

MARGARET
BEAUFORT
INSTITUTE
OF THEOLOGY



Higher Education
Online Courses 2023/2024



Dear MBIT friend, we are delighted to present our new course brochure, offering a diverse range of enriching learning opportunities.

Regular Updates: Stay Informed

This brochure will evolve in accordance with our students' needs. Expect regular updates to ensure you have the most recent information.

Course Availability: Subject to Change

Please bear in mind that **the availability of courses may vary**. While we do our best to maintain consistency, unforeseen circumstances can occasionally impact availability.

Some events are currently being configured on [Eventbrite to facilitate your registration process](#). As soon as these events are ready, we will share the corresponding links with you.

Thank you for being a part of our learning community,

Dr Sean Ryan, Vice Principal of MBIT

Adele Angel, Academic Administrator

Natalie Despot, Digital Communication Officer



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Featured Courses
- List of Courses 2023-2024
- Who we are
- MA Degree in Christian Spirituality East & West
- MA Degree Contemporary Ethics
- MA Degree Contemporary Faith & Belief
- MA Degree Pastoral Care & Chaplaincy
- Christian Spiritual Traditions East and West
- Exploring Biblical Voices
- Being in Pandemic: Science, Ethics, and Soul
- Discussion on the Synod's Instrumentum Laboris
- Celebrating 30 years of Interfaith Dialogue
- Women and Diakonia
- Spirituality in The Ignatian Tradition
- Spirituality and the Arts
- Classics of Christian Spirituality
- Celtic & Medieval Spirituality
- Study Day on The Eucharistic Prayer
- Beggars for Heaven: The Inheritance of Jacques & Raïssa Maritain
- Discovering Jesus Through Thomas Aquinas
- Children's Spirituality
- Ethics in the Professional Context

MARGARET BEAUFORT INSTITUTE

UPCOMING COURSES 2023/2024



WHO WE ARE

»» FEATURED COURSES



MA DEGREE
CHRISTIAN
SPIRITUALITY EAST
& WEST

[Learn more](#)



MA DEGREE
CONTEMPORARY
ETHICS

[Learn more](#)



MA DEGREE
CONTEMPORARY
FAITH & BELIEF


[Learn more](#)



MA DEGREE
PASTORAL CARE &
CHAPLAINCY

[Learn more](#)

»» The following colours correspond to different course categories:

- Postgraduate Module 
- Short Course 
- Study Day/ Conference 

MARGARET BEAUFORT INSTITUTE

UPCOMING COURSES 2023/2024



CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY EAST & WEST

Starting 18/09/2023

[Learn more](#)



EXPLORING BIBLICAL VOICES

Starting 03/10/2023

[Learn more](#)



BEING IN PANDEMIC: SCIENCE, ETHICS & SOUL

Starting 04/10/2023

[Learn more](#)



SYNOD'S INSTRUMENTUM LABORIS

04/10/2023

[Learn more](#)



CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF INTERFAITH DIALOGUE

15/11/2023

[Learn more](#)



WOMEN AND DIAKONIA CONFERENCE

24 & 25 /11/2023

[Learn more](#)



SPIRITUALITY IN THE IGNATIAN TRADITION

Starting 13/01/2024

[Learn more](#)



SPIRITUALITY & THE ARTS

Starting 15/01/2024

[Learn more](#)

MARGARET BEAUFORT INSTITUTE

UPCOMING COURSES 2023/2024



CLASSICS OF CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY

Starting 18/02/2024

[Learn more](#)



CELTIC AND MEDIEVAL SPIRITUALITY

Starting 23/01/2024

[Learn more](#)



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

02/03/2024

[Learn more](#)



BEGGARS FOR HEAVEN: THE INHERITANCE OF JACQUES AND RAÏSSA MARITAIN

13/03/2024

[Learn more](#)



DISCOVERING JESUS THROUGH THOMAS AQUINAS

Starting 23/04/2024

[Learn more](#)



CHILDREN'S SPIRITUALITY

Starting 04/05/2024

[Learn more](#)



ETHICS IN THE PROFESSIONAL CONTEXT

07/05/2024

[Learn more](#)

Who *we are*



We are a vibrant Catholic learning community that promotes the flourishing of people through study, research, and pastoral outreach.

