SUMMER SEMINAR: SCIENCE AND RELIGION

Date: August 17-20th, 2015  
Location: VU University Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Room: Agora 1

PROGRAM

Monday August 17th | The Nature of Science and the Nature of Religion

08.30 – 09.30 Registration and coffee
09.30 – 09.45 Opening
09.45 – 11.00 Lecture 1  
Henk de Regt (VU University Amsterdam)  
What is Science? On the relation between evidence, underdetermination, explanation, theory and truth
11.00 – 11.30 Break
11.30 - 12.45 Lecture 2  
Jeroen de Ridder (VU University Amsterdam)  
Science and Knowledge. Is there non-scientific knowledge? If so, how does it relate to scientific knowledge? And what is the nature of scientific knowledge?
12.45 – 14.00 Lunch
14.00 – 15.15 Lecture 3  
Vincent Brümmer (Utrecht University)  
What is Religion? Do religions make factual claims? Do they proffer explanations?
15.15 – 15.45 Break
15.45 – 17.00 Lecture 4  
Emanuel Rutten (VU University Amsterdam)  
Can Religious Belief be Rational?
18.30 – 20.30 Dinner @ Boat  
Canal tour through the old city center of Amsterdam
Tuesday August 18th | Science and Religion in Historical Perspective

09.00 – 09.30 Coffee

09.30 – 10.45 Lecture 5 Gijsbert van den Brink (VU University Amsterdam) Relating science and religion: Ian G. Barbour and beyond

10.45 – 11.15 Break

11.15 – 12.30 Lecture 6 Nidhal Guessoum (American University of Sharjah) Islam and Science

12.30 – 13.45 Lunch

13.45 – 15.00 Lecture 7 Denis Alexander (St Edmund’s College, Cambridge) The Origins of Science and the Judeao-Christian Doctrine of Creation

15.00 – 15.30 Break

15.30 – 16.45 Lecture 8 Ab Flipse (VU University Amsterdam) The Life and Thought of Abraham Kuyper: Science and Christianity

18.00 – 19.30 Dinner @ De Nieuwe Poort

20.00 Theater @ De Nieuwe Poort Andrew Harrison Mr. Darwin’s Tree
### Wednesday August 19th | Science and Religion in Contemporary Perspective

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Speaker(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td>09.00 – 09.30</td>
<td>Coffee</td>
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<td>09.30 – 10.45</td>
<td>Lecture 9</td>
<td><strong>Helen de Cruz</strong> (VU University Amsterdam)</td>
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<td>What Cognitive Science Says About Religion</td>
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<td>10.45 – 11.15</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>11.15 – 12.30</td>
<td>Lecture 10</td>
<td><strong>Kelly James Clark</strong> (Grand Valley State University)</td>
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<td>Is Cognitive Science of Religion Debunking?</td>
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<td>12.30 – 13.30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>13.30 – 14.45</td>
<td>Lecture 11</td>
<td><strong>Dick Swaab &amp; Denis Alexander</strong></td>
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<td>(debate)</td>
<td>Is There a Conflict between Science and Religion? (Scientists)</td>
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<td>14.45 – 15.15</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>15.15 – 16.30</td>
<td>Lecture 12</td>
<td><strong>Michael Ruse &amp; Nancey Murphy</strong></td>
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<td>(debate)</td>
<td>Is There a Conflict between Science and Religion? (Philosophers)</td>
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<td>16.30 – 17.45</td>
<td>Lecture 13</td>
<td><strong>Tjerk Oosterkamp</strong> (Leiden University)</td>
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<td>The leaps of faith of a physicist</td>
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<td>18.00 –</td>
<td>Dinner @ VU</td>
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**Thursday August 20\(^{th}\) | Religious Belief and the Theory of Evolution**

