

## July 2014 eNewsletter

### News

#### Wilmette Institute Faculty Member Wendi Momen Honored with an MBE

Faculty member Wendi Momen is listed on Queen Elizabeth's birthday honors list for 2014 as a Member of the British Empire.

[Click here to continue>>](#)



#### Call for Papers for October 'Irfan Colloquium at Louhelen Baha'i School

The 'Irfan Colloquia has announced the topic for papers for its October conference.

[Click here to continue>>](#)



#### Your Chance to Participate in a Survey on Science, Religion, and the Media

Take twenty minutes to add your two cents to informational content on science and religion issues.

[Click here to continue>>](#)



#### Saw an Opening, Walked Through, Started a Baha'i Roundtable in a Bookstore

In the Wilmette Institute course on the Kitab-i-Aqdas a Baha'i from Virginia gained the confidence to start a Baha'i discussion/prayer session in a bookstore.

[Click here to continue>>](#)

#### Save These Dates!

An updated list of 2014 calls for papers, academic conferences, and webinars.

[Click here to continue>>](#)

### Social Media

Wilmette Institute Facebook and  
Twitter Discounts

## July - September 2014 Courses

A new course offering a perspective on consultation

### Dynamic Consultation: Nine Keys to Unity

Lead Faculty: [Trip Barthele](#)

Duration of course: Seven weeks (July 1 - August 18, 2014)



**Dynamic Consultation: Nine Keys to Unity** brings together the principles of Baha'i consultation with the practices of mediation and facilitation. It is designed to promote unity and action in the community through teaching the art and science of consultation in very practical skill-based exercises.

These skills can be applied at Feasts, in Spiritual Assembly and committee meetings, in reflection gatherings, as well as in family or work settings. The course is based on a textbook that must be obtained by the learner. It is available at

[http://www.9facets.org/9f/Dynamic\\_Consultation.html](http://www.9facets.org/9f/Dynamic_Consultation.html).

[Course Description](#) [Fees](#) [Course Schedule](#) [Register](#) [Financial Aid](#)

A newly redesigned and refocused course on a  
number of Baha'u'llah's weighty works

### Tablets of Baha'u'llah Revealed after the Kitab-i- Aqdas

Follow the Wilmette Institute on Facebook and Twitter! Doing so could get you a discount on your next Wilmette Institute course. We are offering discount codes for 10 or even 20 percent for selected courses via those two social media.

Like us on Facebook 

Follow us on  twitter

Find us on  Google+

## Other Useful Links

[Association for Baha'i Studies, North America](#)  
[Baha'i Chair for World Peace](#)  
[Baha'i Distribution Service](#)  
[Baha'i International Community](#)  
[Bosch Baha'i School](#)  
[Green Acre Baha'i School](#)  
[Institute for Studies in Global Civilization](#)  
[Irfan Colloquium](#)  
[Louis G. Gregory Museum](#)  
[Louhelen Baha'i School](#)

## Mark Your Calendar

**October 1 - November 18, 2014**  
[The Writings of the Bab](#)

**October 10 - November 28, 2014**  
[The Promised Day Is Come](#)

**October 16 - December 1, 2014**  
[Communicating and Consulting as a Couple: Strengthening Your Marriage](#)

**October 21 - November 9, 2014**  
[The Equality of Women and Men: Application in Private and Public Life](#)

**November 1 - December 19, 2014**  
[The Tabernacle of Unity](#)

**November 10 - December 28, 2014**  
[Preparing for Interfaith Dialogue](#)

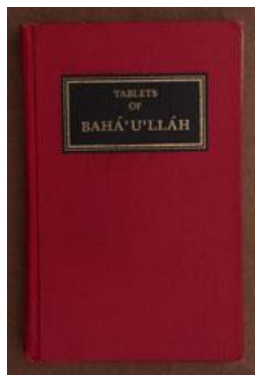
## December 2014 - December 2015 Course Schedule