In 2023 we celebrate our 30 year anniversary and we are proud that we have actively engaged in theological dialogue on social, ethical, political and spiritual matters during this time.

We resource schools, parishes, hospitals, prisons and other institutions with expertise, training and pastoral support. Our theology engages with different professional and community-based (service) needs and perspectives. This is enriched and enabled by an interdisciplinary approach that is at the heart of our educational work. Many of our students gain qualifications from the University of Cambridge and Anglia Ruskin University (DTM, BA, MA, MPhil, Prof Doc, PhD).

We hope that our programme will whet your appetite for studying with us – both in terms of your personal interests and your professional, pastoral or voluntary service needs.

All our courses will have online facility – providing access to students from all over the world.

MA in Christian Spirituality East & West

Programme Leader:
Dr Louise Nelstrop MBIT



Join a lively debate on the meaning and the role of spirituality in the context of the Christian traditions as well as in today's multi-cultural environments.

Students will be supported to:

- Progress in critical understanding and knowledge of aspects of both Eastern (Orthodox) and Western Christian traditions.
- Explore and evaluate contemporary manifestations of Christian spiritual belief and practice;
- Develop a critical understanding of the human condition as it shapes different approaches to Christian spirituality;
- Relate the discourse of Spirituality to a wide range of contemporary personal, professional and vocational questions.

Do you want more information?
Contact us at apply@mbit.cam.ac.uk

MA in Contemporary Ethics

Programme Leader:
Dr Anna Abram MBIT



Our approach goes beyond textbooks, inviting you to explore ethical dilemmas from multiple perspectives, enriching your grasp of moral complexities.

Students will be supported to:

- Formulate moral arguments
- Research models of moral decision-making and the recognition of the complexity of moral truth
- Understand the moral condition of oneself and society
- Identify the relevance of ethics for various professions, including teachers, health professionals, business professionals, social service professionals, religious ministers, and anyone interested in exploring ideas related to the 'good life.'

Do you want more information?
Contact us at apply@mbit.cam.ac.uk

MA in Pastoral Care & Chaplaincy

Deputy Programme Leader:
Dr Sue Price MBIT



This Programme will give you an in-depth understanding of Pastoral Theology as it relates to the goals of chaplaincy and pastoral care.

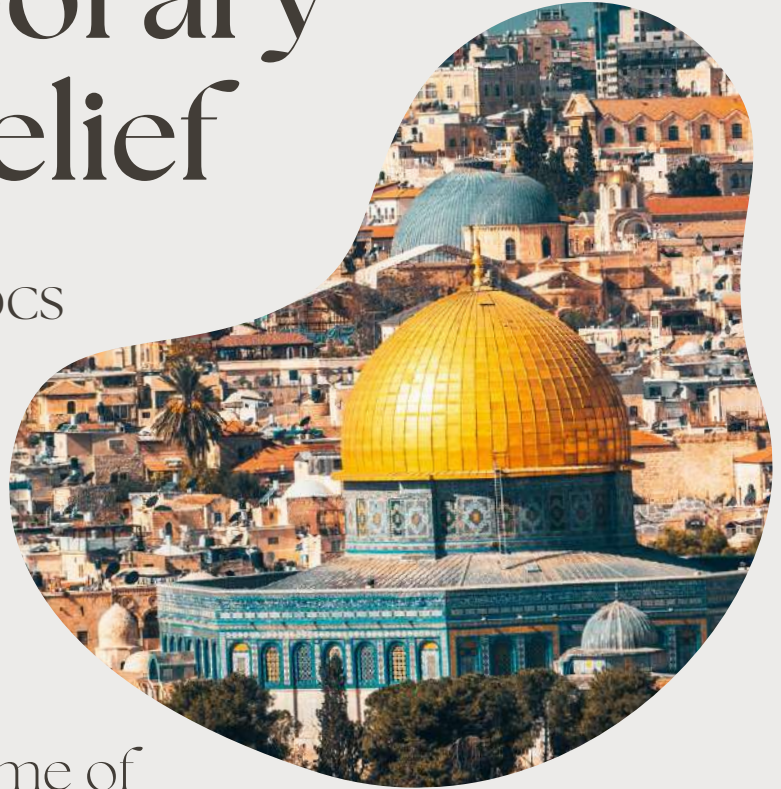
Students will be supported to:

