



The monthly electronic Newsletter provides news of the Wilmette Institute, the Web Talk schedule, and upcoming courses

## Wilmette Institute News



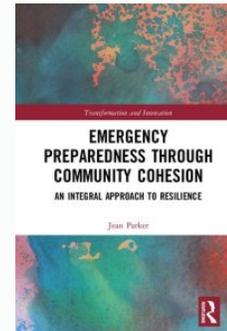
### [We Surveyed Our Students and They Gave Us Good Advice](#)

Read the results of our survey of students who took courses four or more years ago or who registered and never logged into their course. What were the big obstacles for taking a course? Time and money, of course.

Are they your obstacles, too? See the solutions we propose.

### [Jean Parker Publishes "Emergency Preparedness through Community Cohesion: An Integral Approach to Resilience"](#)

Congratulations to Dr. Jean Parker! The Wilmette Institute faculty in education, business, and economics courses has just published her doctoral dissertation as a book through Taylor and Francis.



## Student News

### [What's It Like to Take a Course for Credit?](#)

Read Karen Webb's experience with the **Baha'i Theology** course going on right now. She is taking it for Master's credit.



### [Climate Change, Population Growth, and Spiritual Evolution: Striking a Balance](#)

Terry Edwards reflects about the PowerPoint presentation he created about the challenges humanity faces. It was inspired by two courses, **Sustaining Eleven Billion People** and **Climate Change**.



## [Tulsa Community: Preserving Local History for Future Generations](#)

Joan King, recording secretary for the Tulsa, Oklahoma Local Spiritual Assembly, tells us how the Wilmette Institute's 2019 course on **Baha'i Archives** caused a shift in her thinking and how she is beginning to involve other members of her community in a project to preserve local history for future generations.

## [Introduction to the Qur'an Produced an Amazing Opportunity: Recitation of a Qur'an Verse at a Wedding](#)

As a result of taking the course **Introduction to the Qur'an**, Sanjida Cabot was asked to recite an Arabic passage from the Qur'an in the Baha'i wedding of two friends. She adds, "It was especially meaningful to the couple that I recited because I am a woman and women are so often not permitted to recite publicly (though this is changing overall). Also I recited without wearing a hijab, which many Muslims believe is required. Thankfully the reading was well received even by the Muslim guests."



## [Praise for the Course Exploring the Bab's Persian Bayan, from Gity Etemad](#)



"Since the course about the Persian Bayan started, I have not stopped talking to our community and family about what I learned. Starting in September, another participant and I are giving a few PowerPoint presentations that I prepared from the webinars and notes and other sources. We are doing this in honor of the Bicentenary of the Birth of the Bab. It was a fantastic course, very new and informative."

## **Tip for Sustainable Living**



### [Eat Food that is In Season](#)

Food grown in season is often less expensive, tastes better, and it usually has traveled a much shorter distance, thereby releasing fewer greenhouse gases. Enjoy your local bounty when it is harvested!

## [August Web Talks](#)

Sunday, August 4, 2019, 2 PM Eastern (11 AM Pacific, 7 PM in the U.K.)

Todd Lawson

**"The Bab's Great Announcement to Mulla Husayn: Chapter One of the Qayyumu'l-Asma', The Surih of Dominion (Mulk)"**

Sunday, August 18, 2019, 2 PM Eastern  
Steven Phelps

**"Overview of the Writings of the Bab"**



**August-September Online Courses**

**Deep Discount for First Time Students!**  
**Pay just \$10 for your first course**



**Science, Religion, and the Baha'i Faith**

August 12 to October 6, 2019

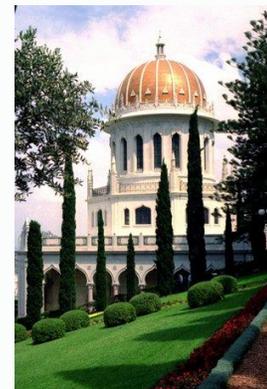
Explore how science and religion relate to each other. Examine the Baha'i writings as they relate to physics, cosmology, biology, evolution and climate change. Apply the principle of the harmony of science and religion in our communities and in our discourse.

**Watch the video summary**

**The Writings of the Bab**

August 25 to October 19, 2019

Study the principal writings of the Bab: the Qayyumu'l-Asma'; tablets to secular and religious leaders; the Seven Proofs (Dala'il-i-Sab`ih); the Persian Bayan; the Arabic Bayan; the Book of Names (Kitáb-i-Asma'); and the Book of Five Grades (Kitab-i-Panj-Sha'n). Study them in order and thematically with Moojan Momen and Armin Eschraghi.



**Watch the video summary**



**Sustainable Development and the Prosperity of Humankind**

September 5 to December 1, 2019

**DESIGNED FOR COLLEGE**

**CREDIT.** Poverty and suffering of people at home and abroad, concern about the

future of our children, and worry about the destruction of the environment on which their lives depend: these are the challenges of sustainable development, which will require a fundamental transformation in the

economic, social, and environmental actions of our lives and society. This course will explore the profound implications of sustainability for our higher human purpose, as explained in the Baha'i teachings, and the scientific and spiritual principles that can ensure the future prosperity of humankind. Study of the UN 2030 Sustainable Development goals is included.

