Enrolment Form

Please enrol me for the Temenos Academy Two-Year Foundation Course in the Perennial Philosophy, October 2023-June 2025

Title and Name..........................................................................................................................
Address......................................................................................................................................
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Email............................................................................................................................................
Telephone.................................................................................................................................
How did you hear of the Course?.............................................................................................
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I enclose my payment of £325 being a non-refundable deposit for the two-year 2023-2025 course (Part One and Part Two)...... (tick)
Please note: remainder of fee (£1075) is due by 31st July 2023
OR
I enclose my payment of £1400 being the full fee for the two-year course...... (tick)
By CHEQUE payable to ‘The Temenos Academy’ for £………………
If you wish to pay by BANK TRANSFER, please first telephone the Temenos Academy office on 01233 813663.

On receipt of your payment, a curriculum for the full course (or if registering for just Part Two, the curriculum for Part Two) will be sent to you.

Your enrolment includes an annual membership of the Temenos Academy, and you will be sent the Temenos Academy Review, other publications as issued, and the programme of public lectures and seminars for that year.

Post this form to:
The Temenos Academy
P O Box 203
Ashford
temenosacademy@myfastmail.com
Kent TN25 5ZT

The Temenos Academy is an educational charity founded in 1990 by Dr. Kathleen Raine (1908-2003) and others, which offers education in philosophy and the arts in the light of the sacred traditions of East and West. The Greek word temenos means ‘a sacred precinct’.

Images:
- Krishna teaching Arjuna, the Bhagavad Gītā, Pahari miniature (18th century)
- Lao-Tzu – pen and ink, anonymous
- Hoopoe – Batik, Thëtis Blacker, 20th century

The Temenos Academy is a Registered Charity, No. 1043015
**Course Objectives**

The purpose of the two-year course is to provide an introduction to the universal tradition that is our spiritual heritage, through direct engagement with key texts of both the West and the East. It offers an opportunity to study works of philosophy, poetry, and mysticism that have shaped and nourished civilization. By exploring perennial teachings, which for centuries have renewed and sustained our culture, it offers a vital counterbalance to prevailing assumptions and values. The expertise of the tutors is devoted to providing the most direct encounter possible with the teachings themselves, which, springing from the love of wisdom and the quest for truth, open up infinite riches for study and contemplation. It is hoped that students will learn from, and not merely about, some of the profoundest thinkers the world has known.

**Part Two: Eastern Traditions**

Students will be introduced to textual sources of the perennial philosophy in three major Eastern traditions: Hinduism, Taoism and Islamic mysticism. Through guided reading of the Bhagavad Gītā and the Upanishads in the first term, the Tao Te Ching, the Chuang Tzu and the Hui Nan Tzu in the second term, and ‘Attar’s The Conference of the Birds’ along with the writings of the Islamic metaphysician Ibn ‘Arabī in the third term, Part Two provides students with the opportunity to engage directly with some of the most important wisdom traditions of the East.

**Course Structure: Part Two**

**CONTENT:** Part Two of the course is divided into three modules: (1) Hinduism (2) Taoism and (3) Islamic Mysticism. For details of the content, see under ‘Course Content’ below.

**TUITION:** Study of the modules will take place over three terms, with weekly meetings led by the module tutor on Tuesday evenings between 7pm and 9pm. Students will be expected to read approximately thirty or forty pages of text each week. Tuition will be conducted by lectures and guided discussions on the content of the previous week’s reading.

**ACCREDITATION:** In order to receive a Certificate of Completion students will be required to write one essay of approximately 2000 words for each module and to attend a minimum of 80% of classes. Students who successfully complete both Part One and Part Two, and fulfil these criteria, will be eligible for a Temenos Academy Foundation Course Diploma. However, students may also attend the classes and not write an essay and therefore not receive the Certificate or Diploma.

The Temenos Academy Foundation Course is not accredited by another institution.

* For ‘Part One: The Western Tradition’, see separate leaflet

**Course Content**

**FIRST TERM: HINDUISM**

Weeks 1–5: A study of selected passages from the principal Upanishads, focusing on teachings concerning the Self or Ātman, the doctrines of rebirth and salvation, and the concept of Brahman. Where possible, the commentaries of Shankara will be used as a guide.

Weeks 6–10: An introduction to the classic of Hindu religious philosophy, the Bhagavad Gītā. The full text will be read.

**Textual Sources:** The Bhagavad Gītā, and selections from the Upanishads.

**SECOND TERM: TAOISM**

An exploration of key themes of Taoism, including heaven and earth, life and death, transformation and illumination.

Weeks 1–4: Lao Tzu, Tao Te Ching (complete text).

Weeks 5–7: Selected writings from the Chuang Tzu.

Weeks 8–10: Selected writings from the Hui Nan Tzu.

**Textual Sources:** Lao Tzu, Tao Te Ching, and selections from the Chuang Tzu, and the Hui Nan Tzu.

**THIRD TERM: ISLAMIC MYSTICISM**

Weeks 1–5: A study of the full text of ‘Attar’s The Conference of the Birds’, introducing basic principles of creation, unity, self-knowledge and the spiritual quest.

Weeks 6–10: An introduction to the work of Ibn ‘Arabī, based on selected readings from The Ringstones of Wisdom, exploring these themes in more depth.


**Course Tutors**

**DR. RISHI HANDA** (Hinduism) is Head of Sanskrit and Head of Religious Studies and Philosophy at St James Senior Boys’ School. His research areas are in Hindu identity, philosophy, and mysticism (particularly Advaīta Vedānta) and the Sikh tradition, with interests lying in Sufi Islam and Gnostic Christianity, as well as the study of languages and Vedic astrology. Originally a mathematics teacher, he is also an editor for a UK based Indic publishing house. Outside of academia, he is a musician and producer for his band.

**SANDRA HILL** (Taoism) after completing postgraduate studies in fine art at St. Martin’s School of Art, travelled to the Far East to pursue her interest in the influence of Eastern philosophy on Western art. She lived for four years in Japan, returning to the UK to study both classical philosophical and medical texts. Sandra currently practises Chinese calligraphy, Taoist meditation and acupuncture.

**JANE CLARK MA** (Islamic Mysticism) is a Senior Research Fellow of the Muhyiddin Ibn ‘Arabī Society. She has a Masters degree in Medieval Arabic Philosophy from the University of Oxford, and has been studying, teaching and lecturing on the ideas of Ibn ‘Arabī for more than thirty years.

**Venue**

The Art Workers Guild
6 Queen Square
Bloomsbury
London WC1N 3AT

Nearest undergrounds: Russell Square and Holborn

**Cost**

The course fee is £1400 for two years (Part One and Part Two). A non-refundable deposit of £325 will be required by April 30th 2023 in order to secure your place, the remainder of the fee (£1075) payable by July 31st 2023.

Separate Parts (Part One or Part Two) and individual modules will only be offered if spaces are available, at £800 per Part or £325 per module.

Early booking recommended.

NB The Course is open to students 18 years of age and over.

Discretionary concessions are available on application, stating reasons, to temenosacademy@myfaimail.com

We regret that no refunds can be made after the start of the course.