Sarum College
CATHEDRAL CLOSE, SALISBURY



Learning to Nourish the Human Spirit

Courses & Events Programme ✦ Spring/Summer 2027

It pays to book early!

Early bird discount tickets are available until 60 days prior to the course. Full details on the online booking page.

Offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other discount.

Bursaries

Sarum College offers a limited number of bursaries for those who would be unable to study without financial support.

Visit the Sarum College Bursaries webpage to learn more.

Welcome to Sarum College

A place and a time to think, explore, and discover.

At Sarum College, we believe that learning is not simply about finding answers. It is about asking better questions, seeing familiar things differently, and making space to think deeply about what matters.

Set within the beautiful close of Salisbury Cathedral, Sarum is a place to pause, reflect, encounter new ideas, and see old ideas in a new light. Our Short Courses bring together excellent teaching, unpretentious hospitality, and a community of people who are curious about the world, faith, and how we are to live.

Whether you come to deepen your knowledge, explore your questions, or simply take some time away from the demands of everyday life, you will find a warm welcome here.



Rob James,
Principal of Sarum College

Exciting Learning Opportunities

Our Spring/Summer Brochure contains our Learning Programmes, Postgraduate Programmes and a selection of our Short Courses, as detailed in the following pages. New courses are being added all the time, so subscribe to our e-news for updates and check our website regularly.

Look out for our special deals on online courses that run across a series of sessions.

A small discount on course fees is available to those who:

- are studying or have studied on one of Sarum College's postgraduate courses;
- are training or have trained for ministry at Sarum College or previous organisations at 19 The Close, Salisbury.

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

Prices are correct at time of printing. Sarum College reserves the right to adjust pricing structures at our discretion.

Spiritual Direction



Sarum Course in Spiritual Direction

This programme aims to equip those who are called to the ministry of Spiritual Direction to confidently and competently accompany others. The course is delivered in several formats: residential, online, and mixed mode, to accommodate access requirements and learning preferences.

The next three cohorts begin in September 2027 (residential), September 2027 (online), and September 2028 (residential). All courses include taught sessions with expert tutors, small group work, practice in Spiritual Direction, reflective activities and feedback. For application details please see the website: www.sarum.ac.uk/learning/spiritual-direction

Pollyanna Magne, Director of Spiritual Direction at Sarum College, trained as a Spiritual Director at a Carmelite Priory in Aylesford, Kent, where she then joined the tutor team. Polly is a Spiritual Director, retreat leader and academic.



Conference for Spiritual Directors

Voices, Visions and Dreams: Listening, Meaning-Making and Responding in Spiritual Accompaniment

This conference invites Spiritual Directors to explore how voices, vision and dreams 'show up' in Spiritual Accompaniment. We will consider our disposition to mystical experiences and how we might invite these into the conversation.

With creative approaches and expert speakers including Rev Prof Chris Cook, Dr Lisa Cornwell, Dr Michael Hahn and Bruce Stanley we will explore how we can safely navigate dialogue that enables individuals to explore and make sense of their inner world and encounters with the Divine as a natural and enriching part of their Christian life.

To book, go to: www.sarum.ac.uk/short-courses/voices-visions-and-dreams-listening-meaning-making-and-responding-in-spiritual-accompaniment



Postgraduate Programmes in Christian Spirituality





Both applicable to students' personal faith life and journey and rigorously academic, Sarum College offers field-leading postgraduate study in Christian Spirituality.

Our students come from a wide range of backgrounds, which fosters excellent discussion. There is no requirement to have formally studied theology prior to the course.

Course Structure and Delivery

Our flexible approach offers the benefits of in-person teaching and is designed to fit around busy lives. Students learn in modules taught by world-leading experts. Modules are arranged around four-day teaching residentials at Sarum College. These are supplemented by seminars and tutorials online.

Programme Content Areas

- Historical and textual studies
- Contemporary issues
- Culture, arts, and the theological imagination.

Interested?

Come along to our Taster day on 23rd February or our online Taster evening on 18th May. For more details please email Michael Hahn at mhahn@sarum.ac.uk

See the range of bursaries we have available by visiting the Sarum College Bursaries webpage: www.sarum.ac.uk/sarum-college-bursaries



Postgraduate Study in Theology, Mission and Ministry

Our postgraduate programmes foster a community of learning rooted in rigorous engagement with scripture and tradition, equipped for ministry and mission in the church of tomorrow, and responding with creativity and imagination to the blessings and challenges of a diverse and changing world.