Below is the Wilmette Institute's course schedule for December 2014 through

## One in a series of courses on the revelation of Baha'u'llah

**Lead Faculty:** [Christopher Buck](#)

**Duration of course:** Eleven weeks (July 10 - September 25, 2014)



After revealing the Kitab-i-Aqdas in 1873-74, Baha'u'llah penned a series of tablets that include the Lawh-i-Aqdas, the Book of the Covenant, and the Tablet of Carmel. The tablets revealed after the Kitab-i-Aqdas elaborate on Baha'u'llah's laws, further explore the nature of the mystical life, describe basic theological teachings, and expound the principles necessary for transforming human society. The bulk of these weighty epistles were published in 1978 in *Tablets of Baha'u'llah Revealed after the Kitab-i-Aqdas*. In this course we will read and study these tablets and discuss

their relationship to other works by Baha'u'llah and `Abdu'l-Baha.

[Course Description](#) [Fees](#) [Course Schedule](#) [Register](#) [Financial Aid](#)

## Explore the nature of religion with preeminent Baha'i historians

## Understanding Religion: Social and Historical Aspects

The second in a new series of courses examining some aspects of all religions

**Lead Faculty:** [Moojan Momen](#)  
**Faculty:** [Susan Maneck](#)

**Duration of course:** Seven Weeks (July 20 - September 7, 2014)



**Understanding Religion** attempts to distill some of the knowledge about the social and historical aspects of religion that has accumulated through the study of religion during the past 200 years. We will study the following subjects: comparative religious history; the foundations and evolution of religious ethics; the phenomenon of liberalism and fundamentalism; the differences between official religion and popular religion; religion, power, and government; religion and gender; religion and art; religion in the modern world. You must obtain a copy of Moojan

Momen, *Understanding Religion* (second-hand copies of the book are available on the Internet under the title *The Phenomenon of Religion*).

December 2015. The schedule is still partial and tentative.

December 1, 2014 - January 18, 2015  
'Abdu'l-Baha: His Life and Ministry

December 10, 2014 - January 27, 2015  
Baha'i Faith and Philosophy

December 15, 2014 - February 2, 2015  
Introduction to Shaykhism

January 7 - February 24, 2015  
Studying the Baha'i Writings

January 15 - March 4, 2015  
Building Unity Toward Marriage: Preparing for Marriage

January 20 - March 16, 2015  
Epistle to the Son of the Wolf

February 1 - March 21, 2015  
Exploring the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament

February 10 - March 30, 2015  
Chinese Religions for Deepening and Dialogue

February 15 - April 4, 2015  
'Abdu'l-Baha in America

February 20 - April 10, 2015  
The Charters of the Faith

March 1 - April 18, 2015  
The Baha'i Faith and the Arts

March 10 - May 5, 2015  
Climate Change

March 15 - May 2, 2015  
The Mashriqu'l-Adhkar: The First Hundred Years

March 20 - June 15, 2015  
Economics and the Baha'i Faith

April 1 - May 19, 2015  
Creating a Fortress for Well-Being & Salvation: Strengthening Your Marriage

April 10 - June 7, 2015  
Baha'u'llah's Early Mystic Writings

April 15 - June 3, 2015  
Scientific and Artistic Dimensions of Baha'i Spirituality

April 20 - June 12, 2015  
Rediscovering the Dawnbreakers: The Bab and the Babi Religion, 1844-53

May 1 - June 17, 2015

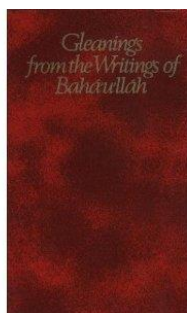
[Course Description](#) [Fees](#) [Course Schedule](#) [Register](#) [Financial Aid](#)

Your chance for an in-depth study of *Gleanings from the Writings of Baha'u'llah*

