



# April 2016 eNewsletter

Your Monthly Source for Upcoming Courses, Webinars, News, Web Talks, Actions Learners Are Taking, and Dates for Upcoming Talks and Conferences



## LETTER FROM THE UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE

### Two Letters from the Supreme Institution Mark the One Hundredth Anniversary of 'Abdu'l-Baha's Charter for the Teaching Work

One hundred years ago, on March 26, 1916, 'Abdu'l-Baha penned the first of a series of letters to the Baha'is of North America, published under the title of the *Tablets of the Divine Plan* and referred to as the Charter for Teaching. To mark the occasion the Universal House of Justice honored the worldwide Baha'i community with two letters dated March 26, 2016. One is addressed "[To the Baha'is of the World acting under the Mandate of 'Abdu'l-Baha.](#)" The other one is addressed "[To the chosen recipients of 'Abdu'l-Baha's Tablets of the Divine Plan, the Baha'is of the United States and the Baha'is of Canada.](#)"



## Wilmette Institute News

### "I Am the Mystic Fane": The Nature of the Manifestation in the Baha'i Writings--A Web Talk on May 8 by Dr. Steven Phelps

Sign up now for the May 8 Web Talk on the "The Nature of the Manifestation in the Baha'i Writings" explained by Dr. Steven Phelps, using the writings of the Bab. [READ>>](#)



### A Web Talk You Won't Want to Miss: "Six Revolutionary Baha'i Teachings about Gender Equality"

Vasu Mohan's Web Talk on "Six Revolutionary Baha'i Teachings about Gender Equality" is already on the Wilmette Institute's YouTube channel. Whatever you have internalized about the equality of the sexes, you will find



## April - June 2016 Courses

Learn to understand the ideas and feelings of religion

### [Understanding Religion: Conceptual and Experiential Aspects](#)

A course in a series on religion, philosophy, and theology

Lead Faculty: [Moojan Momen](#)  
Faculty: [Susan Maneck](#), [Peter Smith](#)

Duration of course: Seven weeks (April 1 - May 19, 2016)



### Understanding Religion: Conceptual and Experiential Aspects

attempts to distill some of the knowledge about religion that has accumulated through the study of religion during the past two hundred years. We will look at the definitions of religion that have been offered; probe the various attempts to describe the religious experience; examine the pathway to salvation or liberation that different religious groups have offered; seek to gain an understanding of such concepts as faith, belief, and the phenomenon of conversion as well as subjects such as suffering, sacrifice, and salvation; strive to gain an overview of the metaphysical explanations of reality offered in diverse religions; and examine the promise of a future savior that is common to many religions. Finally,

will explore the topics of archetype, myth, and the sacred that lie behind much religious and nonreligious thinking. . . .

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

Learn how to share the Baha'i perspective with Christians effectively and respectfully

### [Christianity for Deepening and](#)

new understandings in this talk. You do not want to miss this one. [READ>>](#)

### Planning Ahead for Wilmette Institute Web Talks, Including a New One for September

Update your daily planner with dates for upcoming Web Talks, and sign up for them now. Topics include the Manifestation of God (May), consultation (June), the return-of-Joseph story (September), Baha'i law (October), and the Hand of the Cause of God Mr. Zikrullah Khadem and the ministry of the custodians (November). To sign up for the Web Talks, [READ>>](#)

### Use Web Talks for Fascinating Firesides and Deepenings

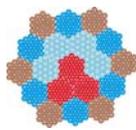
Are you looking for a topic (and a speaker) for a fireside or deepening? Are you looking for something for your own personal deepening? Why not choose a Wilmette Institute Web Talk and study the topic? The Web Talks are on the Institute's YouTube channel and are available for watching at any time. For a list and links, [READ>>](#)