Our learning is integrated, contextual and community-focussed, empowering you to develop in your spiritual, vocational or ministerial journey. We learn together as a community, valuing each other and learning from our differences.

Course Structure and Delivery

- Blended learning: online, onsite and in your local context
- Weekly online seminars
- Onsite teaching Saturdays
- Extensive online resources
- Flexibility to suit your context

Programme Content & Skills Development

- Reflective Practice
- Theological Reflection
- Research Skills
- Mission and Leadership
- Liturgy and Preaching
- Doctrine and Bible
- Reading Texts
- Independent and Lifelong Learning





Interested?

For more information please email Jacquie Gallon at jgallon@sarum.ac.uk

For information on grants and bursaries, see www.sarum.ac.uk/sarum-college-bursaries

Learning Programmes



Discovering Theology: Starting Out

Thursdays online
7:30pm-9pm

A brand-new online course for anyone who wants to explore God, Jesus, the Bible and the Christian faith in a welcoming and supportive learning community. Six-week terms of weekly online sessions with expert guidance from Sarum College tutors. Join 'live' or catch up afterwards.

Spring Term
The Church's Story: our Faith
From 28th January 2027

Discover what Christians believe and why.

Summer Term
Your Story: Discipleship
From 13th May 2027

Discover 'who you are in God and who God is in you'.



Exploring Theology: Going Further

Tuesdays online
7pm-9pm

10-week terms of weekly online sessions taught by a team of expert scholars, offering space for tough questions, great conversations and no easy answers. Join 'live' or catch up afterwards.

Spring Term
Perspectives on God
From 12th January 2027

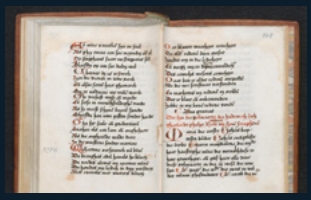
What has God got to do with the big questions we face in the modern world?

Summer Term
Living Out Faith
From 13th April 2027

How do we put theology into practice in our day-to-day lives?

Mystical Poets Series

Monday evenings 7:30pm to 9pm. £22 per session or £99 for the whole series of five.



Hadewijch

25 January

Hadewijch revolutionised Dutch poetry, depicting the burning desire of divine-human encounter.

Dr Lydia Shahan gained her PhD from Harvard University and is an expert on medieval mysticism.



Dante

23 February

Explore the poetic and mystical nature of Dante's masterpiece, *The Divine Comedy*.

Dr Mark Vernon is author of *Dante's Divine Comedy: A Guide for the Spiritual Journey.*

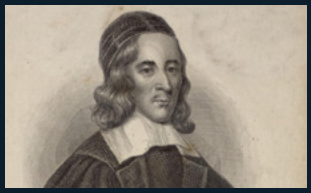


John of the Cross

22 March

John of the Cross transformed spirituality in his poem, *The Dark Night of the Soul*.

An expert on the Spanish mystics, Dr Edward Howells edited *The Oxford Handbook of Mystical Theology.*



George Herbert

26 April

The metaphysical poetry of the Church of England priest, George Herbert can be considered mystical.

The Revd Canon Dr Mark Pryce is an Anglican priest, poet and scholar of theological poetry.



Audre Lorde

25 May

Womanist philosopher and poet, Audre Lorde's works are considered here as mystical.

Dr Elizabeth Dodd is Lecturer in Christian Doctrine at Sarum College and a scholar of lyric theology. Jarel Robinson-Brown is priest at St German's Church, Cardiff, and a theologian.

In collaboration with

CHURCH TIMES

Course Programme: Spring/Summer 2027



Biblical Hebrew Reading Week

4th January - 7th January
10am Mon to 4pm Thurs
£635 Residential
£395 Non-residential

This Biblical Hebrew language course is both fun and intensive, and will bring the student through the early stages of learning a language which is both radically different and beautifully rich in its theology and world view.

Rachel Montagu teaches Biblical Hebrew for a diverse range of audiences, including CityLit in London.

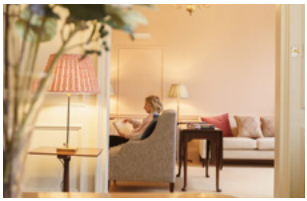


Biblical Greek Reading Week

18th January - 21st January
10am Mon to 4pm Thurs
£635 Residential
£395 Non-residential

An intensive four day course on reading New Testament and Septuagint texts.