## [Gleanings from the Writings of Baha'u'llah](#)

**Lead Faculty:** [Peter Terry](#)

**Duration of course:** Thirteen weeks (August 1 - October 31, 2014)



Shoghi Effendi compiled *Gleanings from the Writings of Baha'u'llah* to highlight key Baha'i texts that address theological, apologetic, historical, ethical, and mystical topics. We will examine the range of themes in the book and will correlate them with other passages from the writings of Baha'u'llah that are not included in the compilation as well as with passages from the writings of 'Abdu'l-Baha and the letters of

Shoghi Effendi. Our slow, in-depth study of the complex subject matter is designed to help us, as Shoghi Effendi wished, "gain a mastery" of *Gleanings* and to encourage us "to arise and set the example before the rest of the believers, not only in the field of teaching, but in all the other fields of Baha'i activity as well."

[Course Description](#) [Fees](#) [Course Schedule](#) [Register](#) [Financial Aid](#)

A basic course to help you navigate Baha'i courtship on the way to marriage

## [Becoming a Couple: Preparing for Marriage](#)

Another in a series of courses for individuals and couples preparing for marriage



**Lead Faculty:** [Susanne Alexander](#)  
**Faculty:** [Alex Blakeson](#), [Hoda Kemp](#), [Wendi Momen](#)

**Duration of course:** Seven weeks (August 7 - September 22, 2014)

Have you ever felt a bit baffled about how to navigate through friendship, dating, and courtship on the way to marriage? Have you

Islam for Deepening and Dialogue

May 10 - July 11, 2015  
Religious Myths and Visions of America

May 15 - July 8, 2015  
The Life of Baha'u'llah

May 20 - June 26, 2015  
Judaism for Deepening and Dialogue

June 1 - August 31, 2015  
The Baha'i Faith: A Comprehensive Introduction

June 10 - July 29, 2015  
World Federation

June 15 - August 3, 2015  
To Be Announced

June 20 - August 8, 2015  
Becoming a Couple: Preparing for Marriage

July 1 - August 18, 2015  
Gems of Divine Mysteries and Other Early Tablets by Baha'u'llah

July 10 - September 25, 2015  
Zoroastrianism for Deepening and Dialogue

August 15 - October 2, 2015  
Baha'i History 1863-2015

September 1 - October 19, 2015  
Practicing the Arts

September 7 - October 25, 2015  
Two Peacemakers: Deganawidah and Baha'u'llah

September 15 - November 15, 2015  
Sustainable Development and the Prosperity of Humankind

September 20 - November 1, 2015  
Handling Some Complex Subjects: Strengthening Your Marriage

October 1 - November 18, 2015  
To Be Announced

October 7 - November 24, 2015  
The Leaves of the Twin Holy Trees

October 10 - November 28, 2015  
Introduction to the Kitab-i-Iqan

October 15 - December 9, 2015  
The Advancement of Women

October 20 - December 9, 2015  
Science and Religion

ever had difficulty, considering the current state of our society, in trying to figure out how to apply Baha'i principles to relationships? You are not alone! This short but powerful course will help you with a number of topics: How do you really get to know his/her character? Why is friendship vital as a foundation? What does dating look like when you apply the Baha'i teachings to it? How can a couple apply spiritual principles in courtship and move toward marriage? Learners do not need to be in a relationship to benefit from this course. We encourage couples to register as a group.

[Course Description](#) [Fees](#) [Course Schedule](#) [Register](#) [Financial Aid](#)

**A course that provides professional help for your writing or painting project**

## [Practicing the Arts: A Workshop Course for Baha'i Artists](#)

One in a series of courses on the arts

**Lead Faculty:** [Sandra Hutchison](#)  
**Faculty:** [Marjan Nirou Saniee](#)

**Duration of course:** Seven weeks (September 1- October 19, 2014)



The **Practicing the Arts** workshop is a hands-on, learning-by-doing course that differs significantly in format from most Wilmette Institute courses. It is an advanced course designed for artists who wish to improve their skills in writing (with Sandra Hutchison) or painting with (Marjan Nirou Saniee). After a review of Baha'i

writings about art, learners will work on a specific arts project with the advice and support of their mentor.