### Update on Amazing Fund-Raising Success

A big thank you to everyone who has helped the Wilmette Institute surpass its fund-raising goal for 2015-16, making it possible to provide scholarships for more students worldwide and to fund new initiatives. When the Wilmette Institute Board set \$45,000 for its fund-raising goal, it seemed like a stretch. But automatic, ear-marked contributions and the generosity of the Institute's supporters brought the contributions to \$1,500 shy of the goal in February. By mid-March the Institute passed its goal, reaching \$46,870 (\$30,915 for the scholarship fund and \$15,955 for general operations). [Click here to contribute.](#)

### A New PowerPoint Shows the Badi' Calendar as Circles

What would a calendar made from circles look like? We are all familiar with rectangular calendars. Here is your chance to truly step outside the box and see where circles lead you. [READ>>](#)



## Learners in Action

### One Common Faith 2015 Course Gives Learner New Understandings of Materialism, Progressive Social Teachings, and Unity of Religion

A course on the short (56 pages) *One Common Faith*, a document commissioned by the Universal House of Justice as a follow-up to its April 2002 open letter to the world's religious leaders, gives a learner from Illinois an understanding of why some interested in spiritual matters react as they do. She also has come to understand the progressive nature of social teachings over millennia and the profound nature of the oneness of religion. [READ>>](#)



## Dialogue

A course in a series on an integrated approach to world religions

Lead Faculty: [Ted Brownstein](#)

Duration of course: Seven weeks (April 7 - May 25, 2016)



In **Christianity for Deepening and Dialogue** we will explore major themes that form part of Christian belief and compare them with the Baha'i Faith: conceptions of God and the trinity; Christian rites, the Eucharist, and baptism; the kingdom of God; faith in miracles; the Crucifixion; and the Resurrection. We will begin with an introduction to the Bible and its organization and will cover politics and religion. Using Baha'i, Islamic, and academic perspectives, we will examine the themes in Gospels' original context and then explore them in their modern forms. We will be studying Christianity for the purposes of deepening dialogue--that is, for understanding the basics of Christianity as a divinely revealed religion and for learning how to share the Baha'i perspective with a variety of Christians in an informed and respectful manner.

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

### Study Baha'u'llah's laws destined to last for one thousand years

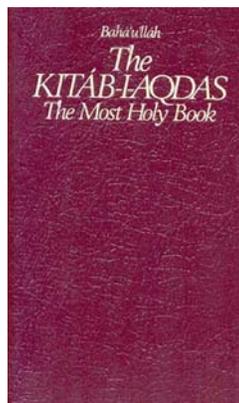
## Introduction to the Kitab-i-Aqdas

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

Lead Faculty: [Christopher Buck](#)

Faculty: [Necati Alkan](#)

Duration of course: Seven weeks (April 22 - June 7, 2016)



About the Kitab-i-Aqdas, Shoghi Effendi has written that "may well be regarded as the brightest emanation of the mind of Baha'u'llah, as the Mother Book of His Dispensation, and the Charter of His New World Order further refers to the Kitab-i-Aqdas as "the principal repository of that Law which the Prophet Isaiah had anticipated, and which the writer of the Apocalypse has described as the 'new heaven' and the 'new earth,' as 'Tabernacle of God,' as the 'Holy City,' as the 'Bride,' of 'New Jerusalem coming down from God,' this 'Most Holy Book,' whose provisions must remain inviolate for no less than a thousand years, and whose system will embrace the entire planet. . . ." We will read the Kitab-i-Aqdas and supplemental texts related to it, while studying several of its main themes: covenant, succession, and manifestation of Baha'i institutions, including the rulers and the learners: the Universal House of Justice, Houses of Worship, Feasts, Holy Days, and the Baha'i calendar; the nature and purpose of Baha'u'llah's laws; Baha'u'llah's ordinances; prohibitions and punishments; Baha'u'llah's proclamations to kings, rulers, places, and groups of people; education and transformation; and teaching the Baha'i Faith.

