

St George's College Jerusalem



Sharing Perspectives: Jews, Christians and Muslims Three Faiths in Conversation

10-19 March 2019

DRAFT

In partnership with



Jerusalem Center for
Interreligious Encounter
מרכז ירושלים למפגש בין-דתי
مركز القدس للقاء بين الاديان

Sharing Perspectives: Jews, Muslims and Christians: Three Faiths in Conversation, March 2019

In this course, Jews, Christians and Muslims from Canada, the UK and the USA will live and journey together as an interfaith community at St. George's College, Jerusalem. Over eight days we will encounter the Holy Land in its historical, geographical, religious and political complexity, explore sites sacred to each tradition, welcome the inquiry of each other, and explore how the Holy One is revealed uniquely in each of the Abrahamic faiths. Aided by local religious leaders and skilled guides, participants will gain new insights into sister traditions, experience the intensity and hospitality of the land, reflect on their own faith and practice and form friendships that will support greater interfaith understanding in their home communities.

Learning Objectives:

- Integrate contextual scriptural study with theological and spiritual reflection
- Reflect on the complexity of issues past, present and future in Israel and Palestine
- Engage with Jewish, Muslim and Christian perspectives, their similarities and their differences
- Return home with a broadened understanding of the land and its peoples

Important Reminders:

1. Passport & medication: Please have them with you at all times.
2. Punctuality: Please be punctual for all events and activities.
3. Nametag: Please wear your nametag at all times.
4. Hats and water: Please take a hat and water on all field trips for your own personal health and safety.
5. Money and valuables: Please be aware that there are pickpockets in the city.
6. Rooftop: Please enjoy the rooftop patio. It is there for you to use. However there should be no loud noise there after 9pm.

7. You should attend all events and meals but if in exceptional circumstances you need to miss a scheduled course event or meal please inform a member of staff at least one day in advance.

Modest dress: Please wear modest dress to all holy sites

Women: knees, shoulders and elbows covered, also bring an ankle-length skirt

Men: short-sleeved or long sleeved shirts, long trousers, no shorts

Additional Information:

- Please pay for all drinks, including bottled water that you order while eating any meals outside the College
- WiFi service is available at no cost. Internet access is also available in library
- The library is available for your use at all times
- There is no curfew but please be safe and wise. 24-hour security will let you onto the property and into the College building at all times.
- All course members will receive a course photo and an address list of other course members
- Please complete the evaluation form prior to departure.

Course Leaders:

Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl
The Rev. Dr. Karen Hamilton
Shayk Ibrahim Mogra
The Revd. Canon Mary June Nestler

Course Consultant and Facilitator: Mr Ophir Yarden

College Staff

The Very Revd. Canon Richard Sewell, Dean
The Revd. Della Wager Wells, Porter Fellow
Rana Khoury, Finance and Operations Manager
Genia Stephan, Registrar
Azzam Bassa, Housekeeping Supervisor
Samer Bassa, Gardener
Security: Lara Koutoujian (daytime 7am-2pm)
Tamer Razzouk (afternoons 2pm-8pm)
Michael Kort (nights Mon-Thurs 8pm-6am)
Azzam Bassa and Samer Stephan (weekends)

Itinerary Variations:

This is a draft programme and changes to the schedule may well take place prior to the course starting. Every effort will be made to keep the experience as close as possible to the original design.

Cost \$1960 (currently £1500 but this will change according to the exchange rate) per person exclusive of flights and travel to the College from Tel Aviv airport and back.

DRAFT

Sunday March 10: Arrivals

- 18:00 Opening Reception in the College lobby
- 19:00 Dinner in the Guest House dining room

Monday March 11

- 04:33 Optional Muslim *Fajr* prayer (optionally at *Al-Aqsa*)
- 7:00 Breakfast at the Guest House
- 8:15 Course photo: College front door
Introduction to College staff & College facilities
Pay course fees
- 8:45 Introduction to the course
Geographical context overview: Jewish, Christian,
Muslim perspectives (College lecture room)
- 10:00 The Desert Tradition: Travel to Judean Desert
- An encounter with silence & text
Discussion: Revelation in all three monotheisms
Lunch in Bedouin tent
Briefings on Israel/Palestinian Context
Return to the College
- 19:00 Dinner at the Guest House
- 20:00 An Introduction to Jerusalem:
A City Holy to Three Religions (lecture room)

Tuesday March 12

- 7:00 Breakfast
- 8:30 Visits to the holy places: Haram a Sherif, Western Wall
and Church of the Holy Sepulchre
- 13:00 Lunch at the Guest House
- 14:00 Group Discussion: prayer & worship in our tradition
(College lecture room)
- 15:30 Walking the Old City & Mosque of Umar for prayers
- 19:00 Dinner at the Guest House
- 20:00 Presentation/Discussion on Interfaith Relations in the
Land with Qadi Iyad Zakhalka, Rabbi Sarah Bernstein
and The Very Revd. Hosam Naoum (lecture room)

Wednesday March 13

- 6:00 Breakfast
- 7:00 Depart for Galilee
- 10:30 Nazareth – Basilica of the Annunciation,
White Mosque: faith tensions discussion
Lunch at Mount of Beatitudes Guest House
Church of the Beatitudes, Capernaum,
Boat ride on Sea of Galilee
- 16:30 Return to Jerusalem
- 19:00 Dinner at the Guest House
- 20:00 Presentation: ‘Women of Jerusalem’ with a Women’s
Panel (College lecture room)

Thursday March 14

- 7:00 Breakfast
- 8:00 Depart
- 8:30 Tomb of Rachel
- 9:00 Bethlehem – Church of the Nativity, Mosque,
Dheisheh Palestinian Refugee Camp
Fair Trade arts and crafts Centre
- 13:00 Lunch in Bethlehem
Hebron (and Gush Ezion Bloc – Settlement)
- 18:00 Refreshments and reflection (College lecture room)
- 19:00 Dinner at the Guest House
- 20:00 Bereaved Family Forum (College lecture room)

Friday March 15

- 7:00 Breakfast
- 8:30 The Mount of Olives, Place of the Ascension,
Tomb of the Prophets, the Garden of Gethsemane,
the Tomb of Mary,
Into the Old City: the Via Dolorosa
Coffee break at Austrian Hostel, Old City
David’s Tomb Complex
- 13:00 Lunch

- 14:00 St. George's School – Conversations with local high School. Presentation by Students: Living in Jerusalem
- 18:00 Shabbat Service and Dinner – Jewish Hospitality

Saturday March 16

- 7:00 Breakfast
- 8:15 Walk to Shabbat Service
- 13:00 Lunch (Guest House)
- Free time
(or Bethany -
The Tomb of Lazarus, Crusader Chapel Ruins)
- Visit to Ras al-Amoud Mosque
- 18:00 Close of Shabbat prayers (Rabbi Baruch)
- Refreshments and reflection (College Library)
- Rabbi David Rosen – Multiple Narratives?
- 19:00 Dinner at the Guest House
- 20:00 The Nature and Role of Prophets

Sunday March 17

- 6:00 Optional early morning visit to the Holy Sepulchre
- 7:00 Breakfast
- 9:30 Bi-lingual (Arabic and English) Service at St. George's
- 11:30 Introduction to the Holocaust Memorial Museum
(College lecture room)
- 13:00 Lunch at the Guest House
- Holocaust Memorial Museum: Yad Vashem
- 18:00 Refreshments and group reflection –
Abraham's Tent:
Roots, Similarities, Differences of the Three Faith
Traditions (College lecture room)
- 19:00 Dinner at the Guest House
- 20:00 Preservation of ancient sites in the current climate
(College lecture room)

Monday March 18

- 7:00 Breakfast
- 8:00 Depart for Jaffa
- 10:00 Faith-based, theological, geographical, historical tour of Jaffa
- 13:00 Lunch at Port City
Exploration continues around Jaffa
Group Discussion: Our Journey Together
- 16:00 Return to Jerusalem: Night time panoramic view
- 18:00 Refreshments and reflections (College lecture room)
- 19:00 Dinner at the Guest House, Final Banquet

Tuesday March 19

- 7:30 Breakfast
Departures

St George's College

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