

TRACK

OLD CATHOLIC THEOLOGY: THE EARLY CHURCH AS CHARISM AND CHALLENGE

PROGRAMME

4 July 2021 – 16 July 2021

Old Catholic Seminary at Utrecht University



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WELCOME



Prof. Dr. Peter-Ben Smit
[Course director](#)

Dear visitor!

I'm happy to welcome you to the summer school in Old Catholic theology. Since 2012, we have been welcoming students to Utrecht to explore Old Catholic theology together. More than a course, the experience has been a real feast for all participants, students and professors alike. Such a good experience can be valuable in times of crisis, therefore we are offering the courses again in 2021! We've opted for an online format, to make sure that it can take place. In my own experience, studying theology in good company can strengthen resilience and help to find inspiration in uncertain times. We are even offering an advanced course this year in addition to the classic introductory course.

Therefore, I'd like to invite you to join us online in Utrecht in 2021! Become part of our community of learners in Old Catholic theology. Learn more about systematic theology, liturgy, history, spirituality, ecumenical relations, canon law, and praxis. I am glad that faculty members of the Old Catholic Seminary in Utrecht are offering their time and talent again. They include some of the brightest minds in Old Catholicism, such as Dr. Mattijs Ploeger in the field of liturgy and systematic theology, Prof. Andreas Krebs from the Old Catholic Institute in Bonn in dogmatics, Dr. Dick Schoon, Bishop of Haarlem in church history, and newly appointed practical theologian Rev. Jutta Eilander – van Maaren on spirituality and praxis. As always, we'll

cooperate with the prime museum of religious art in the Netherlands, the Catharijneconvent, and explore the ancient episcopal city of Utrecht. Yes, we will do that online as well!

Feel free to explore the two course offerings at the Utrecht Summer School website, [here](#) for the classic introductory course "Old Catholic Theology in Its Ecumenical Context" and [here](#) for the bright new advanced course, "The Early Church as Ideal: Old Catholic Theology Beyond the Basics". – And are you feeling ambitious? The two courses can be combined in the [track](#) "Old Catholic Theology: The Early Church as Charism and Challenge" (with a discount!)

Is this for me? Yes it is! Courses are suitable for theologians, clergy and interested lay persons alike. For any questions about how to participate, please be in touch with Ms. Rieneke Brand, at rieneke.brand@okkn.nl should you have any questions.

With every good wish,

Prof. Dr. Peter-Ben Smit, course director

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

This online track consists of two connected courses that offer in the first week an introduction to Old Catholic theology in its ecumenical context and in the second week the possibility to deepen your understanding of Old Catholic Theology by thematic and in-depth case-driven classes. Old Catholic theology is understood as the main theological currents as they exist in Union of Utrecht of Old Catholic Churches.

Especially the courses in the second week are linked to an apparent paradoxical key starting point of Old Catholic theology: the faith and order of the Early Church. How can a modern church be so 'traditional' at the same time?

The topics covered by the course include the following aspects of Old Catholic theology and tradition: the history of Old Catholicism, fundamental and liturgical theology, spirituality, ecumenism, canon law and ecclesiology, liturgy, and systematic theology. Case studies that will be explored cover topics such as marriage, the ordination of women and mission.

The course includes live virtual excursions to a major collection of related religious art (Museum Catharijneconvent) and to the traces of Catholic presence and history in the episcopal city of Utrecht. The beginning of the course is marked by virtually attending the Eucharist in St. Gertrud's Cathedral, facilitating an encounter with 'lived Old Catholicism'.

This track combines the two courses of [Old Catholic Theology in its Ecumenical Context](#) and [The Early Church as Ideal](#). It is also possible to participate in only one of the two weeks.

Target audience

- Students of theology interested in Old Catholicism and ecumenism;
- Clergy and theologians interested in Old Catholicism and ecumenism;
- Laypersons with formal or informal theological training interesting in Old Catholicism and ecumenism.

The course is of specific interest for students with Anglican, Orthodox, Lutheran, Old Catholic, and ecumenical backgrounds.

Aim of the course

The goals of the course are, the following;

1. The student will be familiar with central aspects of Old Catholic identity and theology;
2. The student will be able to contextualize Old Catholic theology within the broader spectrum of theology and religious studies;
3. The student will have a deepened knowledge of Old Catholic theology its appeal on the Early Church;
4. The student will be able apply this knowledge in theological reflexion and research;
5. The student will be able to undertake further independent study of aspects of Old Catholic theology.

Study load

4 contact hours/day; about 40 hours or preparatory self-study will be required.

Costs

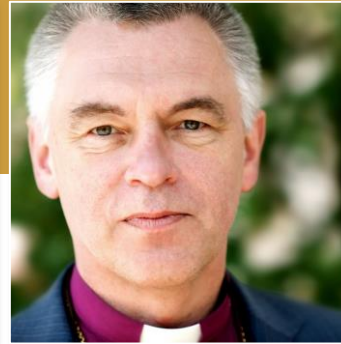
Course fee: € 750

Registration deadline

01 May 2021

LECTURERS

(a.o.)



The Rev. prof.
dr. Peter-Ben
Smit

Rev. Leonie van
Straaten

Prof. dr. Andreas
Krebs

The Rt. Rev. dr.
Dirk Jan Schoon

The Rev. Jutta
Eilander-van
Maaren, MA

Mr. Adriaan
Snijders, LL.M.