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

## NEW COURSE

Discover ways to make consultation at your Feast more dynamic

## Wilmette Institute Courses Spark Long-Distance Accompaniment



A talk by a Bahá'í in Gainesville, Florida, spurs another Bahá'í in Washington State to take additional actions in the realm of climate change, while the Bahá'í in Washington State prompted yet

another Bahá'í in North Carolina to sign up for the course on **Sustainable Development**. It's called long-distance accompaniment! [READ>>](#)

## Home Visits Provide a Learner a Venue for Discussing Insights into Organically Unfolding Processes

A student from Fresno, California, in the course **From Concealment to Glorious Splendor: The Three Stages of Bahá'u'lláh's**



**Revelation**, learned a great deal about patience and the nature of gradual and organic unfoldment, which enables him to understand more clearly the nature of many aspects of the Bahá'í Faith and to share his learnings in home visits. [READ>>](#)

## A Transformative Spiritual Experience: Studying the Qur'an

A lifelong Bahá'í from Indianapolis, Indiana, began the course **Exploring the Qur'an** admitting that there was still much for her to learn and ended with plans to make a summary of her learnings for her devotional meeting and thanking the Wilmette Institute for a course that "revitalized" her "spiritual life." [READ>>](#)

## News

### Attention American Bahá'ís: Pre-Registration Open for Attending Dedication of the Bahá'í House of Worship, Santiago, Chile

Pre-registration for American Bahá'ís living in the forty-eight contiguous United States opened on March 3. Pre-registering only indicates your wish to attend the dedication; it does not guarantee an invitation. For more information, [READ>>](#)

### ebbf Plans May Conference on Consultation in Milan, Italy

Make plans now to attend ebbf's May conference in Milan, Italy. The learning event promises that you will experience, elevate, and understand consultation. [READ>>](#)

### Video Shows House of Worship in Battambang, Cambodia, Reaching a New Stage

Watch a 2.34 minute [aerial video](#) showing how the local House of Worship under construction in Battambang, Cambodia, has reached a new stage as two hectares (almost five acres) of land are prepared for the Temple platform, auxiliary buildings, and pools around the Temple. Two local Houses of Worship have designs; three more will be built in coming years.

### Do Your Part for the Environment during

and effective

## Feast Consultation

A course in the series on Baha'i teachings on community and administration

Lead Faculty: [Trip Barthel](#)

Faculty: [Shamil Fattakhov](#)

Duration of course: Seven weeks (May 1 - June 18, 2016)



Consultation at Baha'i Feasts should of the opportunity for the full and varied participation of all members of the community, which will lead to greater levels of interest, enhanced social bonding, higher levels of participation, and increased attendance. This **Feast Consultation**

workshop will begin with a study of the underlying principles of consultation and will focus on simple, effective facilitation skills that can be used to make consultation at Baha'i Feasts more engaging and participatory. The workshop will use written material, a webinar, and a video to demonstrate and discuss the steps of consultation for both the chair and the community in six key areas: (1) setting guidelines that promote full participation and address multiple learning styles; (2) creating an efficient, flexible agenda; (3) asking better questions to stimulate thinking; (4) generating ideas in silent meditation; (5) spectrums of interest; (6) reflection to improve consultation. Participants will end the course with an understanding of the underlying principles of consultation and the ability to use a broader set of facilitation tools, thus promoting a more vibrant Feast.

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

## NEW COURSE

Your opportunity for an in-depth study of the new Five Year Plan (2016-21)

## The New Five Year Plan (2016-21) Completing the First Century of the Formative Age

One in a series of courses on Baha'i teachings on community and administration

Lead Faculty: [Niki Daniels](#)

Faculty: [Farzin Aghdasi](#), [Mat Cotton](#), [Sherna Deamer](#), [Joan Lincoln](#)

Duration of course: One month (May 10 - June 10, 2016)



### The New Five Year Plan (2016-21): Completing the First Century of the Formative Age

This course is designed to prepare you for participating in the plan that will bring close the first hundred years of the Formative Age of the Baha'i Faith. We will undertake a slow, careful reading and discussion of the December 29, 2015, message to the Conference of the Continental Boards of Counselors; the January 2, 2016, message to the Baha'is of the World

the Ridvan 2016 message, all from the Universal House of Justice. About the plan, the Universal House of Justice has written: "it is a spiritual enterprise, a true character should never be obscured. . . . All that the followers of Baha'u'llah have learned in the last twenty years must culminate in the accomplishments of the next five." If the course fills, it will be offered again.

