

Summer Seminars on Theologies of Religious Pluralism and Comparative Theology Cohort Three

Funded by The Henry Luce Foundation and sponsored by the American Academy of Religion and its Theological Education Steering Committee

These weeklong seminars will provide training to theological education faculty who are often preparing students for future religious leadership and ministry. The Theological Education Steering Committee invites applications from theological educators interested in pursuing these questions. The seminars will help address the question of religious diversity as a question of faith, that is to say, as a properly theological question: What is the meaning of my neighbor's faith for mine? While we expect that the bulk of the applicants will come from seminaries and divinity schools, we also welcome theological educators who teach in theology and religious studies departments.

Cohort Three

May 30-June 7, 2012, Georgia Tech Conference Center, Atlanta
November 16, 2012, at the Annual Meeting, Chicago
May 29-June 5, 2013, Georgia Tech Conference Center, Atlanta

Cohort Three will be composed of 18 participants and 7 instructors and will meet for a weeklong event the first summer, then a one-day event the following fall at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, followed by another week-long event the next summer. The seminars are designed for those relatively new to the theologies of religious pluralism and comparative theology, allowing them to learn from scholars and advance their understanding. The result of the summer seminars will be to increase the number of theological educators who can teach in the areas of theologies of religious pluralism and comparative theology in a variety of institutions in which theological education takes place.

All accepted applicants will be awarded a cash stipend of \$500, plus the grant will cover most of their expenses incurred in their participation in the seminars (i.e., airfare, hotel, meals). To be assured of consideration, [applications](#) must be received by January 16, 2012. Applicants will be notified by late March 2012.

The goals of these summer seminars are to provide theological educators with the following:

- Substantive introduction to the best in current scholarship and teaching resources in the areas of theologies of religious pluralism and comparative theology
- The opportunity to engage in an interreligious conversation about the meaning of religious diversity
- The opportunity to bring their own specific areas of research expertise into conversation with theologies of religious pluralism and comparative theology
- Support in developing teaching resources, syllabi, and other programming appropriate to the particular needs of their home institutions
- The opportunity to disseminate their learning by means of publication or other appropriate media
- A cohort of scholar-teachers who can support each other in their own ongoing scholarly and teaching development in the areas of theologies of religious pluralism and comparative theology

Cohort Three Instructors

John J. Thatamanil, Associate Professor of Theology and World Religions, Theology Department, Boston College

Francis X. Clooney, S. J., Parkman Professor of Theology and Professor of Divinity, Boston College

S. Mark Heim, Samuel Abbot Professor of Christian Theology, Divinity School, Theological Department, Boston College

John Makransky, Associate Professor of Buddhist and Daoist Studies, Boston College

Anant Rambachan , Professor and Chair of Religion, Saint John's College, Annapolis, MD

Devorah Schoenfeld , Assistant Professor of Theology (Judaism), Chesham University, Ramat Gan, Israel

Najeeba Syeed-Miller , Assistant Professor of Interreligious Education, Claremont School of Theology, Claremont, CA