Stuart Macwilliam taught New Testament Greek at Exeter University and at Sarum College.



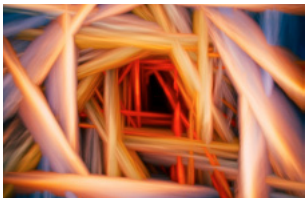
Sarum Study Day

29th January
10am to 4pm
£70 onsite

A day for your own project; 'good space', companionship and great food while you read, write, reflect and create.

Hosted by Sarum College faculty members.

"Sarum College is a peaceful place to stay and doing a course on a residential basis helps with winding down and immersing the self in the course content.



Trajectories of Freedom: Revealing Matrices of Oppression

8th February
1pm to 4pm
£40 online

Come join a groundbreaking womanist scholar to examine how selected Black writers use metaphors to describe various forms of oppression.

Emilie M. Townes is Professor of Religion and Black Studies at Boston University School of Theology.



OutoftheBox Storytelling Retreat

12th February - 14th February
6pm Fri to 2pm Sun
£380 Residential

A weekend of OutoftheBox stories and play, creating space for deeper reflection and dialogue.

Judy is an OutoftheBox Mentor bringing playful storytelling to both adults and children in Sussex.



Gin Church: A Case Study of a Rural Fresh Expression

15th February
7.30pm to 9pm
£20 online

Reflections on original research into the impact of an online rural fresh expression on sustainable church growth and personal discipleship.

Jo Neary is Tutor in Rural Ministry and Mission at Sarum College alongside her part-time post as team vicar and pioneer priest in the Beaminster Area Team.

> The teaching style (in particular the lack of PowerPoint) made it engaging and fun. The way that the screen was used and the asking of questions around it was inspired. Brilliant use of technology.



PG Module: Contemporary Spirituality in Historical Perspective

15th February - 18th February
2pm Mon to 2.30pm Thurs
£822 Residential
£618 Non-residential

What is a distinctively Christian spirituality in the age of the 'spiritual but not religious' where people have access to a global marketplace of spiritual practices, ideas and traditions?

Michael Hahn, Programme Leader for Postgraduate Programmes in Christian Spirituality at Sarum College, welcomes field-leading guest tutors.



Preaching on the Old Testament

23rd February
10am to 4pm
£70 onsite

Explore the joys and challenges of preaching on the Old Testament, in all its variety and complexity.

Ann Conway-Jones combines academic biblical expertise with preaching and teaching experience.

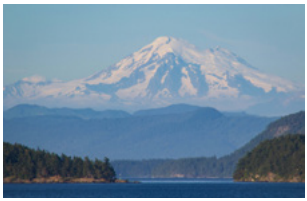


In Person Taster Session for Postgraduate Programmes in Christian Spirituality

23rd February
10am to 1pm
Free onsite

Join us in person at Sarum College to find out about what and how we offer postgraduate certificate, diploma and MA qualifications in Christian Spirituality. Please join us for lunch following this session.

"I was most struck by the need to surrender self to Christ and to really reflect on myself. I loved the attention to the relational aspect and the action of what to do with my relationships in my community.



The Mystical World of Annie Dillard

25th February
1pm to 4pm
£45 online

Annie Dillard is a Pulitzer-Prize-winning writer who focuses on nature. Is she also a mystic?

Trish Zimmerman is an expert on nature mysticism. Kevin Hughes is a historian of Christian mysticism.



When Welcome Isn't Enough: Rethinking Inclusion in Churches

3rd March
10am to 4pm
£70 onsite

Practical tools for cultivating churches that are serious about radical hospitality.

Nitano Muller is a priest, liturgist and advocate for radical hospitality and justice.

Join our library!

A tranquil study space with more than 50,000 books on theology, Bible studies, mission, church history, ethics, leadership, cultural studies & literature.



Come and See… An Introduction to Further Study in Theology, Ministry and Mission

3rd March
1pm to 2pm
Free online

This is a free online introductory session for enquirers in postgraduate studies in Theology, Ministry and Mission held at Sarum College.



Spirituality and Transformation

3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th March
7:30pm to 9pm
£75 online

This short course explores how relationship with God transforms us, drawing on Ignatius Loyola's *Spiritual Exercises* and Teresa of Avila's *Interior Castle*, with reflection and discussion between sessions.

Gillian T. W. Ahlgren is a specialist in the Christian mystical tradition, with decades of experience teaching Ignatian and Teresian spirituality.