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

### Faith Climate Action Week, April 15-24

See how you and your community can participate in Interfaith Power and Light's 2016 Preach-In on global warming in the United States. It coincides with Earth Week, April 15-24, and has been renamed "Faith Climate Action Week." To see how you can add your physical and spiritual present to this special week, read the [letter](#) from the U.S. National Spiritual Assembly and the [resource list](#) attached.

### World Religions' Climate Change Statements at Your Finger Tips

Looking for climate-change statements from a variety of religious traditions? Look no longer. At the [Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology](#) you will find statements on climate change by the following religions: Baha'i, Buddhism, Christianity (Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, Protestant denominations and organizations) Confucianism, Daoism, Hinduism, Indigenous Traditions, Islam, Jainism, Judaism, Shinto, Interfaith, and More Statements from World Religions.

## Web Talks/Webinars on Gender Equality, the Psychotic in Public Life, Education and Social Problems, the Nature of the Manifestations, Creative Consultation, and Baha'i Law

### [The Baha'i Chair for World Peace](#) / Apr. 5

Professor James M. Glass, Department of Government and Politics, University of Maryland, College Park

"The Psychotic in Public Life: Human Nature and the Political Justification of Brutality"

### [The Baha'i Chair for World Peace](#) / Apr. 7

Dr. Daniel Tröhler, University of Luxembourg  
"Why We Believer that Education Solves All Our Social Problems"

### [Association for Baha'i Studies](#) / Apr. 28

Lawrence Miller

"The Path to Spiritual Economy and Spiritual Enterprise"

Not yet open for registration.

### [Wilmette Institute Web Talks](#) / May 8

Stephen Phelps

"I Am the Mystic Fane: The Nature of the Manifestation in the Baha'i Writings"

### [Wilmette Institute Web Talks](#) / June 5

Trip Barthel

"Creative Consultation"

### [Wilmette Institute Web Talks](#) / Oct. 16

Roshan Danesh

"Imagining Baha'i Law"

### [Wilmette Institute Web Talks](#) / Nov. 6

Jena Khodadad

"Hand of the Cause of God Zikrullah Khadem and the Ministry of the Custodians"

Learn how to participate in interfaith dialogue in a learning module to enhance public discourse about the role of religion in society.

## [Preparing for Interfaith Dialogue](#)

One in a series of courses on religion, philosophy, and theology

Lead Faculty: [Barney Leith](#)

Faculty: [Ted Brownstein](#)

Duration of course: Seven weeks (May 15 - July 2, 2016)



At a time when the "world devouring fire" of religious fanaticism is spreading and fundamentalism is rife, and simultaneously, growing numbers of people consider themselves "spiritual but not religious," the need for Bahá'ís to engage in fruitful interfaith dialogue is growing. In **Preparing for Interfaith Dialogue** we will explore how Bahá'ís can participate in dialogue with people of faiths and none, respectfully and in "learning mode"--avoiding what might be called "Bahá'í triumphalism"--that "Souls then advance their understanding together humbly sharing the insights each possesses at a given moment and eagerly seeking to learn from fellow wayfarers on the path of service." Inspired by Bahá'u'lláh's call to "Consort with the followers of all religions in a spirit of friendliness and fellowship," we will draw on Bahá'í and other resources to learn about theoretical and practical aspects of local interfaith dialogue. We will also address the importance of public discourse about the role of religion in society during the new Five Year Plan. We will focus on sharing ideas, insights, and perspectives on interfaith relations as we broaden our understandings and enrich our collective experiences and wisdom.

