

## Summer Seminars for the Study of Western Institutions

The 2008 Summer Seminars for the Study of Western Institutions at the University of Notre Dame (USA) and in Vienna (Austria), are designed to foster a better understanding of the Western intellectual tradition among European, Pan-American, and Asian students. These summer programs bring together students and professors to explore the enduring ideas of Western Civilization through the disciplines of political philosophy, philosophical anthropology, ethics, literature and Law.

### Who should attend?

The Phoenix Institute understands itself as a meeting point for people who believe that the truth and goodness that lie in the heart of the Western Tradition should be understood, affirmed and promoted as the best possible foundations for the future development of our Civilization.

The Institute's Summer Seminars for the Study of Western Institutions have been carefully designed as the ideal setting for the undertaking of such an urgent and inspiring challenge.

High academic standards, seriousness of purpose, willingness to openly participate in an international environment, a firm sense of personal responsibility towards the good of others, and a sincere interest in the Study of the Western Culture and on the fulfillment of the Institute's Mission, are the basic qualities that the Institute will be looking for among its prospective students.

## Admission Procedure

**STEP 1. PRE-REGISTRATION.**- Send an e-mail to the Assessment Committee of the program of your preference stating your full name, nationality, current location, occupation and contact information (e-mail address and phone numbers):

If interested in Notre Dame 2008 send your message to [nd2008@pxinstitute.com](mailto:nd2008@pxinstitute.com)  
If interested in Vienna 2008 send your message to [summeruniversity@phoenixeurope.org](mailto:summeruniversity@phoenixeurope.org)

**STEP 2. APPLICATION.**- Provide the Assessment Committee with your updated Curriculum Vitae and an Essay of no less than 500 words addressing each of the following questions in detail:

1. Why are you interested in attending the Phoenix Institute?
2. What does the study of Western Thought mean to you personally?
3. What strikes you most in our Mission Statement (available in our websites)?
4. What can be your personal contribution to the Summer Seminar?

**STEP 3. INTERVIEW.**- You will sustain an interview with your National Coordinator (either in person or by phone).

**STEP 4. NOTIFICATION.**- No later than April 21, 2008 for Notre Dame, or May 21, 2008 for Vienna, you will be informed by e-mail of the decision of the corresponding Assessment Committee on your application.

**STEP 5. REGISTRATION.**- Once you have been accepted, conclude your registration to the program by means of a non-refundable initial payment and online registration through the applicable websites.

At any point during the process you may contact your National Coordinator or Assessment Committee for further information regarding the programs or the application procedure.

Additional requirements might apply in your Country (e.g. Mexico and Colombia). Please contact your National Coordinator for further information.

Enrollment is limited.

If interested in **Notre Dame** please apply by **April 4th at the latest**, preferably earlier.  
If interested in **Vienna** please apply by **May 4th at the latest**, preferably earlier.

## National Coordinators

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# PHOENIX INSTITUTE 2008

## SUMMER SEMINARS FOR THE STUDY OF WESTERN INSTITUTIONS



SUMMER 2008

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE  
DAME, USA  
June 29 - July 26

VIENNA, AUSTRIA  
July 3- July 26

## The Phoenix Institute

The Phoenix Institute is an international educational organization that seeks to promote a deeper understanding of Western Civilization. We examine mankind in all its essential components, intellectual, psychological and spiritual. To fulfill its mission, the Institute organizes summer courses, conferences and seminars, where the study of disciplines such as philosophy, literature and law is being offered to achieve this deeper understanding of the Western intellectual tradition. Since its foundation in 1987 the Phoenix Institute has gathered outstanding professors and highly motivated students from all over the world to attend its summer courses on The Study of Western Institutions.

The first summer courses were held in 1987 at the University of Texas at Tyler. (USA). Since 1991 the Phoenix Institute has held its annual summer course at the renowned University of Notre Dame (USA). In 1996, the Institute extended its programs to Europe where from 1996 to 2001 parallel summer courses were held at the University of Oxford (UK). In 2003, due to an increasing demand of students and others active in their professions to learn more about the richness and diversity of Western Civilization, the Phoenix Institute Europe Foundation decided to move the European summer course to a more central location in Europe: Austria.