Study and stay!

Book any onsite course with us and we'll send you a discount code for booking one night's B&B at a reduced rate exclusively available to people learning with us.



Faith in Action: Living out the Gospel of Justice

11th March
10am to 4pm
£70 onsite

Explore, through conversation, reflection and practical action, how we seek justice today.

Rachel Lampard and Hannah Fremont-Brown work for the Methodist Church in Britain supporting work in social justice and social action.



Painting a Traditional Icon

16th - 17th March
6pm Tues to 6pm Weds
£215 Residential

Come and paint a Mother of God icon in the traditional Byzantine style.

Jackie Hunt is an artist and iconographer. She has taught icon painting for over 10 years.



Theology Catch-Up: An Emptiness at the Heart of God? What Kenosis means for Discipleship

25th March
12pm to 2pm
£25 online

This Lent, we'll explore Christ's self-emptying and ask what it means for faith today, where it helps, and where it can be challenging.

Elizabeth Dodd is Programme Leader for Postgraduate Programmes in Theology, Ministry and Mission and Lecturer in Christian Doctrine at Sarum College.

"I will take away the ability to doodle or draw to express my faith. I will also take away the calming effect of art and its ability to centre oneself by concentrating on an absorbing activity.



PG Module: Embodied Christian Spirituality

5th April - 8th April
2pm Mon to 2.30pm Thurs
£822 Residential
£618 Non-residential

"Christian spirituality is not a freedom from the body, but a freedom within the body." (Prof Dennis Hollinger) How do specific experiences of embodiment impact the ways people experience and live out a Christian spirituality, for example, Black, queer and disability perspectives?

Anna Bishop, Ministry Tutor at Sarum College, welcomes field-leading guest tutors.



The Samaritan Woman at the Well

6th April
10am to 4pm
£55 onsite

A quiet day reflecting on the Retreat Association Icon of Jesus and the Samaritan Woman at the Well.

Alison MacTier is Executive Director of the Retreat Association, retreat leader and spiritual director.



Worshipping with Dementia

7th April
7.30pm to 9pm
£20 online

Explore what it means to lead worship that embraces people living with and alongside dementia and gain theological and practical insights on ensuring church is inclusive of people with dementia.

Sophie Duncan is a curate who seeks to support churches to walk alongside people living with dementia. Her MA explored what it means to worship together with people living with dementia in care contexts.

"The whole event was a masterclass in how to give brilliant presentations. It will be a benchmark of excellence by which I will judge other learning experiences and to which I will aspire.



Troubling Texts: Exploring Violence in the Bible

14th April and 21st April
10am to 1pm
£70 online

A course over two half-day sessions, covering the meanings, manifestations and impacts of diverse forms of biblical violence.

Johanna Stiebert has expertise in topics of Hebrew Bible, gender, violence and family dynamics.



Miriam at the Margin: Redefining Leadership in the Exodus

14th April
7.30pm to 9pm
£20 online

Discover the remarkable story of Miriam, a prophet and leader whose voice could not be silenced, and explore what her legacy teaches us about recognising, valuing, and empowering women in the Church and wider society.

Louisa Mason is an ordained minister in the Church of England and Chief Operating Officer at Sarum College. She describes herself as an eternal student who loves the Bible, people and spirituality.

Keep in touch!

Sign up for our monthly e-news mailing.



Christian Nationalism in the UK and Beyond

15th April
10am to 4pm
£70 onsite

This course looks at the definition, origin, growth, size, contours, and objectives of Christian nationalism in Britain and beyond, and explores how we should engage with the phenomenon.

Nick Spencer is Senior Fellow at Theos, author of several acclaimed books on science and religion, and host of the Reading Our Times podcast. He is widely recognised for his work exploring the relationship between faith, science, and public life.



God in the Musicals

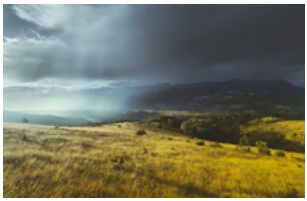
20th April
10am to 4pm
£70 onsite

Come raise the curtain and explore the theology packed into the world of Musical Theatre!

Paul Wood is a Minister, Theatre Chaplain, Musical Director, Stage Manager with a passion for Musical Theatre and God.

Called to the ministry of Spiritual Direction?

Explore options for training and formation at Sarum College.

