

What they say

"Inter-faith dialogue is all a bit wishy-washy, isn't it? It seems a futile attempt at squaring the circle. This summer school has helped me see otherwise. Without compromising our own faiths, we've been able to listen and learn from one another. I feel I have new confidence for my future as a parish priest." *A Christian*

"An enriching, beautiful, powerful and unforgettable experience. It is unlike any other inter-faith programme - not just the content but the wonderful souls facilitating as lecturers, mentors, organisers and donors." *A Muslim*

"In a deeply polemical world, where the metaphor of war is used of the relationship between different perspectives and beliefs, it has always been a joy to be part of the Centre for Muslim-Christian Studies Summer School. The whole atmosphere is of listening to a tradition that is not one's own, in order (not primarily to critique or criticise but) to learn and to understand." *Dr Michael Lloyd, Wycliffe Hall Oxford*

"The Oxford Muslim-Christian Summer School has provided our students, who come from a rich tapestry of faiths and cultures, with a rare and transformative space for open, respectful dialogue. It has deepened their interfaith understanding while equipping them with the critical thinking and leadership skills essential for engaging across differences in today's global society."

Dr A G Abubaker, Al-Maktoum College

2026 Speakers (TBC)

Previous speakers include:

Dr Muhammad Gamal Abdelnour – Al-Azhar University

Shaykha Shahanaz Begum – University of Exeter

Dr Safaruk Chowdhury – Cambridge Muslim College

Dr Dragos Herescu – Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies

Dr Haider Hobballah – Al Mahdi Institute

Dr Donna Lazenby – Trinity College, Bristol

Rev Dr Michael Lloyd – Wycliffe Hall Oxford



Christian ordinands wanting to take the Summer School as a Common Awards module for credit should contact summerschool@cmcsxford.org.uk.



Oxford Muslim-Christian Summer School

Not your usual inter-faith encounter!



12th - 19th August 2026
Centre for Muslim-Christian Studies Oxford

www.cmcsoxford.org.uk/studying/summer-courses

Join us for our 11th annual residential week for Christian and Muslim students of faith

A Summer School for theological students, or recent graduates, at Christian or Islamic theological colleges training for vocational, faith-based careers in the UK.

Our aim is to train up a new generation of Christian and Muslim leaders who will have strong relationships and a point of reference in the other community. So students are encouraged to stay in contact with their cohort.



Lectures, workshops and tutorials led by experienced Christian and Muslim academics explore sacred texts, shared history, contemporary issues and difficult questions. Topics in 2025 included the history of Christian-Muslim relations, the attributes of God, the environment, human rights, and religion and state. Probably the highlight, however, is the time taken to make new friends and the

hours spent getting to know them and understand how they understand their faith - over meals, visits to mosques and churches, walks in the country and even a punting trip!

Students come from all the main Muslim and Christian traditions. However, those who are non-practising or those of no faith may not feel so comfortable on the programme. Whilst provision is made for personal prayer, at no time are students required to engage in shared acts of worship.



Costs

The full cost of the Summer School to CMCS is around £1,500 per person including one week full board in a college in Oxford, all tuition and excursions plus our overheads. However, we recognize that many of our students cannot afford to pay an amount like this. So, every year we approach trusts for grants to help cover the costs. We were grateful in 2025 for support totalling over £20,000 from 10 trusts—Muslim, Christian and other. This enables us to offer the programme at the subsidised rates shown below. However, costs are going up all the time and we are asking those who apply to consider raising the full funds to cover their costs either through personal donation, crowd funding or applying for a grant. Why not ask your college if they



would pay for your place or give you a grant?



To date, 150 students have attended from a dozen Christian theological and Bible colleges and half a dozen Islamic seminaries, as well as numerous universities. Why not join us in 2026?!

Details

Date of Part 1 (school): 12th - 19th August 2026

Date of Part 2 (reunion weekend): 4th - 6th December 2026

Venue: Ripon College Cuddesdon, Oxford

Costs: In employment - £650

In education/training - £450

Bursaries available in cases of hardship

Applications: <http://cmcsoxford.org.uk/studying/summer-courses/>

Application deadline: 30th April 2026

Places limited to 8 Muslims and 8 Christians, so apply early!