas Merton, Evelyn Underhill and Simone Weil.

Each session is led by an expert on the selected mystic, with a 55-minute lecture, a 25-minute discussion of a set text (sent two weeks prior to the session), and a 25-minute question and answer session.



## Thomas Merton

18 September  
7 to 9pm  
£10 online

---

A Trappist monk and one of the most significant mystical writers of the 20th century, Merton is a key figure in the dialogue of interfaith mysticism and in social action.

With **Daniel Horan**,  
Saint Mary's College in  
Notre Dame, Indiana



## Evelyn Underhill

25 September  
7pm to 9pm  
£10 online

---

A key figure in the repopularisation of mysticism today, Evelyn Underhill also was a popular retreat leader and spiritual advisor.

With **Jane Shaw**,  
Oxford University



## Simone Weil

2 October  
7pm to 9pm  
£10 online

---

An introduction to Simone Weil, the philosophical nature of her mysticism and the mystical nature of her philosophy.

With **Stuart Jesson**,  
London Jesuit Centre



### It pays to book early!

Early bird discount tickets (£55 for day courses or £30 for online courses) are available until 60 days prior to the course.

Offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other discount.



## Exploring Spiritual Pain

13 September  
10am to 1pm  
From £30 online

Explore the nature of spiritual pain through theories, literature and lived experience.

**With James Woodward,  
Sarum College**



## Revisiting Advent and Christmas

21 September  
9:30am to 12:30pm  
From £30 online

Explore the liturgical, theological and pastoral opportunities of the season.

**With Tom Clammer,  
Sarum College Visiting  
Scholar**



In general, it's just liberating to be presented with lots of different perspectives and the contexts they came from. Letting things be complicated and unresolved.



## The Eucharist: Theological Perspectives, Spiritual Practices and Artistic Representations

4 to 7 September  
From £420 onsite

---

Examine the development of the Eucharist with reference to theological discourse, eucharistic practice, and artistic engagement.



## Foundations and Forms of Christian Spirituality

9 to 13 October  
From £420 onsite

---

An introduction to the roots and types of spirituality in the Christian tradition up to the late Medieval period in historical and philosophical contexts.

# Thinking about taking your study further?

Consider a flexible postgraduate programme blending onsite and online learning to help you fit the course alongside other responsibilities.

Award options:

- Postgraduate certificate (1 year)
- Postgraduate diploma (2 years)
- Master's degree (3 years)

Degrees are validated by the University of Winchester



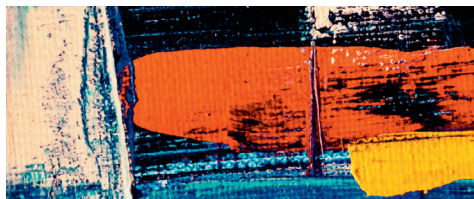
Alternatively, you can audit a module, which means that you attend the course for interest rather than academic credit so there are no written assignments or seminar presentations required. Join a taster session or a taster day to find out more.

## Taster Session

18 July  
7-8pm  
Free online

Or, contact us to schedule a personal appointment:  
[maadministrator@sarum.ac.uk](mailto:maadministrator@sarum.ac.uk)



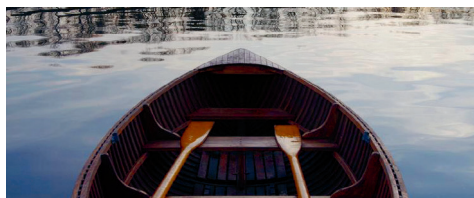


## Theology and Human Culture

9 to 13 October  
From £420 onsite

---

Explore the relationship between theology and culture considering the impact of culture on theology, and how theological ideas and themes can be found in culture.



## Spiritual Direction

---

The Sarum Course in Spiritual Direction aims to equip those who are called to this ministry to confidently and competently accompany others.

Choose from three formats:

- Online with an optional three-day retreat at Sarum (March start)
- Onsite with online support (September start)
- Mixed mode version with two onsite sessions, either in Salisbury or Inverness (October start)

Whichever way you choose to study, the course offers a balanced learning environment, blending personal and spiritual formation with skills development.

