



September - November 2008 Courses

### [The Summons of the Lord of Hosts](#)

*Lead Faculty: Peter Terry*

*Faculty: Ismael Velasco*

#### **Duration of course: Three months (Sept. 5 - Dec. 5, 2008)**

“The Summons of the Lord of Hosts” course will explore the series of letters that Bahá’u’lláh sent to kings and rulers of the world between 1866 and 1870.

[MORE >>](#)

### [`Abdu'l-Bahá: His Life and Writings](#)

*Lead Faculty: Anne Perry*

*Faculty: Cynthia Shawamreh and Duane Troxel*

#### **Duration of course: Three months (Sept. 15 - Dec. 15, 2008)**

`Abdu'l-Bahá, the Center of Bahá’u’lláh’s Covenant and the Perfect Exemplar for humankind, is unique in religious history.

[MORE >>](#)

### [Introduction to Archives for Bahá’í Archivists](#)

*Lead Faculty: Roger Dahl*

*Faculty: Lois Walker and Susan Rishworth*

#### **Duration of course: Three months (Oct. 1 – Dec. 31, 2008)**

The course, organized by the United States National Bahá’í Archives and taught by three Bahá’í archivists, will assist local and national Bahá’í archivists to learn how to organize and maintain their collections.

[MORE >>](#)

### [The Bab and Babi History, 1844-53: Rediscovering the Dawnbreakers](#)

*Lead Faculty: Cynthia Shawamreh*

*Faculty: Peter Terry*

#### **Duration of course: Three months (Oct. 15, 2008 – January 15, 2009)**

The Bahá’í Faith is a religion that particularly emphasizes study of its history because knowing how the Faith developed gives one a sense of its ongoing growth with its crises and victories and suggests lessons that help one understand contemporary Bahá’í communities and their efforts to grow and expand.

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**The Wilmette Institute** was established in January 1995 by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of the United States. The Institute offers quality online courses on the Bahá’í Faith.

It is committed to engaging a broad and diverse community of learners in deep study of the Faith and to fostering love and study of the Faith.

All online courses include Web-based discussion boards for students and faculty, regular conference calls, systematic lesson plans, and a wide variety of learning projects to help students apply their learning in their local communities.

All courses are available at the *introductory* level for those who do not want to take a university-level course, at the *intermediate* (undergraduate) level for those wishing to go into more depth, and at the *advanced* (graduate) level for those wishing to do extensive research or writing.

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### [Upcoming Courses](#)

#### **September 5, 2008 - December 5, 2008**

The Summons of the Lord of Hosts

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#### **September 15, 2008 - December 15, 2008:**

`Abdu'l-Baha: His Life and Writings

## [Hinduism for Deepening and Dialogue](#)

*Lead Faculty: Zaid Lundberg*

*Faculty: Anne Pearson*

**Duration of course: Three months (Nov. 1, 2008 – Jan. 31, 2009)**

The course will examine Hinduism, the complex of religious traditions that arose in the Indian subcontinent over thousands of years.

[MORE >>](#)

## [The Life of Baha'u'llah](#)

*Lead Faculty: Moojan Momen*

*Faculty: Hossein Achtchi*

**Duration of course: Three months (Nov. 15, 2008 – Feb. 15, 2009)**

At the center of the Bahá'í Faith stands the person of Bahá'u'lláh. By laying claim to the high station of Manifestation of the Names and Attributes of God for this age, the voice of God on earth,

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News

## **What Happened to the Lamp?**

For the last ten years the Wilmette Institute has published three or four times a year a newsletter called The Lamp. But thanks to new software, we have now switched formats, schedules, and titles. Our new eNewsletter is now being published monthly and allows you to link directly to the new Wilmette Institute website to sign up for courses online. The eNewsletter focuses on the contents of upcoming courses and how our students are using them to teach the Faith, develop human resources, and contribute to the Five Year Plan. We will be making available a pdf version so that you can make paper copies for bulletin boards and large gatherings.

## **Software Upgrade**

On August 7 the Wilmette Institute's "Learning Center" was shut down for the afternoon to upgrade our database software. Since we launched our new website and "Learning Center" on January 30, we have had a problem: our Moodle educational management software sometimes has not been able to "talk" to the external database operated by our registration system. The result of the problem has

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**October 1, 2008 - December 31, 2008**

Introduction to Archives for Baha'i  
Archivists

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**October 15, 2008 - January 01, 2009**

The Bab and Babi History, 1844-53  
Rediscovering the Dawnbreakers

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**November 1, 2008 - January 1, 2009**

Hinduism for Deepening and Dialogue

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**November 15, 2008 - February 15, 2009:**

The Life of Baha'u'llah

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**December 1, 2008 - February 28, 2009**

The Ministry of Shoghi Effendi

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**December 15, 2008 - March 15, 2009**

Baha'i Theology: Concepts of God,  
Revelation, Manifestation, Humanity  
Creation, Afterlife, and the Covenant

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**January 15, 2009 - April 15, 2009:**

Medicine and Spirituality

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**February 1, 2009 - April 30, 2009:**

Kitab-i-Aqdas

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been that some student information would disappear from courses, which has interfered with communications. The new database, however, appears to be working much better with Moodle (knock wood!) and so far our problems have disappeared. Thank you for your patience.

### Student News

#### **The Impact of the Wilmette Institute: A Student Comments on "How to Study the Baha'i Writings"**

*Cheryl Crane of Petersfield, Manitoba, Canada, offered the following about **How to Study the Baha'i Writings***

This course has had a great impact on my Baha'i life, and the Wilmette site itself is unique. The Institute allows the student to study at their own pace, at their own level, and in their own interests. This is a place for the seeker, the new Baha'i, and the not so new. Light hearted and/or serious discussions among participants fosters desire to push oneself deeper into the writings, tests ideas which previously one would have been shy to voice. This course promoted this interaction-with oneself and with others, either online or in my personal life. I have been able to contribute to my community more during Feasts, post-convention meetings, teaching events, and just in daily life because of the skills acquired during this class. I have more confidence in what I say in reference to the Faith because I have applied the skills learned during this class to be certain of my facts, know the circumstances in which events had occurred, and why our Baha'i history unfolded as it did. I am applying the skills acquired to ensure when I teach I have the knowledge to be accurate and interesting when I give a class or lecture on a Baha'i subject.

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**February 15, 2009 - May 15, 2009:**  
Exploring the Christian New Testame

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**March 1, 2009 - May 31, 2009:**  
World Order of Baha'u'llah: Selected  
Letters

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**March 15, 2009 - June 15, 2009:**  
Preparing for Interfaith Dialogue

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**April 15, 2009 - July 15, 2009:**  
Baha'i History, 1863-2000

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**June 1, 2009 - August 31, 2009:**  
Baha'i Faith: A Comprehensive  
Introduction

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**June 15, 2009 - September 15, 2009:**  
Qur'an

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**July 15, 2009 - October 15, 2009:**  
Women in the Baha'i Faith

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**August 15, 2009 - November 15, 2009:**  
The Advent of Divine Justice

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**September 7, 2009 - December 7, 2009:**  
Tablets of Baha'u'llah Revealed

after the Kitab-i-Aqdas

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**October 1, 2009 - December 31, 2009**

Mining the Gems:  
Development of the Individual

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**October 15, 2009 - January 15, 2010**

Sustainable Development and  
the Prosperity of Humankind

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**November 1, 2009 - January 31, 2010**

Chinese Religion for Deepening and  
Dialogue

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**December 15, 2009 - March 15, 2010**

How to Study the Baha'i Writings



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