- Familiarize themselves with diverse cultural, philosophical, and religious sources for reflective engagement with pastoral practice.
- Evaluate and situate their own practices in relation to broader theological themes and commitments.
- Develop as independent researchers in a specialist area.
- Reflect critically on their own and others' professional practices in chaplaincy and pastoral settings.

Do you want more information?
Contact us at apply@mbit.cam.ac.uk

MA in Contemporary Faith & Belief

Programme Leader:
Dr Christoph Schneider IOCS



Students delve into some of the philosophical complexities that theological engagement with the contemporary world present.

Students will be supported to:

- Acquire theological skills to interpret the world from a theological perspective
- Gain an in-depth understanding of some areas of theological and philosophical discourse in the contemporary academy, church and society
- Undertake a detailed exploration of some issues of theological significance in the contemporary context

Do you want more information?
Contact us at apply@mbit.cam.ac.uk

CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY EAST & WEST

Dates: From 18th September to
27th of November 2023

2:00 to 4:30 pm

Cost: £ 230

Online Course



Through a focused study of major theoretical approaches, influential figures, and key themes, participants will gain a deep understanding of the evolution of Christian spirituality across different historical periods.

In connection, we'll discuss contemporary matters, focusing on how present viewpoints and beliefs about faith, spirituality, culture, and identity in today's diverse and multi-faith society influence individual spirituality and the ongoing interaction between society and Christian spirituality.

Do you want to register
or do you want more
information?
Please click **HERE**

EXPLORING BIBLICAL VOICES



Dates: From 3rd of October
to the 5th of December 2023
5:30 to 7:00 pm

Cost: £ 230

*Early bird discount until the
31st of August

Online Course

This concise ten-week course presents an innovative exploration of a wide array of texts and methodologies within the realm of contemporary biblical studies.

Led by prominent experts in Hebrew Bible/Old Testament, Second Temple Judaism, and New Testament studies, this collaborative course offers a comprehensive journey.

Topics will encompass the Pentateuch, Prophets, Wisdom literature, Gospels, Pauline literature, and lesser-known texts, offering a glimpse into the rich tapestry of texts and perspectives.

Open to all enthusiasts seeking to deepen their understanding of Scripture, no prior study is necessary to participate in this course.

Do you want to register
or do you want more
information?

Please click **HERE**

BEING IN PANDEMIC SCIENCE, ETHICS & SOUL

Dates: From 4th October to 8th of November
2023

5:00 to 6:30 pm

Course leader: Dr Aileen Walsh

Cost: £ 120

*Early bird discount until the
31st of August

Online Course



Our experience of COVID has been influenced by the properties of the virus that caused it, and our own circumstances as individuals and communities.

This course seeks to integrate the scientific, ethical and personal experiences of being in pandemic.

All are welcome to participate whatever your personal or professional background.

The course will be led by Dr Aileen Walsh, a nurse and ethicist who worked in a hospice during the pandemic.

Invited speakers from different professional groups will be invited to share their own stories and perspectives alongside our own.

Do you want to register
or do you want more
information?

Please click [**HERE**](#)

Discussion *on* the Synod's Instrumentum Laboris

Date: 5th of October 2023

5:00 pm

Leader: Dr Peter Coughlan
& Anne Marie O' Riordan

Cost: Free

Online Webinar



The October 2023 Synodal Assembly centers around the Instrumentum Laboris (IL), a Working Paper. This paper has a dual role: it outlines 'spirit-guided pathways' derived from the global listening process, and presents them as questions for future reflection and action rather than conclusive solutions.