## **Hinduism for Deepening and Dialog**

September 10 to October 28, 2019

An overview of Hinduism, including the problem of defining what it is; a review of its history and sources of authority; central Hindu concepts (the nature of the divine, the self, and the soul; Krishna and the "avatar" doctrine; concepts of karma and rebirth); ethics, laws, and social structures; and Hindu practices (yoga, meditation, worship, festivals, diet) and their expression in visual and performing arts. A comparison with Baha'i views will be threaded throughout. Explore Hinduism in the modern world and the growth of the Baha'i Faith in South Asia. Study Hinduism for two purposes: deepening in the basics of Hinduism as a divinely ordained religion and its relationship to the Baha'i Faith, and preparing for dialogue and service with adherents of Hinduism.



## **The Baha'i Faith: A Comprehensive Introduction**

September 15 to December 7, 2019

**DESIGNED FOR COLLEGE CREDIT.** A thorough and systematic study of the Baha'i religion. Review the vastness of the Baha'i Faith's authoritative texts (21 million words); examine the fundamental concept of unity and its

implications for creating community, reforming the world, and re-conceptualizing such subjects as leadership, politics, and conflict; study the nature of God, revelation, manifestation, humanity, creation, religion, and the Baha'i Faith's relationship to other faiths; explore the nature and spiritual development of human beings and the role of marriage and family life; review the Baha'i approach to reorganizing the social life and civilization of the human species; study the basics of Baha'i history.

## **Celebrating the Bicentenary of the Birth of the Bab with Children**

September 16 to October 20, 2019

This course is designed to help parents, teachers, and other adults share the Bicentenary of the Birth of the Bab with children so that they will understand the significance and feel the spirit of this very special Holy Day. Course materials



include stories, printable activities, craft ideas, and songs. Participants will receive inspiration and practical resources to celebrate this special occasion in a fun and uplifting way with children at home and in the community.



### **Writing about the Writings: The Art and Craft of the Personal Reflection Piece**

September 20 to November 7, 2019

The purpose of the course is to empower readers of Baha'i scripture to share their insights into the Baha'i writings in the context of the personal reflection piece, a

form of commentary that does not employ the conventional apparatus of scholarship, such as research, critical analysis, and familiarity with other commentary on the same texts but, rather, simply embodies the individual reader's thoughtful response to a given passage, tablet, or longer work by the Baha'u'llah, the Bab, or `Abdu'l-Baha. You will learn the art and craft of writing such a personal reflection piece by receiving instruction from faculty as well as feedback from fellow students.

### **An Excellent and Priceless Heritage: The Three Covenants of the Baha'i Faith**

September 25 to November 19, 2019

This course will be an exploration of the three successive covenants in this Dispensation: the Covenant of the Bab and what Shoghi Effendi termed "the twin Covenants of Baha'u'llah and of 'Abdu'l-Baha." It will focus on how these twin Covenants establish the Universal House of Justice as Head of the Faith, grant it broad authority, and repeatedly and emphatically promise it will receive unfailing divine guidance. The course seeks to enhance the participants' confidence in the guidance the Universal House of Justice provides to the Baha'i community and to the world.



## **365 Courses**

Register anytime and study them at your own pace!

Currently available are:

- [Thinking of Relationships and Marriage?](#)
- [Are We Ready for Marriage?](#)
- [Engaging in Parental Consent for Marriage](#)
- [Building Intercultural Understanding as a Couple](#)
- [Making Time and Service Choices As a Couple](#)
- [Enhancing Love, Friendship, and Service in Your Marriage](#)
- [Creating Marriage Well-Being from the Beginning](#)
- [Nurturing your Baby Spiritually During Pregnancy](#)



## Conferences

[Association for Baha'i Studies Annual Conference](#) / Aug. 8-11, 2019  
"Beyond Critique: Laying the Groundwork for Social Transformation"  
Westin Hotel  
Ottawa, Ontario, CANADA

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[Arab American Conference](#) / Aug. 22-25, 2019  
"Prospects for the Future of Humanity"  
For Arab-speaking Baha'is and friends  
Double Tree by Hilton Hotel Chicago, North Shore  
Registration is required.  
Hotel reservations: [Doubletree](#)  
Skokie, IL USA

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[Irfan Colloquium](#) / October 10-13, 2019  
English and Persian  
Louhelen Baha'i School, Davison, MI, USA

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## USEFUL LINKS

### Wilmette Institute Links

[Wilmette Institute: Public Website](#)  
[Wilmette Institute: Course Delivery System](#)  
[Wilmette Institute: Deepen Webinars](#)  
[Wilmette Institute: Student Projects](#)  
[Wilmette Institute: Reference Materials](#)  
[Wilmette Institute: Web Talks](#)  
[Wilmette Institute: Email for Information](#)

### Social Media Links

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.

[Wilmette Institute: YouTube Channel](#)  
[Wilmette Institute: Facebook Page](#)  
[Wilmette Institute: Twitter](#)  
[Wilmette Institute: SoundCloud](#)

### Other Links

[Association for Baha'i Studies, North America](#)  
[Baha'i Chair for World Peace](#)  
[Baha'i International Community](#)  
[Baha'i Reference Library](#)  
[Baha'i World News Service](#)  
[Baha'i World News Service Podcasts](#)  
[Bosch Baha'i School](#)  
[ebbf \(Ethical Business Building the Future\)](#)  
[Green Acre Baha'i School](#)  
[Institute for Studies in Global Prosperity](#)  
[International Baha'i Website](#)  
[International Environment Forum](#)  
[Irfan Colloquia](#)  
[Louhelen Baha'i School](#)  
[Louis G. Gregory Museum](#)  
[U.S. Baha'i Distribution Service](#)

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

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See what's happening on our social sites:

