

OXFORD SYMPOSIUM ON RELIGION & HISTORY



Suggested Topics

RELIGION AND HIGHER EDUCATION

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● The future of theology in secular universities● Faith-based intellectual traditions in modern academia● Liberal education and moral formation● Religious identity on university campuses | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Teaching religion in pluralistic classrooms● The role of chaplaincies in higher education● Classical education and religious foundations● Academic freedom and religious expression |
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RELIGION, ETHICS, AND PUBLIC LIFE

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Religion and public policy debates● Ethics of religious leadership● Religious freedom in democratic societies● Faith and human rights frameworks | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Religion in diplomacy and international relations● Moral leadership and governance● Religion's role in civil society● Religious perspectives on global crises |
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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Teaching religion in independent schools● Faith formation in primary & secondary education● Comparative religion curriculum models● Religious literacy in modern education | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Faith-based schools and academic outcomes● Challenges in teaching religion in secular settings● Curriculum design for religious studies● Character education and virtue ethics |
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THEOLOGY AND THE MODERN WORLD

- Classical theology in contemporary context
- Faith and reason debates
- Science and religion dialogue
- The problem of suffering

- Theology and artificial intelligence
- Religious responses to modernity
- The future of systematic theology
- Intersections between philosophy and theology

RELIGION AND GLOBAL SOCIETY

- Religion and globalisation
- Faith and cultural identity
- Religion and migration
- Global religious demographics trends

- Religious pluralism challenges
- Faith communities and social cohesion
- Religion in emerging economies
- Religious leadership in global crises

INTERFAITH DIALOGUE & UNDERSTANDING

- Models for interfaith dialogue
- Religion and conflict resolution
- Abrahamic traditions in conversation
- Comparative theology approaches

- Religious diversity in education
- Dialogue across philosophical traditions
- Teaching interfaith competence
- Religion as bridge vs barrier

RELIGION, LEADERSHIP, AND MORAL FORMATION

- Faith and leadership development
- Religious traditions and leadership ethics
- Virtue ethics in education
- Religious models of leadership

- Faith and decision-making
- Leadership formation in religious universities
- Moral psychology and belief
- Spiritual disciplines and leadership effectiveness

RELIGION, TECHNOLOGY, & THE FUTURE

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● AI and religious thought● Digital religion communities● Ethics of technological progress● Technology and spiritual practice | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Online religious education● Virtual communities and faith● Bioethics and religious frameworks● Technology's impact on moral reasoning |
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CULTURAL & REGIONAL STUDIES

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Indigenous religions and cultural heritage● Religion and colonial/postcolonial encounters● Literature, art, and religious imagination | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Music, ritual, and performance traditions● Regional religious traditions (Africa, Asia, Europe, Americas, Middle East)● Religion and cultural memory |
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ACADEMIC & EDUCATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Pedagogies of teaching religion in schools and universities● Comparative models of religious education● Religion in public vs. private education | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Religion and civic education● The academic study of religion vs. confessional approaches● Training clergy and religious professionals |
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RELIGION, LAW & HUMAN RIGHTS

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Religious freedom and state regulation● Law, morality, and divine authority● Religion in constitutional frameworks | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Human rights and minority religions● Blasphemy, apostasy, and freedom of expression● Religion and family law |
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EMPIRES, POWER & COLLAPSE

- The rise and fall of the British Empire
- Roman Empire and its lasting influence on Western civilization
- Colonial resistance and independence movements
- How empires controlled information and rewrote history
- Economic systems that sustained empires — trade, slavery, extraction
- What modern nations inherited from their colonial past

REVOLUTION, DISSENT & SOCIAL CHANGE

- The English Civil War and its legacy
- The French and American Revolutions compared
- Labor movements and the fight for workers' rights
- Women's suffrage and feminist movements across history
- Revolutions that failed — what went wrong
- How ordinary people shaped extraordinary historical moments

MEMORY, IDENTITY & THE POLITICS OF HISTORY

- How nations construct and weaponize historical memory
- Monument controversies and the battle over public memory
- Whose history gets taught — curriculum wars across the world
- Oral history and recovering voices left out of the record
- Archives, censorship and the suppression of historical truth
- Reparations debates and the unfinished business of history