



2018-2019 – Fifty Fifth Year FALL & WINTER COURSES

Mondays at 7:30pm

Fall Term: 17 September – 26 November

Winter Term: 7 January – 18 March

(No classes on Thanksgiving or Family Day)

Classes are held at Dominican University College,
96 Empress Ave, Ottawa, ON K1R 7G3

OC Transpo bus #11 has a nearby stop;
many buses and the Transitway are a 5 min walk.
Ample parking is available, either paid or free.
OSTS is wheelchair accessible.

For further information:

Website: <http://osts.ca>

Overview: http://osts.ca/pdfs/General_OSTS.pdf

Registration: <http://osts.ca/registration.htm>

Peter Holt, President: 613-619-5143

email: osts.president@gmail.com

Dean of the School, 2018-2019:

Rev Canon Allan Budzin

Please don't be shy: bring a friend or even two!

The OSTS was founded in 1964 to provide theological formation for lay Christians. Today, seekers of all faiths are welcome and warmly invited to attend the courses. The School's non-denominational, ecumenical, and inter-faith approach helps its students to appreciate the meaning of faith and spirituality in their lives. It is currently sponsored by the United, Anglican, Presbyterian and Roman Catholic churches of Ottawa.

Each year the school offers a rich selection of six courses each term, three in the first hour and three in the second hour. Students are invited to attend one course in each time slot, or a total of four courses over the year. A 20 minute break between courses provides an opportunity for refreshments and socializing.

The School operates on a non-profit basis, so fees are intentionally kept at the minimum possible level: \$75 for a single term (\$25 for post-secondary students) or \$140 for both terms. Complete registration details are available online at: <http://osts.ca/registration.htm>

A Message from the President

Welcome to the Ottawa School of Theology and Spirituality for the 2018 – 2019 Academic Year! We are very fortunate to have a wealth of inspiring lecturers, such as Rabbi Dr. Reuven Bulka, Dr. Robert Sibley, Rev. Dr. Tom Sherwood, Pastor Martin Malina and Coptic Fr Shenouda Boutros, to help us open our eyes to the amazing richness of spiritual and religious practice with which we are blessed here in Ottawa. Please come join us on September 17th for another lively and interesting year's journey in faith and spirituality.

- Peter Holt

Aims and Objectives of the Ottawa School of Theology & Spirituality

1. To develop theologically and spiritually alert laity who are informed about what the Christian Church has believed and taught throughout the ages and is teaching at the present.
2. To work out carefully the meaning of faith and spirituality in our lives and for our times.
3. To aid and encourage dialogue with members of different faiths

Registration

Online registration is strongly encouraged:
<http://osts.ca/registration.htm> Cheques can be sent to (please don't send cash by mail):

Ottawa School of Theology & Spirituality
c/o Dominican University College
96 Empress Ave
Ottawa, ON K1R 7G3

The fee is \$75/term for two courses, or \$140 for both terms if paid at the start of the fall term; \$25/term with a valid student card. Registration & payment may also be done in person, starting at 7pm on the first day of term.

Certificates

Upon completing 12 courses (i.e. equivalent to three years of study), students are awarded a Certificate during the end-of-term closing ceremony. OSTS takes care of tracking the progress of each student towards a certificate.

Note: Courses are intended for students with a sincere, self-motivated interest in study, so there are no tests, exams, or homework assignments given by the lecturers.

FALL 2018 Courses – Mondays: September 17-November 26

First Hour 7:30-8:20pm

A. Understanding the Stories in Genesis
Rabbi Dr. Reuven P. Bulka C.M.

The second half of Genesis contains some perplexing episodes. The apparent clash between Isaac and Rebecca, the volatile relationship between Jacob and Esau, between Jacob and Laban, the disconnect between Laban and his daughters, and the protracted clash of Joseph and his brothers will be analyzed through careful study of the Biblical text.

