

Programme details

The aim of this course is to explore some of the leading ideas of Dante's work and their continuing significance to us. The audience will be introduced to a wide range of texts and topics with a view to reconstructing the moral and intellectual world in which Dante lived. These topics will include Dante's approach to love, philosophy, theology, language, literature, politics, mysticism, astrology, as well as his understanding of nature, grace and the afterlife, his sources and his relevance to contemporary existential concerns.

The course is held in partnership with the Warburg Institute and University College London. There will be an introductory session in October 2017 followed by twelve more sessions from January to June 2018 covering the topics specified above. Scheduled to take place on Tuesdays from 7.00 to 8.30 pm, the course will be presented by Alessandro Scafi and John Took.

The event is free but please book online at www.icilondon.esteri.it

Please note: **From Devilry to Divinity**, a weekly series of public readings of Dante's *Divine Comedy*, will take place at the Warburg Institute on Mondays in the Spring and Summer Terms, from 6.00 to 7.30 pm (16 sessions). Free of charge. Woburn Square, London WC1H 0AB.

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Cover image: Domenico di Michelino, *La Divina Commedia di Dante*, 1465, Firenze, Santa Maria del Fiore



Dante: A Man for All Seasons

A fortnightly exploration of Dante, his life and work both in their historical context and their continuing relevance for us today

Between October 2017 and June 2018

Organised and presented by
Alessandro Scafi (Warburg Institute) and John Took (UCL)



THE WARBURG
INSTITUTE

SCHOOL OF
ADVANCED STUDY
UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON

Programme

Tuesday evenings from 7.00 to 8.30 pm

Introduction

23 October 2017

Introducing Dante

A preliminary session to confirm Dante's status as a poet of life, love and light at their most sublime

Part 1: A general interpretation of Dante

16 January 2018

Dante as the poet and philosopher of being and becoming

The individual or group of individuals as the object of Dante's concern as a philosopher and theologian

30 January 2018

Dante as a poet and philosopher of love

Patterns of love-understanding in the *Vita nova*, the *Fiore*, the *rime*, the *Convivio* and the *Commedia*

6 February 2018

Dante as a philosopher and theologian

Dante and his philosophical circumstances – the nature of human happiness and the ends of human striving – philosophy and theology from the *Convivio* and the *Monarchia* to the *Commedia*

27 February 2018

Dante as a poet

Dante on the role and indispensability of the image

Part 2: Special topics and areas of concern

6 March 2018

Dante, language and literature

Latin, the vernacular and language as a principle of identity

20 March 2018

Dante, destiny and free will

Proper calling and the power to self-determination

27 March 2018

Dante, nature and grace

The human and the divine initiative within the economy of the whole

8 May 2018

Dante, the soul and the body

An intellectual creature in the flesh: Dantean incarnationalism

15 May 2018

Dante, princes and popes

Political catastrophe and a radical solution

22 May 2018

Dante, the here and now and the hereafter

Ultimate and immanent eschatology: heaven and hell right now

29 May 2018

Dante, Christianity and Islam

Sameness, otherness and patterns of cultural awareness

5 June 2018

Conclusion: Dante a man for all seasons

Drawing up the threads