

## June 2014 eNewsletter

### News

#### Gallery Art Show Features Wilmette Institute Faculty Member Marjan Nirou Saniee



Read about artist Marjan Nirou Saniee, a faculty member in two Wilmette Institute courses on the arts, and view her paintings now being exhibited in Santa Monica, California.

[Click here to continue>>](#)

#### An Interview with Hooper C. Dunbar: A Final Project in the Wilmette Institute Course The Baha'i Faith and the Arts

Nancy Lee Harper, a student in **The Baha'i Faith and the Arts** course, shares her final art project, "Art and the Creative Process: An Interview with Hooper C. Dunbar," illustrated with photographs of a number of Dunbar's paintings.



[Click here to continue>>](#)

#### Wilmette Institute Course on Marriage Helps a Couple Refocus Their Marriage

Follow a couple's comments as they reconsider aspects of their marriage and decide on lines of action to improve their relationship and to find better ways to serve.

[Click here to continue>>](#)

#### "Nature--A Baha'i Perspective," an Essay by a Student in the Climate Change Course

Read a short paper written by Lawrence Staudt as his final project reflecting what he learned in the Wilmette Institute's **Climate Change** course taught by Christine Muller.

[Click here to continue>>](#)

#### Two New Books on the Covenant and the Bab: Must Haves for Your Library

Check out *Steadfastness in the Covenant* by Abdu'l-Missagh Ghadirian and *A Most Noble Pattern: Collected Essays on the Writings of the Bab, 'Ali Muhammad Shirazi (1810-1850)* by Todd Lawson and Omid

## June - August 2014 Courses

Join a survey of the ocean of Baha'u'llah's writings

### [Baha'u'llah's Revelation: A Systematic Survey](#)

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

Lead Faculty: [Necati Alkan](#)

Faculty: [Ed DiLiberto](#)

**Duration of course:** Three Months (June 1 - August 31, 2014)



In this three-month course entitled **Baha'u'llah's Revelation** we will undertake a systematic introduction to twenty of Baha'u'llah's most important works, ranging from The Hidden Words to Epistle to the Son of the Wolf and the obligatory prayers. We will study themes in the works, topics that Baha'u'llah progressively revealed during His ministry, and related tablets wherever possible. The course is designed for learners seeking basic information about the writings of Baha'u'llah, new Baha'is wishing more context about Baha'u'llah's most important works, and veteran Baha'is seeking a deeper understanding of the ocean of Baha'u'llah's revelation. . . .

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

Revisit Shoghi Effendi's classic guidance about the spiritual requisites for success in all Baha'i undertakings

### [The Advent of Divine Justice](#)

Another in a series of courses on the writings of Shoghi Effendi

Ghaemmaghami.  
[Click here to continue>>](#)

### Contributions to the Wilmette Institute's Scholarship/Discount Fund Still Welcome

To see how to contribute, go to <http://wi.bahai.us/files/2013/08/Fundraiser-August-2013-electronic.pdf>.

### Save These Dates!

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

[Click here to continue>>](#)

## Social Media

### Facebook and Twitter Discounts

Follow us 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+

## Mark Your Calendar

**September 1 - October 19, 2014**

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

**September 10 - December 10, 2014**

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

**September 20 - November 15, 2014**

[Climate Change](#)

**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**

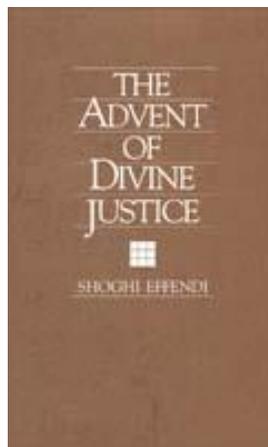
[The Equality of Women and Men: Application in Private and Public Life](#)

**November - December 2014 Course**

Lead Faculty: [Betty J. Fisher](#)

Faculty: [Helen Wilson](#)

