

Online College-level Certificate Course in Unification Thought

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September 9, 2016



In recent years, a growing number of people have expressed an interest in learning more about Unification Thought (UT), which led to the idea of creating a College-level course and making it available for a nominal fee to a large audience. The result is the present online course, the Certificate Course in Unification Thought. Participants will be able to access the course after payment of a US\$ 40 fee (see below) and will receive the Certificate upon successful completion of the Course.

- The course is self-paced. It can be started and completed anytime. It will remain available indefinitely.
- Participants have to go through each item in order to reach the next one, but can log in and out as often as they want, continuing where they left off. At the very end, there is a Quiz that allows you to receive the certificate once you pass it (you can try repeatedly).
- It is also recommended (but not mandatory) that participants read the corresponding sections of the short version of UT (less than 150 pages, available online through a link in the course, free of charge) as they go through the course.
- This course does not require the purchase of any books or other material. There is no video conferencing or assignments. It can be completed by anyone having a computer and an Internet connection.

Unification Thought (sometimes referred to as Unification Philosophy) is a systematized presentation of the thought of Sun Myung Moon. This course aims to familiarize participants with the unique insights of Unification Thought and the ways in which it relates to mainstream western thought. An effort has been made to shed light on the innovative contributions made by Unification Thought and to place them in context, thus removing some of the stumbling blocks that might disorient those new to UT.

The course does not presuppose either in-depth knowledge of Unificationist teachings or a familiarity with the Western or Eastern philosophical traditions, though a degree of acquaintance with both would be an advantage. This will be the occasion to discuss a number of key philosophical notions and their practical applications. In the process, the main areas of philosophical investigation, as they are treated in the Unification Thought textbooks, will be dealt with one by one. This course covers the entirety of Unification Thought, namely the 11 chapters found in current UT publications – each chapter corresponding to a specific field of philosophical inquiry (Ontology, Ethics, Epistemology...), as well as an additional chapter on Spirit World not found in existing publications. Even more importantly, though, it is hoped that the general framework and method of Unification Thought will become clear through this

course.

What follows can thus be read as a stand-alone, chapter-by-chapter description and analysis of Unification Thought. It is, however, best studied along with the brief corresponding content found in *An Introduction to the Thought of Sun Myung Moon* (RIIWT 2005), an abbreviated but quite complete overview of Unification Thought.

Instructor Bio



Dr. Claude Perrottet, Secretary-General of the Research Institute for the Integration of World Thought, created and developed the Certificate Course in Unification Thought. He also served as the translator (from the Korean original to English) of *An Introduction to the Thought of Sun Myung Moon Unification Thought and V.O.C.*

Claude Perrottet's specialized field is Philosophy of Religion and he holds a Ph.D. from Laval University (state university, Quebec, Canada). He is a 1999 Summa Cum Laude graduate of the Unification Theological Seminary where he earned his Masters of Divinity. He has researched and taught Unification Thought for more than three decades and he has published articles on Gender in Western Philosophy and Unification Thought and a Philosophical Inquiry into Spirit World in the *Journal of Unification Studies*. He has also published a book on *Kant's influence on Tillich's Philosophy of Religion*, as well as articles on topics such as *Kant's Perpetual Peace* as an antecedent to the United Nations and Paul Tillich and Zen Buddhism. He coauthored *Unification Perspectives on Peace and Conflict Transformation (2013)* with Dr. Thomas J. Ward.

In addition to his course on Unification Thought, Perrottet currently teaches graduate courses in Global Development and Peace and undergraduate courses in Sociology of Religion, Philosophy of Religion, Gender Studies, and Ethics at the University of Bridgeport.

For questions, contact us at: unificationthought@outlook.com