[Course Description](#)

[Fees](#)

[Course Schedule](#)

[Register](#)

[Financial Aid](#)

Learn more about the writings of the Bab to prepare for the 100th anniversary of His birth

## [The Writings of the Bab](#)

A course exploring the writings of the Bab

Lead Faculty: [Moojan Momen](#)

Faculty: [Steven Phelps](#)

Duration of course: Seven weeks (May 22 - July 9, 2016)



**The Writings of the Bab** is an introduction to the Bab's principal writings. Our study will be both historical and thematic: We will study the Bab's writings in the order in which He revealed them (between 1844 and 1850), and we will also focus on selected themes--the station of the Bab, His major teachings, His announcement about Baha'u'llah (His prophetic successor Whom He referred to as "He Whom God will make manifest"), and the role of the themes played in preparing for the revelation of Baha'u'llah. Among the works we will study are the Commentary on the Surih of Joseph (Qayyumu'l-Asma); the Persian Bayan (Bayan-i-Farsi); the Arabic Bayan (al-Bayan al-'Arabi); the Book of Names (Kitabu'l-Asma'); and the Book of Five Grades (Kitab-i-Panj-Sha'n). There will be an opportunity to read the works of a number of scholars who have studied the writings of the Bab.

## Action Week and Conferences on Climate Action, Peace and World Order, Consultation as a Tool for Learning, the Tablets of the Divine Plan, and Scholarship

[Faith Climate Action Week](#) / Apr. 15-24  
See story in "News" section above.

[ebbf Conference / Milan, Italy](#) / May 12-15  
"Consultation: Beyond Decision-Making: A Tool for Learning"  
See story in "News" section above

['Irfan Colloquia / Santa Cruz, CA](#) / May 26-30  
Celebrating the Centenary of the Tablets of the Divine Plan  
Bosch Baha'i School, English and Persian

['Irfan Colloquia / Acuto, Italy](#) / Jun. 29-July 4  
Celebrating the Centenary of the Tablets of the Divine Plan  
Centre for Baha'i Studies, Persian

['Irfan Colloquia / Acuto, Italy](#) / Jul. 5-8  
Celebrating the Centenary of the Tablets of the Divine Plan  
Centre for Baha'i Studies, English

['Irfan Colloquia / Tambach, Germany](#) / Jul. 21-24  
Celebrating the Centenary of the Tablets of the Divine Plan  
Tambach Baha'i Center, German

[2016 ABS Conference / Montreal, Quebec](#) / Aug. 11-14  
Now open for [registration](#), [printable registration forms](#), and [hotel reservations](#).

['Irfan Colloquia / Davison, Michigan](#) / Oct. 6-9  
Celebrating the Centenary of the Tablets of the Divine Plan  
Louhelen Baha'i School, English and Persian

[Dedication, Mashriqu'l-Adhkar of Chile](#) / Oct. 13-16  
Santiago, Chile

[American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature](#) / Nov. 19-22  
San Antonio, Texas, USA

## Social Media

### Wilmette Institute Facebook and Twitter Discounts

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

[Like us on Facebook](#) 

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

### NEW COURSE

Learn how to build a positive relationship that might lead to a positive, service-oriented marriage

## Thinking of Relationships and Marriage?

A course in the series on individual, marriage, and family development

Lead Faculty: [Susanne Alexander](#)

Faculty: [Alex Blakeson](#), [Hoda Kemp](#), [Wendi Momen](#), [Raymond Switzer](#)

**Duration of course:** Seven weeks (May 27 - July 14, 2016)



You may be uncertain about being in a relationship and also be thinking, "Why get married?" Come explore, and learn new perspectives and ways of preparing for positive experiences. It can be a natural part of your life journey to establish a close connection with someone. **Thinking Relationships and Marriage?** will help you navigate through a coherent process of building a friendship, assessing character, understanding male-female relationships, and being of service. Your learning will position you to make significant decisions about courtship and the broader horizon of marriage. This course is intended *primarily* for single individuals not yet in a relationship or individuals or couples in a relationship; others are welcome.