### Specialization in Advanced Social, Economic, and Political Studies

The Phoenix Institute offers a degree in Advanced Social, Economic and Political Studies to those students that have obtained 24 credits by their participation in no less than three summer programs (consecutive or not): 18 course credits, plus 6 credits for writing and subsequent approval of a thesis.

# NOTRE DAME

## HEROISM IN WESTERN HISTORY AND CULTURE

(3 Credits)

Dr. John X. Evans

Arizona State University, USA

Starting with the heroic quest paradigm that originated in Greek mythology, we will explore the attributes and evolution of heroism from ancient to modern times. Beyond definition, we will discuss what can be appropriated from the competing models of the hero for our own personal strength of character and the common good during this time of war and terror. Reading: Homer's Iliad, the Bible (Moses, David, Judith, Jesus), selections from Milton's Paradise Lost and Paradise Regained; A. Solzhenitsyn's Ascent, The Skittles Club, and One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich; selected war poetry of World War I; Martin Luther King, Letter from Birmingham Jail; selections from A. Carrol's 'Between the Lines'; Ernest Gordon, To End All Wars. Evening Film Series / Discussion: Shakespeare's Henry the Fifth, A Man for All Seasons, Joan of Arc, Schlindler's List.

Dr. John X. Evans. - Founding Director of the Phoenix Institute. Professor Emeritus of English, Arizona State University. Ph.D. Yale University. Works include: The Works of Sir Roger Williams, as well as articles in The Huntington Library Quarterly, Shakespeare Quarterly, English Studies, Recusant History, National Review, and other academic journals.



## PLATO AND AUGUSTINE (3 Credits)

Dr. Bradley Lewis

Catholic University of America, USA

Plato and Augustine are in many respects the two most informative thinkers of the Western tradition: in Plato we have the beginnings of the philosophical tradition and in Augustine we have the first great attempt to synthesize Greek philosophy and Biblical revelation into a coherent Christian worldview. This course will focus on these two thinkers through the study of some of their greatest writings. Plato's *Republic* culminates in the proposal of a kind of perfect city grounded in the truth and led by the wise. It considers the perfect city as the solution to the human problem, but also highlights tensions in this ambition: its most central concern is the character of human life and the conflicts that may exist between the natural possibilities for genuine fulfillment and our need to live together in political society, between happiness and justice. Augustine's masterpiece, *On the City of God*, offers a kind of Christian answer to those problems that illuminates the Platonic teaching and challenges some of its premises in the light of revelation. The issues between the two works are at the heart of the Western intellectual tradition and speak to many contemporary moral, political and cultural questions.

Dr. Bradley Lewis. - Associate Professor in the School of Philosophy of The Catholic University of America. Ph.D., University of Notre Dame. Associate Editor, The American Journal of Jurisprudence. Scholarly works include articles on the Political philosophy of Plato and Aristotle and the theory of natural law.

## PHILOSOPHY OF CULTURE

(3 Credits)

