Asian Religions and Christianity

James A. Wiseman, O.S.B., Professor of Theology, Emeritus, The Catholic University of America, and Abbot, St. Anselm’s Abbey, Washington, D.C. Tuesdays, 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.; October 14, 21, 28. McShain Lounge, McCarthy Hall.

The three class sessions will give a basic introduction to Hinduism, Buddhism, and the Chinese traditions of Daoism and Confucianism. We will also look at the ways in which one or another of these traditions intrigued and challenged Christian writers like Thomas Merton and Henri Le Saux and how they can also intrigue and challenge ourselves.

The Development of Italian Renaissance Thought: Paintings and Sculptures as Narrative Texts

Serafina Hager, Associate Professor of Italian, Emerita; former Chair of the Italian Department and Curricular Dean of the Faculty of Languages and Linguistics, Wednesdays, 1:00-2:30, p.m.; Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 5. The Murray Room, Fifth Floor, Lauinger Library.

This course will trace the development of Renaissance thought from a theocentric to the anthropocentric worldview ushered in by the humanists through the literary, historical and philosophical analysis of a selected group of works of art by Giotto, Masaccio, Brunelleschi, Donatello, Botticelli, Michelangelo, Leonardo, Raffaello, and others. A packet of selected readings will be distributed to participants.

Science, Faith, and Teilhard de Chardin

John F. Haught, Distinguished Research Professor of Theology
Tuesday, October 28. 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. Murray Room, Lauinger.

After a brief summary of some of the major issues in science and theology, this lecture will introduce participants to the Jesuit geologist and religious thinker Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955). Then it will reflect on the relevance this great thinker may still have to contemporary discussions on the relationship of the natural sciences to biblically-based religious thought.

Masterworks of English Modernist Poetry

Paul Betz, Professor of English, Emeritus; former Chair of the English Department. Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.; Nov. 5, 12, 19. McShain Lounge, McCarthy Hall.

We will discuss a small number of major lyric poems by William Butler Yeats (including "Easter 1916" and "Sailing to Byzantium"); T.S. Eliot (including...
"Sweeney Among the Nightingales" and "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock"); and Robert Lowell ("Skunk Hour"). Texts will be provided in the first class.

**Navigating the Narratives of Genesis**

*Rabbi Harold S. White, Senior Advisor, Program for Jewish Civilization, Office of the President. Tuesdays, 10:30am-12:00pm Nov. 11, 18, 25. Philodemic Room, 2Healy.*

The course will cover three areas: first, the Creation and Garden of Eden narratives; second, the Noah narrative; third, the ten generations between Adam and Abraham, including the Cain and Abel narrative, the Tower of Babel narrative, and the call of Abraham as the first Patriarch.