The Synod on Synodality, launched in October 2021 under the visionary leadership of Pope Francis, stands as a defining initiative of his pontificate. Distinguished as the most comprehensive listening and consultation process ever embarked upon by the global Catholic Church, its essence lies in facilitating a collective journey.

Do you want to
register or do you
want more
information?
Please click **HERE**

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS *of* INTERFAITH DIALOGUE

Date: 15th of November 2023

5:00 pm

Cost: Free

In person and Online

Venue: Lightfoot Room, Faculty of Divinity of the University of Cambridge, Sidgwick Site, Cambridge.



This enlightening panel discussion will be chaired by Dr Anna Abulafia, Professor Emerita of the Study of the Abrahamic Religions, Faculty of Theology and Religion, Oxford University.

The event will feature distinguished speakers who have made significant contributions to interfaith dialogue. Dr. Edward Kessler, MBE, Founder President of the Woolf Institute; Dr. Michael Barnes, SJ, representing the Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology; and Dr. Tim Winter, Dean of the Cambridge Muslim College.

Do you want to register
or do you want more
information?
Please click [HERE](#)

WOMEN & DIAKONIA:

Ministry of Women and the Question *of* Diaconal Ordination

Date: 24th & 25th of November 2023

Cost: Please see the Eventbrite link for pricing options.

In person and Online

Venue: Lightfoot Room, Faculty of Divinity of the University of Cambridge, Sidgwick Site, Cambridge.



We extend a cordial invitation to immerse yourself in an international symposium, where a rigorous exploration of the essential role played by women in diakonia will be at the heart of scholarly deliberations.

In recent years, there has been renewed interest and debate within the Catholic Church about the possibility of ordaining women to the diaconate. Advocates argue that women have contributed significantly to the life of the Church and that there is historical evidence of women serving as deacons in the early Church.

Do you want more
information?
Contact us at
apply@mbit.cam.ac.uk

Spirituality in The Ignatian Tradition

Dates: From 13th January
to 10th February 2024

Saturdays 10 am – 4 pm

Online Course

Cost: £ 115

Course leader:

Dr Gemma Simmonds



Building on the Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius, this module will explore the dynamics of spiritual direction and issues that arise in the pastoral ministry of spiritual accompaniment

Students will examine the theory and practice of Christian spiritual direction with a specific focus on the Ignatian Tradition, engage with the Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius, reflect on pastoral ministry through the lens of spiritual direction, explore the issues that arise in the pastoral ministry of spiritual accompaniment, understand the dynamics of spiritual direction, and

identify the processes within spiritual direction and the roles of director and directee.

Do you want to register or
do you want more
information?

Please click [HERE](#)

SPIRITUALITY & THE ARTS

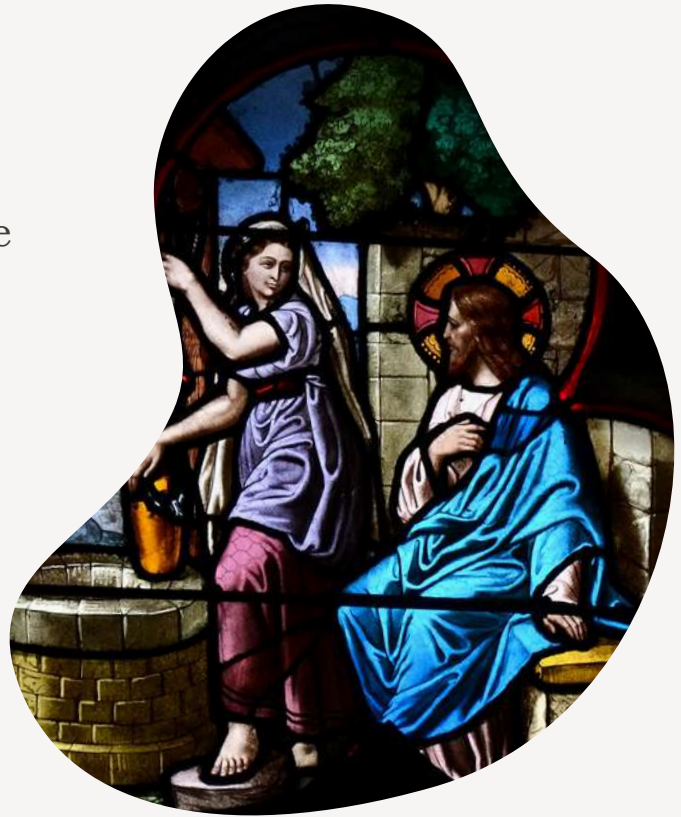
Dates: From the 15 January to the
12 February 2024

