

Call for Applications: DPhil studentship

to start in Hilary Term 2021

The University of Oxford proposes to award a 3-year DPhil studentship, to cover [home status course fees](#) and a maintenance stipend, to support the project 'God-Concepts and Spiritual Wellbeing'. The successful candidate will start if possible at the beginning of Hilary Term 2021 (18 January 2021). A later start date may be possible, depending on the applicant's circumstances. The project is generously funded by the John Templeton Foundation and intended to support the Nolloth Professorship in the Philosophy of the Christian Religion at the University of Oxford.

*Please note that the scholarship will only cover **Home course fees** and so the opportunity is **restricted to applicants that the University classes as Home for fee purposes**, e.g. either a UK National (meeting residency requirements), or with settled or pre-settled status, or with indefinite leave to remain or enter.*

The project:

Using various God-concepts, drawn from a range of religious and philosophical contexts, the project team will address two questions: In what ways can God-concepts deepen or otherwise inform our conception of the nature of spiritual wellbeing? And: To what extent can God-concepts be assessed as more or less appropriate or adequate by reference to their implications for spiritual wellbeing? The project will draw on philosophical, theological and empirical methods, and make use of interviews as well as textual and other sources. Based in the Faculty of Theology and Religion at the University of Oxford, the project team will collaborate with scholars from a wide range of disciplines.

The DPhil student will work closely with the project director, Prof Mark Wynn, and other team members, including Dr Joanna Collicutt. They will be expected to have a first degree, and a masters degree, preferably in philosophy, theology or the study of religion. A postdoctoral fellow will join the team in September 2021, with responsibility for the empirical strand of the project.

Eligibility:

Applications are invited from prospective doctoral candidates who have completed and been assessed for their Master's degree by the start date. Applications from on-course doctoral students in their first year will also be considered, if their research relates to the themes and aims of the project. If not a current student already on the DPhil Theology and Religion, the successful applicant will be encouraged to submit a DPhil Theology and Religion application, which must be complete (including at least two references) by 11th December. If you are chosen for this funding and are already in the process of submitting a DPhil application, you must ensure that your application is complete, including at least two references, by 11th December. Please note that the chosen applicant will be required to meet all offer conditions before the award is confirmed, and your final college may be different from the choice indicated at application stage as a start during this academic year requires a college place to be found.

Application process:

Applicants are requested to send:

- An up-to-date CV and a short statement of up to 700 words, setting out their qualifications, overall background, and readiness to contribute to the project.

These should be sent by attachment to Mark Wynn at: mark.wynn@theology.ox.ac.uk. The closing date for receipt of CV and Supporting Statement is **5pm on 25 November 2020**. The chosen applicant will be informed shortly after the closing date.