**Duration of course:** Six weeks (June 10 - July 28, 2014)



Shoghi Effendi *The Advent of Divine Justice* in 1938, setting out guidance for the Baha'is in the United States and Canada for the systematic execution of the teaching responsibilities given to them by 'Abdu'l-Baha in His Tablets of the Divine Plan. We will examine the background of the composition of *The Advent of Divine Justice* and survey the North American Baha'i community in 1938. Then we will examine Shoghi Effendi's call for the acquisition of virtues essential for success in teaching (looking also at the Universal House of Justice's reiteration of the importance of these virtues in expansion and consolidation) and also guidance on teaching and pioneering. We will conclude with a review of the assurances of the community's success in the unfolding of 'Abdu'l-Baha's Tablets of the Divine Plan and of Shoghi Effendi's looking ahead to a "still more superb mission" that lay before the Baha'is and the vision of America's "unspeakably glorious destiny." For all Baha'is, the

principles and methods set forth in *The Advent of Divine Justice* provide "invaluable inspiration and guidance" and prepare them "to better appreciate the privileges, and more adequately discharge the responsibilities, of their citizenship in the World Order of Baha'u'llah." The emphasis, in the December 28, 2010, letter (and other letters) from the Universal House of Justice, on the cluster of virtues about which Shoghi Effendi wrote in *The Advent of Divine Justice* makes a careful study of the letter very timely.

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

Be inspired by the monumental accomplishments of the Guardian of the Baha'i Faith

## The Ministry of Shoghi Effendi

One in a series of courses on the life and writings of Shoghi Effendi

Lead Faculty: [Duane Troxel](#)

Faculty: [Barney Leith](#)

**Duration of course:** Seven Weeks (June 20 - August 7, 2014)



In **The Ministry of Shoghi Effendi** we will look briefly at Shoghi Effendi's childhood and youth (1897-1921) and more extensively at his ministry as Guardian of the Baha'i Faith (1921-57). We will consider the many roles Shoghi Effendi filled (builder, interpreter, author, and translator) as he carried out his duties as Guardian in fostering the growth and development of the Baha'i Faith. He devoted much of his ministry to building the administrative order outlined by Baha'u'llah and elaborated by 'Abdu'l-Baha in His Will and Testament and to using it as an instrument for fostering the international spread of the Baha'i Faith called for by 'Abdu'l-Baha in His Tablets of the Divine Plan. Shoghi Effendi also worked tirelessly to extend and beautify the properties of the Baha'i World Center in Haifa and Acre,

to erect the facade of the Shrine of the Bab, and to prepare a physical home for the center of the administrative order. . . .

## Schedule

Below is the Wilmette Institute's course schedule, November through December 2014. The schedule is still partial and tentative.

November 1, 2014  
Tabernacle of Unity

November 10, 2014  
Preparing for Interfaith Dialogue

November 20, 2014  
Marriage and Family Life

December 1, 2014  
`Abdu'l-Baha: His Life and Ministry

December 15, 2014  
Introduction to Shaykhism

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

A new course offering a perspective on consultation

## [Dynamic Consultation: Nine Keys to Unity](#)

Lead Faculty: [Trip Barthelemy](#)

**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](#)

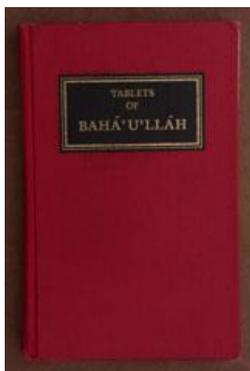
Your chance to study the weighty works Baha'u'llah penned after His Book of Laws

## [Tablets of Baha'u'llah Revealed after the Kitab-i-Aqdas](#)

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](#)

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

## [Understanding Religion: Social and Historical Aspects](#)

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*).

[Course Description](#) [Fees](#) [Course](#)

[Schedule](#) [Register](#) [Financial Aid](#)

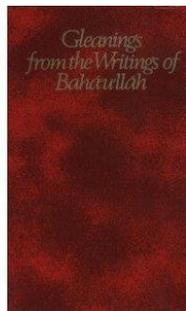
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Your chance for an in-depth study of *Gleanings from the Writings of Baha'u'llah*

## [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. Because of the complexity of the subject matter, the course will be thirteen weeks long, for we cannot rush through this material. Our slow, in-depth study 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](#)

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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 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?

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

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## 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.

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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)

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