Mondays 4.30 pm – 7.00 pm

Cost: £ 115

Online Course

Course leader: Dr Pavlina
Kasparova



During this course we will be looking at how Christian spirituality relates to the arts literature, music & visual arts, including film. We will consider this relationship in the socio-historical and theological contexts in which it has developed

Students will engage with theological ideas underpinning ekphrasis, images and icons, the relationship between literature and spirituality as academic disciplines, reflect critically on relationship between theoretical approaches to film, aesthetics, music and spiritual awareness, and examine the contemporary phenomenological

thinking on the ways in which the arts create access points to the transcendent and spiritual.

Do you want more
information? Contact us at
apply@mbit.cam.ac.uk

CLASSICS *of* CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY

Dates: From 18th January to
7th of March 2024

5:15 to 6:45 pm

Cost: £ 230

*Early bird discount until the
30th of November.

Online Course

Course leader: Dr Gemma
Simmonds & Dr Edward
Howells.



This course introduces some of the great figures
in the history of Christian Spirituality

Common themes of personal
transformation and of relationship
with God, self and others will
emerge across a wide time period
from the third to the twentieth
centuries.

The focus on six figures and
movements will allow portions of the
texts to be examined in some detail,
as well as following wider spiritual
themes.

Do you want to register
or do you want more
information?
Please Click [**HERE**](#)

CELTIC & MEDIEVAL SPIRITUALITY

Dates: From 23rd January to
6th February, 2024
Tuesdays 1 pm – 5 pm

Cost: £ 115

Online Course

Course leader:

Dr Louise Nelstrop



Examine the intricate interplay among spirituality, theology, ecclesiology, science, politics, literature, and art within medieval and Celtic thought.

This course will delve into the connections between Celtic and Medieval Christian spirituality and those found in other religious traditions, notably Paganism, Judaism, and Islam. Additionally, it will explore the significance of women within the Celtic and medieval church, their profound impact on spirituality, as well as the significance and functions of the eremitic and coenobitical traditions.

Do you want more
information?

Contact us at

apply@mbit.cam.ac.uk

Study Day *on* The Eucharistic Prayer

Dates: 2nd March 2024

Saturday, 10.30 pm – 4.00 pm

Cost: £15

Location: Wesley House

Jesus Lane Cambridge CB5 8BJ

Course Leader: Dr Peter Coughlan



This study day will consider the origins of the eucharistic prayer and its development in different geographical areas in the early centuries of the church.

The day will be led by Dr Peter Coughlan.

In August 1965 Peter was appointed to the Vatican's Consilium for the Implementation of the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy and thus followed closely the development of the three new eucharistic prayers.

In 1973 he was appointed as a member of the commission charged with drawing up three new eucharistic prayers for use with children and two new eucharistic prayers on the theme of reconciliation.

Do you want more
information?

Contact us at

[**apply@mbit.cam.ac.uk**](mailto:apply@mbit.cam.ac.uk)

Beggars for Heaven: The Inheritance of Jacques & Raïssa Maritain

MBIT Day Conference

Date: 13th March 2024
Wednesday, 09:00 – 18:00

Cost: Please write to
apply@mbit.cam.ac.uk for more
information.

Location: Wesley House Cambridge
Jesus Lane Cambridge CB5 8BJ



The conference aims to explore the legacy of the Maritains, and the ways in which their work still addresses the cultural and political spheres, the academy and Church.

