

2014 Orthodox Institute Course Descriptions

The courses are placed in interest tracks for your convenience: 1) Event Courses, 2) Church School Director Courses, and 3) Teacher Training Courses. You are not limited to courses in a single track; however, if you attend the first three course listings in a track, you will receive a Certificate of Participation. Further information is given under each track title below. For full course descriptions, please visit www.antiochian.org/OI2014; these on the brochure pages are abridged.

EVENT COURSES

Those who take the first three courses, marked with a (+) will receive a special certificate in "Theosis. Your Life With God." The three courses are available both on Friday and Saturday.

+ Freedom and Your Life with God

Dr. Boosalis, Professor of Dogmatic Theology at St. Tikhon's Seminary will discuss our use of freedom and its ultimate exercise—to find our life with God. (Dr. Harry Boosalis)

+ Spiritual Warfare and Suffering

Theosis is not possible without spiritual warfare and suffering. Dr. Boosalis will raise the question of why pain and suffering exists, and explain how to focus our suffering on Christ so that it can lead to theosis. (Dr. Harry Boosalis)

+ Love and Prayer

The first part of the course is about love--the challenges of loving one's enemies and indeed all mankind. The second part of the course, on prayer, will give special attention to the Jesus Prayer, and dealing with distractions. (Dr. Harry Boosalis)

The Holy Spirit

Fr. John Oliver, author of *Giver of Life*, will discuss misconceptions about the Holy Spirit, and the role of, and acquiring of the Holy Spirit. (Fr. John Oliver)

The Jesus Prayer and Theosis, Parts I and II

In this two session course, Fr. David will trace the history of this prayer beginning with the early monastic communities. Among the people and concepts included in the course are, St. Evagrius, Pseudo-Makarios, "the mind in the heart," hesychasm, and God's essence and energies. (Fr. David Hester)

Life in a Monastery

Have you ever wondered what monastic life is like? Attend this presentation by Fr. John Oliver, AFR podcaster, and author of *Touching Heaven: Discovering Orthodox Christianity on the Island of Valaam*. (Fr. John Oliver)

Theosis: A Woman's Perspective

Theosis is salvation, and offered to both men and women, yet most of the writings on theosis are by men. What "feminine characteristics" strengthen one's quest for theosis? (Mother Christophora)

Fasting Well?

If you sincerely desire to fast but lack of resolve, or are just too hungry, you're not alone. Martha Condra, chef, blogger and AFR podcaster will share ideas to help us improve our fasting. (Martha Condra)

Theosis According to St. Isaac the Syrian: Practical Advice on Becoming More Like Jesus

St. Isaac of Syria developed a distinctive concept of theosis. Fr. Michael Gillis, AFR podcaster, will present St. Isaac's perspective. (Fr. Michael Gillis)

The Return to Wonder

It has been said that religion begins with wonder. Elizabeth White, author of *Walking in Wonder* will help you renew your quest for theosis by learning ways to find wonder. Journaling will be discussed. (Elizabeth White)

Conversing with a Seeker

Ask questions, comment, and enjoy informal conversation with Dr. Markides about his quest to experience transcendent reality. (Dr. Kyriacos Markides)

CHURCH SCHOOL DIRECTOR TRACK

The courses with an asterisk (*) are required for the Church School Director (CSD) Certificate.

*** Introduction To Church School Ministry**

This course introduces the Church School Director Manual designed by experienced directors to facilitate the management of church schools. The course is instructive as well as a platform for sharing. (Robert Snyder, Anna Hughes)

*** Build Your Staff, Build Your Students**

This course will cover positive techniques for recruiting qualified teachers and staff as well as boosting enrollment and attendance in church school programs. (Catherine Sullivan)

*** Curriculum & Resources for the CSD**

Participants will receive information on grade-level standards and review resources that should be in the church school library. Online resources will also be presented. (Betty Randolph, Nike Bach)

Implementing The Creative Arts Festivals and Using A Theme Throughout the Year (Note: The Creative Arts Festival is a program of the Antiochian Archdiocese)

Attend the workshop and learn ways to implement the Creative Arts Festival in your parish. Receive lesson plans and ideas on using the theme during the year. (Vasiliki Oldziej and Kh. Gigi Shadid)

HANDS USED for GOD'S SERVICE

(HUGS) is a resource designed for Sunday School classes. The mission of the HUGS program is to encourage a Christ-like "giving" and "serving" attitude in our children. (Kh. Gigi Shadid)

TEACHER TRAINING TRACK

Because many teachers have already taken Basic Teacher Training (TT I) classes at local events, we offer only Advanced Teacher Training (TT II) courses at the Institute at Antiochian Village. Completion of TT I is **not** required for TT II classes. (If your parish wishes to host a workshop for Basic Teacher Training, contact Mat. Myra Kovalak: mekovalak@gmail.com.)

Advanced Teacher Training is offered for **two levels: Elementary, or MS/HS**. The Elementary classes are marked with (!) and scheduled on Saturday. The MS/HS courses are indicated with (^) and scheduled on Friday. Each consists of three courses. In order to receive an Advanced Teacher Training Certificate, you must take all three.

! Enriching the Classroom Experience

Teachers will be provided with the tools to instruct students in a variety of ways, based on multiple-intelligence theories. (Sandy Mitchell)

! *Child Development and the Exceptional Learner* Child development theories will be presented and related to the child's ability to learn. The needs of the exceptional learner will be addressed. (Gail Meena Malaniak, Myra Kovalak)

! *Creative Expression, Elementary* Our It is time to claim our heritage and bring the arts into our teaching methods so that the children regularly mediate upon and internalize their faith. A variety of methods for both will be presented. (Helen Murray)

^ *Adolescent Needs* The Church's position on current issues often diverges from current cultural views, and need to be discussed. What are the needs of adolescents, and what attitudes and techniques make confident and successful discussion leaders? (Fr. Christopher Rigden-Briscall)

^ *Moral Issues Overview* The Orthodox viewpoint on almost all moral issues, will be presented in a reference handout. A booklet dealing with teen issues will also be provided. Participants can bring up topics to discuss. (Fr. George Alberts)

^ *Creative Expression, MS/HS* It's time to bring the arts to class. While writing or doing art students meditate on and internalize their faith. A variety of methods will be presented for both. (Helen Murray)