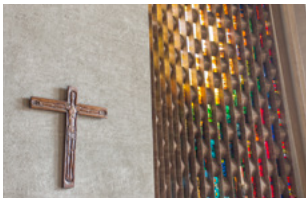


Beyond the Dark Night: Mining Christian Spirituality for Trauma-Informed Support and Accompaniment.

23rd April - 25th April
6pm Fri to 2pm Sun
£380 Residential

A workshop for pastors, social workers, and professionals working in areas where trauma-informed care is necessary. We will integrate trauma wisdom from the worlds of psychology and social work with insights and practices from visionary Christian spiritual leaders.

Gillian T. W. Ahlgren is recognised internationally for her work in the Christian mystical tradition.



The Problem of Reconciliation and the Possibilities of Art

28th April
10am to 4pm
£70 onsite

This short course will introduce the concept of reconciliation and its challenges, before exploring the power of art in working for justice and peace.

Kate Massey is Canon for Arts and Reconciliation at Coventry Cathedral.



PG Module: Advanced Study of a Theological Text

10th May - 13th May
2pm Mon to 2.30pm Thurs
£822 Residential
£618 Non-residential

Come to Sarum College for a week of deep exploration of the work of Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist, poet and essayist, Annie Dillard. We will explore Dillard's work through a range of theological and spiritual angles, looking at her work on nature, sin and mysticism.

Jayme Reaves, Lecturer in Biblical Studies and Theology at Sarum College, welcomes field-leading guest tutors.

"My feedback in numbers cannot convey the excellence of this talk. The way it was delivered with such depth of knowledge and real enthusiasm drawing in the audience was one of the best lectures and lecturers I have heard.



Come and See… An Introduction to Further Study in Theology, Ministry and Mission

13th May
1pm to 2pm
Free online

This is a free online introductory session for enquirers in postgraduate studies in Theology, Ministry and Mission held at Sarum College.



Theology Catch-Up: The Trinity - God's Mission for the World

18th May
12pm to 2pm
£25 online

Is the Trinity an abstract afterthought or a core teaching for Christian faith and practice? As Trinity Sunday approaches, come and reflect together on how the Trinity and Christian mission are closely intertwined.

Elizabeth Dodd is Lecturer in Christian Doctrine at Sarum College, and Programme Leader for Postgraduate Programmes in Theology, Ministry and Mission.



Online Taster Session for Postgraduate Programmes in Christian Spirituality

18th May
7pm to 8pm
Free online

Join us to find out what and how we offer for postgraduate certificate, diploma and MA qualifications in Christian Spirituality. Gather all the information you need prior to application.

"I found the concepts of understanding Holy Scriptures as descriptive or prescriptive really valuable. This has given me new language when engaged in conversations with people from very different backgrounds/thinking.



Making the most of Daily Prayer

20th May
10am to 4pm
£70 onsite

A day exploring how we can keep the Church's Daily Prayer fresh, and allow it to form and shape us.

Tom Clammer OC is a theological educator, Spiritual Director and huge advocate of the daily Office.



Liberation Spiritualities: Sustaining Activism

26th May
2pm to 4pm
£70 onsite and online

Workshops exploring connections between liberation theologies and spirituality. What keeps us going?

Anthony Reddie is Professor of Black Theology in the University of Oxford.

"Good space" for retreat and renewal

Book a personalised stay in the beautiful Cathedral Close in the 'City in the Countryside'.



Rural Parishes' Reflection and Learning Day for Lay and Ordained Ministers

10th June
10am to 4pm
£70 onsite

A day of learning and discussion for rural practitioners including Bible study, theological reflection and sharing research about effective oversight leadership in rural multi parish teams.

Jo Neary is Rural Tutor for Ministry and Mission at Sarum College and pioneer priest in the Beaminster Area Team.



Finding Faith in Jane Austen Retreat

11th - 13th June
6pm Fri to 2pm Sun
£380 Residential

This retreat invites participants to explore the faith, hope and love found in Jane Austen's novels.

Rachel Mann's many books include, *A Truth Universally Acknowledged: 40 Days with Jane Austen.*

Sarum College
CATHEDRAL CLOSE, SALISBURY

Sarum College, 19 The Close, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 2EE
sarum.ac.uk | courses@sarum.ac.uk | 01722 424800

©2026 Sarum College | Registered Charity No. 1161253 | Company No. 9510356
Sarum College's trading subsidiary is Sarum College Services Ltd, Company No. 1931038

/sarumcollege
/sarumcollege
/sarum-college