Confirmed keynote speaker: John G Trapani Jr. Emeritus Professor of Philosophy, Walsh University; author of *Poetry, Beauty and Contemplation: the Complete Aesthetics of Jacques Maritain*, and President of the American Maritain Association 2001 and 2006-2012.

Call for papers: Please share your proposals or abstracts, limited to 500 words, with Dr. Christopher Grey by 01/01/24 at christopher.grey1@outlook.com

DISCOVERING JESUS *through* TOMAS AQUINAS

Dates: From 23rd April to 11th of June 2024

4:30 to 6:00 pm

Course leader: Sr Magdalene Eitenmiller

Cost: £ 230

*Early bird discount until
the 4th of March 2024

In person and Online



Join us as we
navigate through
the rich teachings of St. Thomas's *Summa Theologiae*,
with engaging discussions and opportunities for questions.

The course will introduce students to the mystery of the Incarnation, the Person and Natures in Christ (including major heresies to be avoided), Christ's grace and knowledge, his unity of being, unity of two wills and two operations, his prayer, Christ as priest and mediator, certain mysteries of Christ's life such as his baptism and Transfiguration, as well as his passion, death, resurrection, ascension, and coming again as judge.

Do you want to register or do
you want more information?

Please click **HERE**

Children's Spirituality

Dates: 14th May; 11th June;
24th September; 15th October;
12th November, 2024
Tuesday's 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm;
4 pm - 6 pm
Cost: £ 230
Online Course
Course Leader: Dr Sue Price



This course aims to equip students with foundational knowledge, introduce them to contemporary research, and explore factors influencing Children's Spirituality, both its facilitators and obstacles.

The course will inspire participants to contemplate and evaluate their unique contexts in light of research on Children's Spirituality.

This program holds particular appeal for pediatric healthcare chaplains, educators overseeing pastoral care in schools, as well as pastoral practitioners within church environments engaged in children's outreach.

Do you want more
information?
Contact us at
apply@mbit.cam.ac.uk

Ethics in the Professional Context

Dates:

Spanning from May 7th to June 4th, 2024
Tuesdays: 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm, and a
special session on Saturday, October 12th
1:30 pm – 5:00 pm.

Cost: £ 230

Online Course

Course Leader: Dr Anna Abram



This interactive interdisciplinary course delves into ethical concepts within a professional context, aiding students in building their own ethical foundations and reasoning tools.

Elements such as sources of ethical thinking and moral imagination; central concepts such as equality, common good, human dignity; the value and spirituality of work; the role of ethics in society, all contribute to the theological context in which a particular profession will be approached

Do you want more
information?

Contact us at

[**apply@mbit.cam.ac.uk**](mailto:apply@mbit.cam.ac.uk)



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Contact us:

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TESTIMONIALS



"It was a delight to find this hidden gem. MBIT has a very welcoming and caring atmosphere. It's also been great to work alongside students of different faith backgrounds (...) The taught Masters programme offered much flexibility, giving the opportunity to attend lectures, study online or a combination of the two. Everyone is very supportive, give quick responses to your queries and there are plenty of resources available to make studying from home possible. It feels like everyone wants you to do well. Working full-time, I would never have had the opportunity to study without this flexibility and support. The staff have been wonderful and I very much consider it a blessed time."

Nalini Nathan, a graduate of the MA in Contemporary Ethics.

"Chaplaincy in its diverse sectors is now one of the most common ways in which the Church encounters and ministers to lay people and those beyond her boundaries, so it matters that we understand what we are doing and why (...) Our Course Director and tutor, Dr Sue Price and Anne Marie O'Riordan, are experienced pastoral practitioners as well as good academics. I was struck by how their pastoral experience informed the way they taught as well as the quality of their input. As we explored together different models of theological reflection, I gained the skills for a more coherent practice of reflection both on my life and on continuing pastoral encounters."

Roberta Canning, a student of the MA in Pastoral Care & Chaplaincy



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