

OLD CATHOLIC THEOLOGY IN ITS ECUMENICAL CONTEXT

PROGRAMME*

2 July 2021 – 8 July 2021

Old Catholic Seminary at Utrecht University

*Tentative



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 inviting 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.

Following on the success of the now classical introductory course '[Old Catholic Theology in its Ecumenical Context](#)', we offered an advanced course for the first time in 2021. '[The Early Church as Ideal: Old Catholic Theology Beyond the Basics](#)' also proved to be a wonderful experience for all participants. For this reason, we will be offering both courses again in 2022. Also, the option to combine both courses in one 'track' will be back!

As we enjoyed the benefits of online teaching in 2021, we will return to the benefits of physical classes again in 2022. We hope to create the best conditions for an intense community of learners and a direct encounter with the context of the Netherlands in this manner. Should the pandemic not permit this format, we will offer the courses online again.

Therefore, I'd like to invite you to join us again in Utrecht in 2022! You can become part of a unique community of learners in Old Catholic theology. While you connect with participants from all over the globe, you will learn more about Old Catholic 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 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. A new part of 'Old Catholic Theology in its Ecumenical Context' will be an excursion to Amsterdam, where (Old) Catholicism enjoyed a rich (and oftentimes illegal) existence.

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!)

Should you ask yourself the question: is this for me? The answer is probably: yes, it is! Courses are suitable for theologians, clergy and interested lay persons alike. 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 course offers an introduction to Old Catholic theology in an ecumenical context. Old Catholic theology is understood as the main theological currents as they exist in Union of Utrecht of Old Catholic Churches. The topics covered by the course include the following aspects of Old Catholic theology and tradition: the history of Old Catholicism, spirituality, ecumenism, canon law and ecclesiology, liturgy, and systematic theology.

Students will be taught by experts in Old Catholic theology on the faculty of the Old Catholic Seminary, Utrecht. The topics covered by the course include the following: History of Old Catholicism, Old Catholic spirituality, Ecumenism and Old Catholicism, Old Catholic canon law and ecclesiology, Old Catholic liturgy, and Old Catholic systematic theology.

The course includes an exploration of religious art in cooperation with the main Dutch museum on this topic, Museum Catharijneconvent. Participants will also engage with Old Catholic liturgy and church music. New in the course is an excursion to Amsterdam, where the participants will tour sites of (Old) Catholic history. Besides attending lectures and excursions there will also be the possibility to participate in social activities in which you can learn from the knowledge and background of your fellow students and have a good time together as well.

At the end of the course, students will have a broad overview of main topics and themes in Old Catholic theology and spirituality and will be able to pursue further independent study of the subject. The course is at the introductory level of an M.Div. curriculum; good BA students may also apply, as well as others. Students may be expected to do advance reading for the course.

This course can be combined with a second week of advanced studies: ['The Early Church as Ideal - Old Catholic Theology Beyond the Basics'](#). This course is offered in immediate connection with the introductory course.

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; upon completing the course:

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 be able to undertake further independent exploratory studies of aspects of Old Catholic theology.

Study load

4 contact hours/day, about 40 hours of preparatory self-study will be required.

Costs

Course fee: € 425

Registration

Application deadline: 01 May 2022

LECTURERS



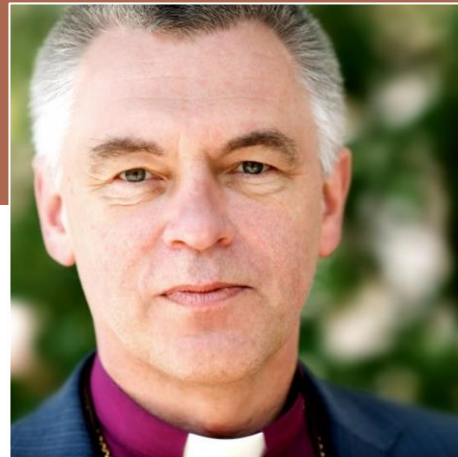
The Rev. prof. dr. Peter-
Ben Smit

Ecumenism



The Rev. dr. Mattijs
Ploeger

Systematic Theology



The Rt. Rev. dr. Dirk
Jan Schoon

Church History



The Rev. Jutta Eilander-
van Maaren, MA

Practical Theology and
Spirituality



Mr. Adriaan Snijders,
LL.M.

Canon Law

PROGRAMME

PART I

Time	Location	Description	Lecturer
Saturday, 2 July			
12.00-18.00	Key pick up	You will find the exact key pick up location in the pre-departure information, which becomes available after you have paid the course fee.	
Sunday, 3 July			
10.00	Mass at Gertrud's Cathedral, Willemsplantsoen 2, Utrecht	Attendance of Mass and subsequent coffee hour with the local priest and parishioners, followed by an informal lunch.	
Monday, 4 July			
10.00-12.00	Course Introduction. Location t.b.d.	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
12.00-13.30	Lunch Break		
13.30-15.30	Lecture. Location t.b.d.	Old Catholic Approaches to Theology	Dr. Mattijs Ploeger
Tuesday, 5 July			
10.00-12.00	Lecture. Location t.b.d.	Introduction to the History of the Old Catholic Church of the Netherlands.	The Rt. Rev. dr. Dirk Jan Schoon
12.00-13.30	Lunch Break		
13.30-15.30	Excursion. Amsterdam	Hidden churches - publicly known. A tour of (Old) Catholicism in Amsterdam.	The Rt. Rev. dr. Dirk Jan Schoon

PROGRAMME

PART II

Time	Location	Description	Lecturer
Wednesday, 6 July			
10.00-12.00	Lecture. Location t.b.d.	Old Catholic Liturgy: An Introduction	Dr. Mattijs Ploeger
12.00-13.30	Lunch Break		
13.30-15.30	Excursion. Museum Catharijneconvent Utrecht	Excursion to National Museum Catharijneconvent (Utrecht)	Mr. Richard de Beer, MA, curator of the Old Catholic collection
Thursday, 7 July			
10.00-12.00	Seminar. Location t.b.d.	Introduction to Old Catholic Canon Law in its Ecclesiological Context	Mr. Adriaan Snijders, LL.M.
12.00-13.30	Lunch Break		
13.30-15.30	Seminar. Location t.b.d.	Perspectives on Old Catholic praxis and spirituality	Jutta Eilander-van Maaren, MA
Friday, 8 July			
10.00-12.00	Lecture. Location t.b.d.	Title t.b.d.	t.b.d.
12.00-13.30	Lunch Break		
13.30-15.30	Seminar. Location t.b.d.	Concluding Seminar	Prof. dr. Peter-Ben Smit



FURTHER INFORMATION

For more INFORMATION or to APPLY for this course check:

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

Going BEYOND the basics?

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

Being very AMBITIOUS? Check the TRACK (with discount):

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

Scholarships:

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

Covid reservations:

Due to the unpredictability of covid/travel restrictions the course organization will definitively decide whether the summerschool will take place offline in Utrecht on the 1st of June 2022. Keep this in mind when you need to book a flight or train. If it somehow will not be possible to organize the summerschool in Utrecht there will be a back-up plan to deliver the summerschool online like last year. There will be a possibility to cancel your application in the case you only want to attend the summerschool when it takes place in Utrecht. N.B. there won't be a recording or online livestream when the course will take place in Utrecht.

Disclaimer:

This programme is tentative and could (slightly) be changed due to unforeseen circumstances.