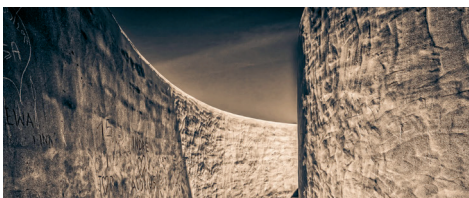


## Spirituality, Health and Wellbeing: Spiritual Development in Context

20-23 November  
From £420 onsite

---

This course reviews models and theories to consider pastoral care in the context of the various ways spirituality develops during a lifetime.



## Exploring Theology

---

Three terms of ten weekly Tuesday evening sessions, online 7 to 9pm.

The course offers intellectually rigorous, interactive, and accessible learning. There is an option to write essays to take your learning experience further.

Year A on Exploring the Bible offers knowledge and tools to read and encounter the Scriptures faithfully and fruitfully.

Year B on Exploring Christian Belief opens up the bigger picture of developments and themes within the Christian tradition.

This two-year course is designed so that you can join at any time.



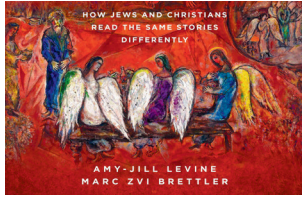
## Rural Pioneering

27 September  
10am to 4pm  
From £55 onsite

---

Explore the reality and challenge of rural ministry. What could a collaboration between parish and pioneering offer?

**With Jo Neary, Sarum College and Sally Taylor, Hamworthy Parish**



## The Bible With And Without Jesus

3 October  
10am to 4pm  
From £55 onsite

---

Jews and Christians are separated by a common Bible! This is a day to go beyond the old polemics toward new understanding.

**With Ann Conway Jones, University of Birmingham**  
**Amy-Jill Levine, Vanderbilt Divinity School**



## Migration and Refugees: Where is God? Where Should the Church be?

4 October  
7pm to 9pm  
£10 online

---

An introduction to theologies of migration to explore ways in which we might engage and respond to one of the most pressing issues of our time.

**With Susanna Snyder, Sarum College**



The quality and level of expertise and experience of critical research amongst the lecturers is just so impressive. I felt very privileged to have access to a wealth of interesting and talented people.



## Reflective Journalling

5 October  
10am to 4pm  
From £55 onsite

---

Introduction to a range of approaches and methods to journalling, along with practical support to develop an individual style.

**With James Woodward,  
Sarum College**



## Reading Scripture Together: Money and Faith

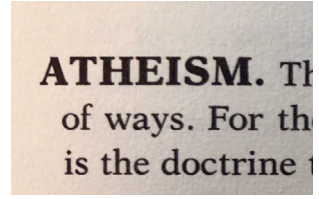
11 October  
10am to 4pm  
From £55 online

---

Explore two stories told by Jesus: the Rich Man and Lazarus, and the Pharisee and Tax Collector. What is the contemporary legacy?

**With Jayme Reaves, Sarum  
College**

**Shoshana Boyd Gelfand,  
Sarum College Visiting  
Scholar**



## Atheism and Contemporary Unbelief

13 October  
10am to 4pm  
From £55 onsite

---

Is it possible that our inherited religious culture feeds into the emergence of atheism? A day to better understand the relationship between belief and unbelief.

**With John McDade**

### Add an overnight stay

There is a discounted education rate for those on courses or using educational services. The rates apply to B&B the day before a course and the day it finishes.





## Listening to Your Life Retreat

17 to 19 October  
From £220

---

An opportunity to reflect on your life direction or spiritual path, perhaps at a time of discernment or wondering.

**With Julia Mourant,  
Sarum College**

OXFORD CENTRE FOR  
**Religion  
and Culture**

---

## Hurricanes Roar Poetry Series

23/30 October & 6 November  
7pm to 8:30pm  
£10 Each, online

---

Three sessions with the Oxford Centre for Religion and Culture celebrating the contribution of global majority poetic voices to western spirituality.

**With Emilie Townes,  
Vanderbilt Divinity School**

**Subsequent poets tbc**



## Preaching from the Old Testament

1 November  
10am to 4pm  
From £55 onsite

---

Explore the different narratives and genres in the Old Testament, how we preach problematic texts, and consider how we put this all into practice.

