

# OLD CATHOLIC THEOLOGY IN ITS ECUMENICAL CONTEXT

## PROGRAMME

2 July 2022 – 8 July 2022

This summerschool is a cooperation of:



*summerschool*  
UTRECHT



OLD CATHOLIC THEOLOGY  
IN ITS ECUMENICAL  
CONTEXT

# 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](mailto: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 June 2022



# LECTURERS



The Rev. prof. dr.  
Peter-Ben Smit

Prof. dr. Peter-Ben Smit  
Holds the chair in 'ancient  
catholic church structures' on  
behalf of the Old Catholic  
Seminary at Utrecht University.  
Lecturer in Biblical- and  
Oecumenical theology at the  
Old Catholic Seminary in  
Utrecht.

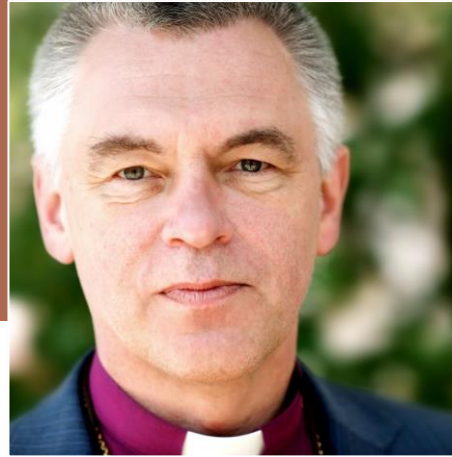
Ecumenism



The Rev. dr. Mattijs  
Ploeger

Rector at the Old Catholic  
Seminary in Utrecht. Lecturer in  
Systematic Theology and  
Liturgy.

Systematic Theology  
and Liturgy



The Rt. Rev. dr. Dirk  
Jan (Dick) Schoon

Lecturer in Church History at  
the Old Catholic Seminary in  
Utrecht. Also bishop of  
Haarlem.

Church History



The Rev.  
Jutta Eilander-van  
Maaren, MA

Lecturer in Practical Theology at  
the Old Catholic Seminary in  
Utrecht.

Practical Theology and  
Spirituality



Mr. Adriaan Snijders,  
LL.M.

Lecturer in Canon Law at the  
Old Catholic Seminary in  
Utrecht

Canon Law

# PROGRAMME

## PART I

Time	Location	Description	Lecturer
<b>Saturday, 2 July</b>			
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.	
<b>Sunday, 3 July</b>			
10.00	Mass at Gertrud's Cathedral, Willemsplantsoen 2, Utrecht	Attendance of Mass and subsequent coffee hour with the local priest and parishioners.	
12.00	Informal lunch and guided tour through Gertrud's Cathedral	The coffee hour will be followed by an informal lunch and tour through the cathedral and it's predecessor. Lunch will be provided.	
<b>Monday, 4 July</b>			
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
<b>Tuesday, 5 July</b>			
10.00-12.00	Lecture. Location t.b.d.	Introduction to the History of the Old Catholic Church of the Netherlands.	Dr. Dick Schoon
12.00-13.30	Lunch Break		
13.30-15.30	Excursion. Amsterdam	Hidden churches - publicly known. A tour of (Old) Catholicism in Amsterdam.	Dr. Dick Schoon

# PROGRAMME

## PART II

Time	Location	Description	Lecturer
<b>Wednesday, 6 July</b>			
10.00-12.00	Lecture. Location t.b.d.	Old Catholic Liturgy: An Introduction	Dr. Mattijs Ploeger
12.00-13.30	Lunch Break		
15.15-17.00	Excursion. Museum Catharijneconvent Utrecht	Excursion to National Museum Catharijneconvent (Utrecht)	Mr. Richard de Beer, MA, curator of the Old Catholic collection
<b>Thursday, 7 July</b>			
10.00-12.00	Seminar. Location t.b.d.	Perspectives on Old Catholic praxis and spirituality	Jutta Eilander-van Maaren, MA
12.00-13.30	Lunch Break		
13.30-15.30	Seminar. Location t.b.d.	Introduction to Old Catholic Canon Law in its Ecclesiological Context	Mr. Adriaan Snijders, LL.M.
<b>Friday, 8 July</b>			
10.00-12.00	Lecture. Location t.b.d.	Concluding Seminar	The Rt. Rev. Bernd Wallet, MA (Archbishop of Utrecht)
12.00-13.30	Informal lunch. Location t.b.d.	Lunch will be provided.	



# 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](mailto:p.b.a.smit@uu.nl).

## Covid reservations:

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.