The Rev. dr.
Mattijs Ploeger

Ecumenism

Spirituality

Old Catholic
and Ecumenical
theology

Church History

Practical
Theology and
Spirituality

Canon Law

Systematic
Theology

PROGRAMME PART I

Time (CEST)	Activity	Description	Lecturer
Sunday, 4 July			
10.00	Mass	(Virtual) Attendance of Mass at St. Gertrud's Cathedral	
Monday, 5 July			
16.30-18.30	Course Introduction	Orientation on the course, introduction to sources and resources of Old Catholic theology in their ecumenical context; sharing of preparatory reflection papers on the motivation for the course.	Prof. dr. Peter-Ben Smit
19:00-21:00	Lecture	Old Catholic Approaches to Theology	Dr. Mattijs Ploeger
Tuesday 6 July			
16.30-18.30	Lecture	Introduction to the History of the Old Catholic Church of the Netherlands	The Rt. Rev. dr. Dirk Jan Schoon
19.00-21.00	Live virtual excursion	Traces of (Old) Catholicism in the City of Utrecht	The Rt. Rev. dr. Dirk Jan Schoon

PROGRAMME PART II

Time (CEST)	Activity	Description	Lecturer
Wednesday, 7 July			
16.30-18.30	Lecture	Old Catholic Liturgy: An Introduction	Dr. Mattijs Ploeger
19.00-21.00	Live virtual Excursion	Virtual Excursion to National Museum Catharijneconvent (Utrecht)	Mr. Richard de Beer, MA, curator of the Old Catholic collection
Thursday, 8 July			
16.30-18.30	Seminar	Introduction to Old Catholic Canon Law in its Ecclesiological Context	Mr. Adriaan Snijders, LL.M.
19.00-21.00	Seminar	Perspectives on Old Catholic praxis and spirituality	Jutta Eilander-van Maaren, MA
Friday, 9 July			
16.30-18.30	Lecture	<i>Title t.b.d.</i>	The Most Rev. Bernd Wallet, Archbishop-elect of Utrecht
19.00-21.00	Seminar	Concluding Seminar	Prof. dr. Peter-Ben Smit

PROGRAMME PART III

Time (CEST)	Activity	Description	Lecturer
Sunday, 11 July			
10.00	Mass	(Virtual) Attendance of Mass at St. Gertrud's Cathedral	
Monday, 12 July			
16.30-18.30	Introduction	Introduction: The Appeal to the Early Church: Inspiration and Problem	Prof. dr. Peter-Ben Smit
19.00-21.00	Seminar	Spirituality and Structure: The Old Catholic Eucharistic Prayers and Patristic Inspiration - Case study I	Dr. Mattijs Ploeger
Tuesday 13 July			
16.30-18.30	Lecture	Old Catholics in Search of God in A Secular Age: The Early Church as Help and Hindrance	Prof. dr. Andreas Krebs
19.00-21.00	Seminar	Ancient Marriage in Search of Modern Meaning - Case Study II	Prof. dr. Andreas Krebs

PROGRAMME PART IV

Time (CEST)	Activity	Description	Lecturer
Wednesday, 14 July			
16.30-18.30	Lecture	A Model for All Others? The Early Church as an Inspiration for Canon Law in the 21st Century	Mr. Adriaan Snijders, LL.M.
19.00-21.00	Live virtual Excursion	Stones that Speak: The Dom Church as a Source of Spiritual Renewal in Utrecht	Ds. Hans Uytenbogaardt.
Thursday, 15 July			
16.30-18.30	Seminar	Renewing spirituality out of ancient sources: Cases from a Dutch Old Catholic praxis – Case Study III	Rev. Leonie van Straaten
19.00-21.00	Seminar	What has not been assumed has not been redeemed: Ancient theology for a modern church order – the ordination of women - Case Study IV	Dr. Mattijs Ploeger
Friday, 16 July			
16.30-18.30	Lecture	Embodied Ressourcement: Antonius Jan Glazemakers Archbishop of Utrecht	Mr. Lydia Jansen and Prof. dr. Peter-Ben Smit
19.00-21.00	Seminar	Back to the Future? Possibilities and Impossibilities for an Appeal to the Early Church in the 21st century	Prof. dr. Peter-Ben Smit



FURTHER INFORMATION

For more INFORMATION or to APPLY for this combination course check:

[Old Catholic Theology: The Early Church as Charism and Challenge](#)

Just STARTING with the Basics?

[Old Catholic Theology in its Ecumenical Context](#)

Already done the basics and want to go BEYOND the basics?

[The Early Church as Ideal: Old Catholic Theology beyond the Basics](#)

Scholarships:

For information regarding financial assistance, please contact the course director at p.b.a.smit@uu.nl.

Time Zones:

The Summer Schools will be online this year. This means that we will cover different time zones in our course. All times in the programme are in Central European Summer Time; 16.30 CEST = 10.30 EDT = 7.30 PDT. You can use a [time converter](#) to find out what time it exact will be in your time zone. Be aware of the time differences between Winter and Summer!

Disclaimer:

Due to unforeseen circumstances the programme could be (slightly) changed.