**With Paul Burden,  
Sarum College**



## Women Poets Writing God

7 to 8 November  
10am to 4pm each day  
From £125 onsite

---

Explore the place poetry can play in our spiritual lives through the neglected tradition of female poets who engage with broad spiritual themes.

**With Nicola Slee,  
Queen's Foundation**



## Cost of Living Crisis: What do Sabbath Economics Have to Say to Us Today?

15 November  
7pm to 9pm  
£10 online

---

The strong tradition of economic justice in the Bible is based primarily on the Sabbath principles. These are designed to care for everyone in society, including the most vulnerable.

**With Jayme Reaves,  
Sarum College**



## Everything Happens for a Reason?

21 November  
10am to 1pm  
From £30 online

---

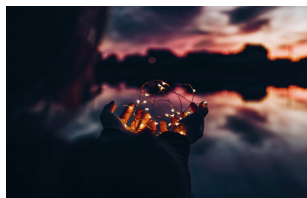
A Rough Guide to ...  
The Doctrine of Providence, reflecting on the Christian imagination, prayer and pastoral care.

**With Beth Dodd,  
Sarum College**

## Meals

Meals may be booked around course dates or altogether separate. Evening meals are sometimes available as well. Please enquire with a member of the hospitality team. Staff are experienced in catering for special dietary requirements.





## Is Theology Still Relevant Today?

23 November  
7pm to 9pm  
Free online

---

What does theology mean? Where has it come from? Why might we benefit from diving deep into theology?

These are some questions we hope to explore in a conversation requiring no prior knowledge, just a willingness to join an open exchange of ideas.

**With James Woodward and faculty colleagues of Sarum College**



## Dante's Heaven, Hell and Purgatory

24 November  
10am to 4pm  
From £55 onsite or online

---

An introduction to Dante and his spiritual intelligence alongside psychotherapeutic insights.

**With Mark Vernon, author of Dante's Divine Comedy: A Guide for the Spiritual Journey**



## Reading Scripture Together: Emmanuel and the Servant Songs of Isaiah

28 November  
10am to 4pm  
From £55 onsite

---

Explore these foundational texts for the Christian Advent season and the ways we might read and interpret them for a fuller understanding of what Isaiah may be offering.

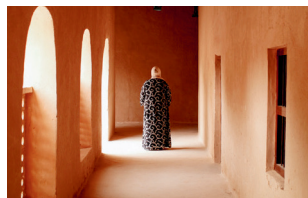
**With Jayme Reaves, Sarum College**

**Shoshana Boyd Gelfand, Sarum College Visiting Scholar**

## Library access

The Sarum College Library has more than 50,000 books on theology, Bible studies, mission, church history and more, as well as study, writing and research space. There is free high-speed wifi throughout the buildings. Some courses include library membership.





## Encountering Islam Through Rabi'a of Basra

29 November  
10am to 4pm  
From £55 onsite

A taste of the poetry and stories of the life of the Muslim saint and mystic Rabi'a of Basra. We will explore the potential for making spiritual connections across other faith traditions.

**With Shanon Shah,**  
University of London



## Just Pay Attention: The Poetry of Mary Oliver

6 December  
10am to 4pm  
From £55 onsite

A day to reflect on the poems of Mary Oliver, one of the most cherished and admired contemporary American poets.

**With Ruth Shelton,**  
author of *Arthur Talks*

**Mark Pryce,** author of  
*Poetry, Practical Theology and Reflective Practice*



**It pays to book early!**

Early bird discount tickets (£55 for day courses or £30 for online courses) are available until 60 days prior to the course.

Offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other discount.

“

*The content has opened up a whole new way of looking at things and given me a new interest to build upon the basic knowledge that I have.*

”



**Sarum College**  
CATHEDRAL CLOSE, SALISBURY



Sarum College, 19 The Close, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 2EE  
[sarum.ac.uk](http://sarum.ac.uk) | [courses@sarum.ac.uk](mailto:courses@sarum.ac.uk) | 01722 424800

©2023 Sarum College | Registered Charity No. 1161253 | Company No. 9510356  
Sarum College's trading subsidiary is Sarum College Services Ltd, Company No. 1931038  
Photographs by Ash Mills Photography