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

Survey Bahá'u'lláh's revelation, and find the key to individual and collective transformation

## Bahá'u'lláh's Revelation: A Systematic Survey

One in a series exploring the revelation of Bahá'u'llah

Lead Faculty: [Robert Stockman](#)

Faculty: [William Collins](#) [Daniel Gebhardt](#)

**Duration of course:** Four weeks (June 1 - July 19, 2016)



In **Bahá'u'lláh's Revelation: A Systematic Survey**, we will undertake a systematic introduction to twenty of Bahá'u'lláh's most important works, ranging from *The Hidden Word* to *Epistle to the Son of the Wolf*. We will study themes in the works, topics that Bahá'u'lláh progressively revealed during His ministry, and related tablets wherever possible. The course is designed for learners seeking basic information about the writings of Bahá'u'lláh, new Bahá'ís wishing more context for Bahá'u'lláh's most important works, and veteran Bahá'ís seeking a deeper understanding of the ocean of Bahá'u'lláh's revelation. We will not read twenty works in their entirety but, rather, will sample passages from the selected important works revealed by Bahá'u'lláh.

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## Wilmette Institute Links

[Wilmette Institute Public Website](#)  
[Wilmette Institute Course Delivery System](#)  
[Wilmette Institute Student Projects](#)  
[Wilmette Institute: Reference Materials](#)  
[Wilmette Institute: YouTube Channel](#)  
[Wilmette Institute: Web Talks](#)

## Other Links

[Association for Baha'i Studies, North America](#)  
[Baha'i Chair for World Peace](#)  
[Baha'i International Community](#)  
[Bosch Baha'i School](#)  
[ebbf \(Ethical Business for a Better Future\)](#)  
[Green Acre Baha'i School](#)  
[Institute for Studies in Global Prosperity](#)  
[International Baha'i Website](#)  
['Irfan Colloquium](#)  
[Louhelen Baha'i School](#)  
[Louis G. Gregory Museum](#)  
[U.S. Baha'i Distribution Service](#)  
[U.S. National Baha'i Library](#)  
[Unity Museum](#)  
[Worldwide Baha'i Community](#)

## Mark Your Calendar

**July 1 - August 17, 2016**

[Exploring the Hebrew Bible  
\(Christian Old Testament\)](#)

**July 15 - September 6, 2016**

[The Destiny of America](#)

**August 1 - September 17, 2016**

[The Tabernacle of Unity](#)

**August 20 - October 7, 2016**

[Building a World Federation: The Key to Resolving  
our Global Crises](#)

**August 25 - October 12, 2016**

[The Ministry of 'Abdu'l-Baha](#)

## September - December 2016 Course Schedule

Below is the Wilmette Institute's course schedule for September through December 2016. The schedule is subject to change.

September 1 - October 19, 2016  
Practicing the Arts

September 2 - October 4, 2016  
Consulting and Problem-Solving as a Couple

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

## Prepare yourself for discussing Islam with friends and colleagues Islam for Deepening and Dialogue

Another in a series in an integrated approach to studying world religions

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

*Faculty:* [Necati Alkan](#) [Lil Abdo Osborne](#)

**Duration of course:** Four weeks (June 7 - July 26, 2016)



In **Islam for Deepening and Dialogue** we will begin with a survey of the life of Muhammad, Manifestation of God, and a review of the original development, and content of the Qur'an, including the teachings and practices of Islam. We will then examine the Sunni/Shiite split over issues of succession and authority and discuss Islamic mysticism, or Sufism, and the Sufi poetic tradition. Finally, we will turn to contemporary Islam and Islam and other religions, including the Baha'i Faith. With ongoing anti-Islamic sentiment throughout the world, there is no better time to

improve our understanding of one of the world's most important and influential religions and to prepare for discussing it with Christian and Muslim friends and neighbors.