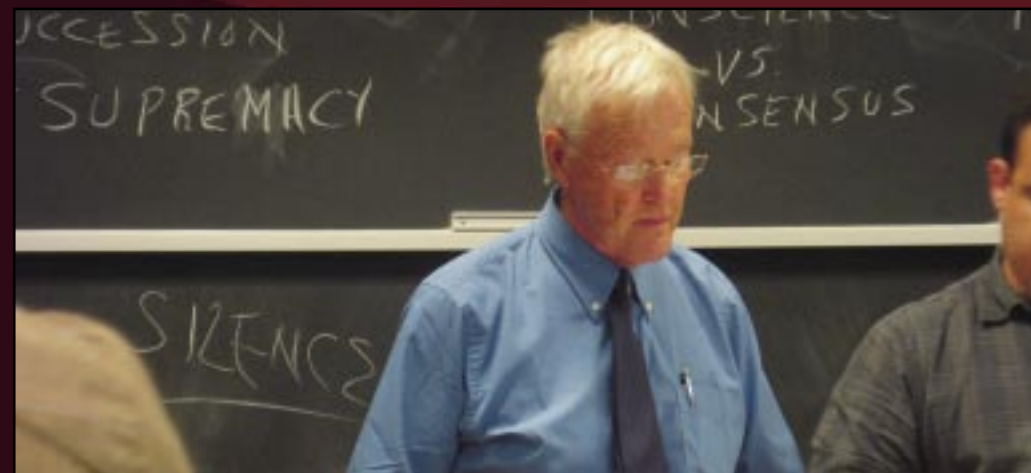
Dr. Daniel McInerney

University of Notre Dame, USA

The plurality of cultures in the modern world, along with the conflicts that so often occur between them, makes the question of culture central to our experience. This course is devoted to an exploration of the meaning of culture within the Catholic intellectual tradition, and the relationship of such culture to the dominant cultures of the modern world. Texts from Aristotle, St. Augustine, and St. Thomas Aquinas will help frame the discussion before we turn to readings from modern Christian writers who pondered the meaning of culture within the crucible of the 20th century.

Reading: Aristotle, selections from *Metaphysics* and *Politics*; St. Augustine, selections from *On the City of God*; St. Thomas Aquinas, selections from *Summa theologiae*; Josef Pieper, *Leisure: The Basis of Culture*; T. S. Eliot, selections from *Notes Toward the Definition of Culture*; Jacques Maritain, selections from *Integral Humanism*; Christopher Dawson, selections from *The Historic Reality of Christian Culture*. Readings will also be taken from the works of G.K. Chesterton, C.S. Lewis, Walker Percy, and Flannery O'Connor.

Dr. Daniel McInerney. - Associate Director of Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture. Ph.D. Catholic University of America. Works include: *The Difficult Good: A Thomistic Approach to Moral Conflict and Human Happiness*.



## COSTS FOR THE NOTRE DAME SUMMER SEMINAR

Tuition*	\$1,745.00	USD
Meals**	\$206.00	USD (Approximately)
Books	\$80.00	USD (Approximately)
TOTAL	\$2,021.00	USD

\* Dorm accommodations, fees for computer labs, library, and recreational facilities are included in cost of tuition.

\*\* Includes five meals per-week during the four weeks of the program.

Non-US Students who are selected to the program will receive the Form I-20 from Notre Dame University. This form is necessary in order to obtain student visas for entry into the USA.

Because of the high cost of medical treatment in the United States, all students must purchase a medical insurance policy prior to arrival at the University of Notre Dame.

6 is the maximum number of credits that a student can obtain per Summer Seminar. Thus, all students must choose two out of the three courses offered. Please note that the course on "Heroism in Western History and Culture" is mandatory for all first year students.

# VIENNA 2008

## OPENING SEMINAR

The Opening Seminar offers an introduction to the summer course as a whole, helping participants and professors alike to understand the mission of the Phoenix Institute and the context of the courses.

The introductory seminar commences on Friday, July 4 at 14.00hrs. Participation in the opening seminar is compulsory for all students.

## LAW, RELIGION AND PERSECUTION (2 Credits)

This course will be taught by a team of three professors in law and history. The first week will focus on the legal-historical aspects of religious freedom, the second and third weeks will deal with the history and development of religious persecution and freedom during a defining part of world history until today. The interdisciplinary approach of this course will give students the opportunity to grasp an important current issue from a broad perspective:

## PART I.- THE EARLY CHRISTIAN EMPEROR'S LAWS ON RELIGION AND THE MODERN CONCEPT OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM; HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF A BASIC RIGHT

Dr. Jan Lokin, Pia Lokin  
University of Groningen,  
Netherlands

Laws on religion or (legal) conflicts about religion are not new to our times. Western civilization has dealt with this perennial question throughout its history. Studying the early Christian roman emperors is an important building stone in understanding the legal tradition of the West and its approach to religion and freedom. It will help us understand how the modern concept of religious freedom came about and how we can deal with this basic right in our modern times, where fresh challenges to this freedom - aggressive secularism and violent fundamentalism- require new approaches.

Dr. Jan Lokin. - Professor of Roman law at

Groningen University, member of the Royal Dutch Academy of Literature and Sciences, writer of many books on Legal History.