[Course Description](#) [Fees](#) [Course Schedule](#) [Register](#) [Financial Aid](#)

**Your biennial chance to learn archival principles with trained archivists**

## [Introduction to Archives for Baha'i Archivists](#)

**Lead Faculty:** [Roger Dahl](#)  
**Faculty:** [Lois Walker](#), [Sue Rishworth](#)

**Duration of course:** Three months (September 10 - December 10, 2014)

November 1 - December 19, 2015  
The Development of the Individual

November 10 - the December 29, 2015  
Exploring the New Testament

November 15, 2015 - January 2, 2016  
Century of Light

December 1, 2015 - January 18, 2016  
The Secret of Divine Civilization

December 10, 2015 - January 27, 2016  
One Common Faith

December 15 - February 2, 2016  
Exploring the Qur'an



Organized by the United States National Baha'i Archives and taught by three Baha'i archivists, this course will introduce local and national Baha'i archivists to principles that will help them to organize and maintain their collections. Registration for the course is open to local and national Baha'i archivists (and to others only by permission of the National Archives). The course will include activities that will require access to

archival materials in a Baha'i archives. Two units will cover basic archival principles; the acquisition, arrangement, and processing of records and personal papers; nonpaper materials; reference services; exhibits; quarters for housing archival materials; and preservation. Another unit will involve your working on an archival project: either a survey of your archives or advanced work on a project of your choosing. A final unit will guide you through a final report and proposal to your Local or National Spiritual Assembly.

[Course Description](#) [Fees](#) [Course Schedule](#) [Register](#) [Financial Aid](#)

**A popular course on climate change returns with a student recommendation:**

"The Climate Change course has turned around my attitudes about the environment in a big way and has made me see that the Baha'i Faith offers a new paradigm needed for a sustainable future."

--Sylvia Aston, Auckland, New Zealand

## Climate Change

One in a series of courses on global civilization

**Lead Faculty:** [Christine Muller](#)

**Faculty:** [Gary Colliver](#), [Arthur Dahl](#), [Carole Flood](#), [Karryn Olson-Ramanujan](#)

**Duration of course:** Nine weeks (September 20 - November 15, 2014)



The **Climate Change** course explores the basic science of climate change and provides an understanding of how climate disruption impacts us today and will continue to affect us in the future. We will explore ethical questions related to climate change and address them in the context of

the spiritual teachings of the world's religions, especially those of the Baha'i Faith. Some readings will help us make enlightened decisions for our personal and community lives that are consistent with our spiritual and ethical values. Finally, we will learn to participate in public discourse by being empowered to

present, from a Baha'i perspective, spiritual responses to the climate crisis to those who are concerned about climate change. For those interested in a more thorough study of climate change and its spiritual dimensions or who are interested in specific aspects of it, the course offers numerous optional resources.

[Course Description](#) [Fees](#) [Course Schedule](#) [Register](#) [Financial Aid](#)

---

## ABOUT US

The Wilmette Institute offers quality online courses on the Baha'i Faith. It is committed to engaging a broad and diverse international community of learners in deep study of the Faith and to fostering love for study of the Faith. The Wilmette Institute was established in January 1995 by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United States.

Information from the eNewsletter may be copied or reproduced, provided that the following credit is given: "Reprinted from the eNewsletter of the Wilmette Institute," followed by the issue's date. Recipients are encouraged to forward the eNewsletter to friends. If you have questions, please email us at [info@wilmetteinstitute.org](mailto:info@wilmetteinstitute.org).

---

Wilmette Institute, 1233 Central Street, Evanston, IL, 60201-2886 USA

Phone 1.877.WILMETTE (1.877.945.6388) - Fax: 1.847.733.3563

Email: [info@wilmetteinstitute.org](mailto:info@wilmetteinstitute.org)

Web: <http://wi.bahai.us>

Moodle: [www.wilmetteinstitute.net](http://www.wilmetteinstitute.net)

© 2014 National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United States

[www.bahai.us](http://www.bahai.us)