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Speaker(s)</th>
<th>Institution(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td>09.30 – 10.45</td>
<td>Lecture 14</td>
<td>Denis Alexander</td>
<td>St Edmund's College, Cambridge</td>
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<td><strong>Evolution, Fall, and Sin</strong></td>
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<td>10.45 – 11.15</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>11.15 – 12.30</td>
<td>Lecture 15</td>
<td>Nancey Murphy</td>
<td>Fuller Theological Seminary</td>
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<td><strong>Evolution and Divine Action</strong></td>
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<td>12.30 – 13.45</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>13.45 – 15.00</td>
<td>Lecture 16</td>
<td>Michael Ruse</td>
<td>Florida State University</td>
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<td><strong>God or Blind Nature?</strong></td>
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<td>15.00 – 15.30</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>15.30 – 16.45</td>
<td>Lecture 17</td>
<td>Kelly James Clark</td>
<td>Grand Valley State University</td>
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<td><strong>Evolution, randomness and providence</strong></td>
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<td>16.45 – 17.00</td>
<td>Closing drinks</td>
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**Route description Amsterdam**

**Venue Address**
VU University Amsterdam  
De Boelelaan 1105  
1081 HV Amsterdam

> See the next pages for a route description on the VU Campus

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**Route to the VU University**
VU University is located close to the railroad station Amsterdam Zuid – WTC. From the city center you can reach VU with tram line 5, 16 and 24 or metro line 51.

**Transportation**
Travellers arriving at Schiphol can take the train to Station Amsterdam Zuid. There are direct intercity trains from Schiphol that go straight to this station. The journey takes approximately 15 minutes. You can buy a ticket:
- At the yellow self-service ticket machines. Payment can be done by debit card (Maestro) or coins. Unfortunately, not all ticket machines accept credit cards.
- At a service desk at a larger railway station. There is a €0.50 charge for using this service.
- Information on (bus/train) schedules can be found on the NS website or at www.9292ov.nl/en.

**From Station Amsterdam Zuid**
It is a ten-minute walk to the VU, and there are signs to the VU on the Southern exit of the station. However, if you want to take public transport, it is one stop on either:
- metro 51 (1 minute), direction Amstelveen Westwijk
- tram 5 (1 minute), direction Amstelveen Binnenhof

**From Station Amsterdam Centraal:**
- metro 51 to De Boelelaan/VU. Enter in the subway station under the main train station
- tram 5 to De Boelelaan/VU. Enter on the West side of the station square.
- tram 16 or 24 to De Boelelaan/VU. Enter on the East side of the station square.

**Travelling by car**
The A-10 Amsterdam ring road can be reached from all directions. Follow the A-10 to the Zuid/Amstelveen exit S 108. Turn left at the end of the slip road onto Amstelveenseweg: after about three hundred yards (at the VU University hospital building) turn left again onto De Boelelaan. VU University Amsterdam can be reached via city routes S 108 and S 109.
Route description VU University

VU University
De Boelelaan 1105
1081 HV Amsterdam

Workshop room: Agora 1
(Main Building VU, 3rd Floor)

Please follow the signs at the VU.

Route description to Amsterdam Boat Center
(Monday August 17th)

Address
Singel 315
1012 WJ Amsterdam

Tram 5, direction Centraal Station
Stop: Spui (Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal)

Walk (2 minutes) to Singel 315:
1. Head north on Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal
2. Turn left onto Roskamsteeg
3. Cross the street (Spuistraat)
4. Turn right onto Singel
Route description to De Nieuwe Poort (Tuesday August 17th)

Address
Claude Debussylein 2-8
1082 MD Amsterdam

Walk (7 minutes) from VU University to De Nieuwe Poort:
1. Head northeast
2. Turn right toward Buitenveldertselaan
3. Turn left onto Buitenveldertselaan
4. Turn right onto De Boelelaan
5. Turn left onto Buitenveldertselaan
6. Slight right at Gustav Mahlerlaan
7. Turn right onto Claude Debussylaan
8. Destination will be on the left
Organizers

Organizing committee
Gijsbert van den Brink
Irma Verlaan
René van Woudenberg

Visiting address
VU University Amsterdam
De Boelelaan 1105
1081 HV Amsterdam

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