B. Revelation across Religions
Fr. Louis Roy O.P.

We shall examine the main characteristics of various world religions: Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Islam and Christianity with as much objectivity and respect as possible. Participants will be invited to identify and discuss each religion's advantages and drawbacks, especially from the perspective of faith and revelation.

C. New Ways of Ministry with SBNR Young Adults
Rev. Dr. Tom Sherwood

Tom's book, *Listening to The Echo*, quotes 100's of thoughtful, spiritual, ethical young adults and why they reject their families' religious institutions. The "Echo Generation" don't echo their parents' opinions or values, but express a new spirituality. We look at ministries that are connecting with them, and include guest appearances by leaders in such ministries.

Second Hour 8:40-9:30pm

D. Liberating Words from the Mountain Top: The 10 Commandments & Beatitudes
Rev. Kevin Flynn

Are these teachings, rules, and attitudes to be held as aspects of character that are moral imperatives, conditions for Christian living, or aspirations to be lived into? The course will explore how these teachings may be understood and experienced for personal and social freedom.

E. Coptic Orthodox Christianity
Fr. Shenouda Boutros

This course provides a comprehensive overview and understanding of the Coptic Church from its origins in Alexandria to its modern day global presence. We look at the founding biblical figures, history, culture, liturgy, sacraments, saints and martyrs, monastic elements, and current clerical leaders. Come learn how our Church continues to connect with the world.

F. Learning New Ways to Pray: Tracking the Trajectory of (the) Reformation
Pr. Martin Malina

During the 500th anniversary year of Reformation in 2017, the church recognized that the 16th century Reformation left a legacy of division, conflict and competition. Recently Protestants and Catholics have committed to pray more for the healing of old wounds. Participants will explore the roles of doctrine and restorative justice in pursuing greater unity.

WINTER 2019 Courses – Mondays: January 7-March 18

First Hour 7:30-8:20pm

G. An Introduction to the Evolution of Christian Church Architecture
Dr. Vicki Bennett

This course goes beyond a simple history of architecture to include a fascinating glance into the complex world social, cultural, and political factors influencing the structure and style of churches across almost two millennia. Participants explore how the codification of liturgy and changing attitudes towards the status of church and state shaped Christian worship spaces.

H. World Christianity
Catherine E. Clifford, STL, PhD

This course explores changes in the face of the Christian movement in the past century, including the expansion of Christian communities in the global south, the rise of Evangelical and Pentecostal movements, and the indigenization of Christianity in post-colonial contexts. What are possible consequences for the future of the Church globally?

I. Crisis? What Crisis?
Robert Sibley, PhD

The West is undergoing a spiritual crisis: attacks on its traditions of freedom, rights, and the sanctity of human consciousness are fostering political instability, social discontent, and psychological anxiety. Drawing on political philosophy, we consider various "morbid symptoms" – cultural Marxism, political correctness, identity politics, etc. - to explain why this is.

Second Hour 8:40-9:30pm

J. Studio Course in Christian Art
Rev. Doug Valerio

A visual exploration of faith: we study selected artworks in their historical, theological, and social contexts (~25 mins) to provide ideas & inspiration for participants' work on their own piece of Christian art. On the last day, we'll exhibit the artworks with a brief write-up. No experience required, just a willingness to have fun & try something new. See website for details.

K. Journeys to Justice: Reflections on Canadian Christian Activism
Joe Gunn

What have we learned as people of faith who stopped the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline, ended apartheid, sponsored refugees, or called for an end to poverty? Such examples of tireless labouring for social change can - and should be - models for our own quest for public justice. We examine 10 case studies and discuss current justice efforts among faith communities.

L. You've Got Mail: A study in Revelation
Rev. Stanley Hanna

"Write in a book everything you see, and send it to the seven churches in the cities of Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea." (Rev. 1:11) And the letters arrived at each of these churches with an attachment - the "apocalypse" (revelation) of John's vision from God! Do you know the end from the beginning?