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

Learn new skills that you can use in any consultative situation

## Dynamic Consultation

A course in a series on skills development

*Lead Faculty:* [Trip Barthel](#)

*Faculty:* [Shamil Fattakhov](#)

**Duration of course:** Nine weeks (June 15 - August 9, 2016)



In **Dynamic Consultation** we will bring together the principles of Baha'i consultation with the practices of mediation and facilitation. The course is designed to promote unity and action in the community through teaching the art and science of consultation in practical skill-based exercises. In seven units we will discuss engaging by meeting and greeting; (2) empathizing

feeling and connecting, and exploring by learning and knowing; (3) envisioning framing and focusing; (4) expanding with creativity and diversity; (5) elucidating virtues and principles; (6) evaluating options and criteria, and executing via a and unity; and (7) examining with reflection and growth. The course's aim is to enable learners to apply the skills 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 available at <http://www.dynamicconsultation.org/dc/Workshops.html>; it will also be available through the course website.

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

Review principles leading from the present chaos to world peace

September 7 - October 25, 2016  
Rediscovering the Dawnbreakers

September 10 - October 28, 2016  
Sustainable Development and  
the Prosperity of humankind

September 15 - November 2, 2016  
The Advent of Divine Justice

September 22 - December 22, 2016  
How to Organize and Maintain a Baha'i Archive

October 7 - November 24, 2016  
Judaism for Deepening and Dialogue

October 10 - November 27, 2016  
Epistle to the Son of the Wolf

October 15 - December 2, 2016  
Buddhism for Deepening and Dialogue

October 25 - December 12, 2016  
Charters of the Faith

November 1 - December 19, 2016  
Understanding Religion:  
Social and Historical Aspects

November 7 - December 25, 2016  
The Baha'i Faith and Philosophy

#### NEW COURSE

November 10 - December 28, 2016  
The Promise of World Peace

November 15 - January 3, 2017  
The Equality of Women and Men

#### NEW WEBINAR

November 22 - January 17, 2017  
The Epistle of Kings: A Comprehensive Study of  
Suriy-i-Muluk, Baha'u'llah's First Proclamatory  
Tablet To the Kings of the Nineteenth Century

December 1, 2016 - January 17, 2017  
Writing Biographies and Histories

December 20, 2016 - February 6, 2017  
Introduction to Shi'i Islam

to prepare for meaningful conversations with friends

## The World Order of Baha'u'llah: Selected Letters

One in a series exploring the ministry and writings of Shoghi Effendi

Lead Faculty: [Ed DiLiberto](#)

Faculty: [Nicola Daniels](#)

**Duration of course:** Eight weeks (June 22 - August 9, 2016)



#### The World Order of Bahá'u'lláh: Selected Letters

compilation of letters written by Shoghi Effendi, identifying the essential character and distinguishing features of the Baha'i Faith in contrast to other political and religious systems. In studying the letters, we will examine what Shoghi Effendi identifies as the defects of the prevailing world order, the guiding principles of the Baha'i system that will bring about World Order, and the necessary steps world leaders must take to rectify these defects. We will also study what Shoghi Effendi says about the

ordeals we must traverse in order to realize a new phase in human thought and the important role that North America is to play before we reach the peaceful settlement of world affairs. This course is designed to strengthen our understanding of the times in which we live and our certainty that humankind will pass through a daunting period of world history, knowing that world peace, the dream of the great thinkers of all ages, is not only possible but inevitable.

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

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### ABOUT US

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#### The Wilmette Institute eNewsletter

The Wilmette Institute eNewsletter is published monthly by the Wilmette Institute which offers quality online courses on the Baha'i Faith. The Wilmette Institute is committed to engaging a broad and diverse international community of learners in a 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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#### Editors

Robert H. Stockman  
Betty J. Fisher

#### Contributors

Sonja Brook  
Peter Haug  
Susan Ofner  
Sana Rezai

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

Web: <http://wilmetteinstitute.org>

Moodle: <http://courses.wilmetteinstitute.org>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/WilmetteInstitute>

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