Pia Lokin. - Senior lecturer of Human Rights at Groningen University.

## PART II.- PERSECUTION AND REVIVAL: 80 YEARS OF CHURCH HISTORY (1917-2008) - STALIN, MAO, GORBACHEV AND PUTIN Dr. Michael Bourdeaux Oxford University (em), United Kingdom

It is only through a thorough historical awareness of the practices of religious persecution that we can begin to formulate ways in which to deal with the ongoing religious persecution of our day. The course traces the history and development of religious persecution, revival and freedom under various regimes throughout the 20th century and studies its general trends and ideologies. The history of religious persecution and revival has seen compromise, heroism, lone voices, while communism still holds sway in China. Islam in Russia and China has been little studied, but demands attention today. We will deal with the following themes: 1) Lenin's legacy: Stalin and the Church; 2) Persecution and Revival: the Russian Baptists; 3) Russian Orthodox Church: Voice of a Nation; 4) Catholics in Lithuania and Russia; 5) Gorbachev: a new deal; 6) Poland: the death of communism; 7) Romania: a voice unheard; 8) China: Confucius to Mao to revival; 9) Vietnam: the end of conflict?; 10) Orthodox-Muslim relations in Russia: a ray of hope?

Dr. Michael Bourdeaux. - A world-renowned scholar, who amongst others held teaching positions at Oxford University and the Wellesley College. He is president of the Keston Institute in Oxford and winner of the prestigious Templeton Prize.



## CERVANTES' DON QUIXOTE; FORTITUDE AND THE DOCTRINE OF VIRTUE (2 Credits) Dr. Bernhard Dolna, International Theological Institute and University of Vienna, Austria

"The acquaintance with this greatest and saddest of all books, which the genius of man has created, would, without doubt, enlighten the souls of young people by initiating the essential and decisive questions in their hearts", writes Fyodor Dostoevsky in his "Dairy of a Writer", as he continues to describe Don Quixote as the most beautiful of all men. But what is the meaning of this beauty? Don Quixote has a simple heart. He can do no harm to anyone, only good to everybody. He constantly preaches and practices love of enemies. And he is brave, but not without fear. Once Don Quixote confesses: "I am afraid of evil, but I do not allow to be forced into evil by fear, or to be kept by fear from doing good deeds".

In this course we will read Cervantes' masterpiece within the perspective of the main theme of the book: the virtues of Don Quixote. We will discuss the question how his life, which wants the good and nothing but the good, is related to the classical concept of virtues, especially the virtue of fortitude. This intellectual framework, called the "doctrine of virtue" is one of the great discoveries of man's self-understanding and a basic component of Western consciousness; it will therefore guide our study of Don Quixote. The Greeks (Plato and Aristotle), the Romans (Cicero and Seneca), Judaism (Philo of Alexandria, Maimonides) and Christianity (Clement of Alexandria, Polycarp of Smyrna, St. Augustine and St. Thomas Aquinas) were engaged in the persistent intellectual endeavor to develop this

doctrine of virtue. Thus, besides reading Cervantes' ageless work, we will also read selected texts from these other great authors in order to deepen our understanding of the virtues. The course will concentrate on the virtue of fortitude and aims to help understand this nowadays almost forgotten virtue as a way of thinking and of living.

Dr. Bernhard Dolna. - Dean of Studies and Professor of Philosophy at the International Theological Institute, lecturer of Jewish Studies at the University of Vienna. Author of numerous publications on theology, philosophy and Jewish studies.

## COSTS FOR THE VIENNA SUMMER SEMINAR

€1250 (Tuition, double/triple-occupancy accommodation, cultural events and three daily meals included).

Applicants from outside the EU need to inform at the Austrian Embassy or consulate in their home country whether a (student or tourist) visa is required for entry into Austria. All students must purchase a medical insurance policy prior to arrival in Austria. The Phoenix Institute Europe Foundation cannot provide for any medical care or insurance coverage. Participants, who have not sent the Institute prior written proof of their medical insurance coverage for their stay in Austria, will not be admitted.

For updated further information on the Vienna program please review constantly our European Webpage.

