

International Summer University 2013

Experiencing Wholeness

July 29 to August 10



Science Section

at the Goetheanum in Dornach
and in the alpine valley of
the Lötschen, Switzerland

Goetheanum



Goethe's way of science complements the approach of the academic sciences and aspires to integrate aesthetic and artistic elements into the process of knowing.

Key features of the Goethean approach:

- sensing wholeness within the parts: what we can observe, what we cannot
- acknowledging the need for a multi-method scientific approach with distinct methods for the inorganic world, the organic world, and the humanities
- using a synthesis of empirical science and art in order to explore formative principles of creation
- establishing a participatory i.e. non-violent relationship to Nature

It is on this path that Nature regains its intrinsic value, and ethics and science can meet and amalgamate. Right doing comes from right thinking.

Format

This course is offered in **English** and is open to everyone. Past participants from Hungary, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Portugal and the US have enjoyed the journey together through a new way of science and the pleasure of a multicultural exchange.

The first week introduces the basics of Goethean Science and examines the philosophical reasoning behind it, as presented by Rudolf Steiner. The second week moves from theory to practical experience, as we switch locations from Dornach to the Lötschental, a Swiss alpine valley particularly suited for outdoor research projects. Participants in small groups will work on individual projects with the help of a mentor, applying the methods studied in the first week. Projects will be tailored to the level of the participants. Project topics include but are not limited to: plants, plant societies, animals, traditional agriculture, glaciology, geography and geology.



Program—1st week

- **moving body and mind:** eurythmy and exercises in geometry
- **reassuring reality:** lectures, discussions and text study on Goethe's theory of knowledge as outlined by Rudolf Steiner
- **applying tools of Goethean science:** methods from physics, plant science and animal science
- **strengthening the inner life:** prerequisites, challenges and results of meditation
- **celebrating the sacredness of sunset and sunrise:** an overnight at a Celtic sun temple
- **reviewing Goethean science 2013:** presentations of projects from our Institute

Program—2nd week

- **sun dance:** early morning eurythmy
- **looking into the mirror:** text study on wholeness and holistic science, through the mind of modern thinkers
- **immersing oneself in Nature:** project work
- **reaching the limits:** hike to a mountain top
- **bringing in the harvest:** presentation and discussion of the projects

Fees

- Course fee for both weeks CHF **750.-** or Early registration (until 31 May) CHF **595.-**
- Accommodation & meals for 2nd week: CHF **295.-** (accommodation and meals for 1st week are the responsibility of the participants)

Participation for one week by special request only.

Registration

Send or email registration in writing to the Research Institute. Include your **name, mailing address, and email address**. You will be sent an invoice, to be paid in full prior to your arrival. For the early registration discount, payment **must** be received by 31 May, so send your registration by 15 May.

Registration deadline

1 July 2013



Accommodation & Meals – 1st week

For the 1st week, participants are responsible for their own accommodations and meals:

- Camping (about 3km away) – Camping Waldhort, Heideweg 16, 4153 Reinach, www.camping-waldhort.ch/index.htm
- Dormitory rooms on the Goetheanum grounds with use of kitchen and showers, Nanna Osmer <nanna@osmer.co> or +41 76 369 10 14.
- Private beds (35 - 50 CHF-) contact Theodora Arakov <carakov@web.de> or +41 61 701 64 77.
- Other possibilities: <http://goetheanum.org/78.html>, zimmer@goetheanum.ch

Accommodation & Meals – 2nd week

The 2nd week will be spent at Haus Städelfluh, CH-3919 Blatten (Lötschen.) Travel to the Lötschental will be organized during the first week. Participants must pay their own travel costs. Carpool or public transportation costs (approx. 150 CHF-) are **not included** in course fee.

Housing and meal costs are covered by the “accommodations & meals” portion of the registration fee.

Vegetarian meals will be organized for participants.

Help in the house and kitchen will be appreciated.

Cancellation Policy

- Cancellations must be submitted in writing.
- Written cancellations received by 16 July 2013 (14 days prior to the course) will receive a full refund.
- After that date, 70% of the course fee will be refunded, but there will be no refund for the accommodations and meals fee.
- No refunds will be given once the course begins.

Please Bring

- coloured pencils, ruler, drawing paper, notebook
- sleeping bag and pad
- warm and waterproof clothing, rain gear
- sun protection (hat, sunscreen, sunglasses)
- hiking boots, backpack, water bottle or thermos
- binoculars, magnifying glass



Barbara Derbidge, eurythmist, studied in Berlin, coordinated her own project in Germany, and was a member of an ensemble in the US. She has been with the Goetheanum eurythmy group since 2005, performs in the Mystery Dramas project, and teaches eurythmy.



Renatus Derbidge, studied biology, geography and philosophy at the Freie Universität Berlin and taught high school for three years. He is working on his thesis "Rhythmic changes in mistletoe berry shape in response to lunar zodiac constellations".



Johannes Köhl, physicist, was a Waldorf high-school teacher for 14 years in Stuttgart, Germany before coming to Dornach to lead the Science Section at the Goetheanum in 1996. Research work includes Goethean optics, colour, quantum physics and technology.



Laura Liska, naturalist, has worked with methods of Goethean science in a phenomenological approach to the study of nature. She is currently working on "The Falling Leaves Project", a study of leaf colour during the cycle of the year.



Matthias Rang, physicist, studied in Freiburg and Berlin, and was a guest scientist at the Univ. of Washington in Seattle. He joined the Research Institute in 2007 and is working on his PhD thesis on the phenomenology of complementary colour.



Ruth Richter, trained as a gardener, farmer and philosopher, specialises in research on the dynamic morphology of plants and the philosophy of biology. She is engaged in conservation and breeding of medicinal plants.



Johannes Wirz, PhD, molecular geneticist, is currently researching the inner nature and vitality of the honey bee. Earlier research projects included butterfly ecology and the unintended effects of genetic modifications in crop plants.

The Research Institute of the Science Section

Twentieth century science – physics, chemistry, biology, ecology – is challenged by the limitations of a particulate or molecular perspective. The task of the Science Section is to address and overcome these challenges, i.e. to rediscover the wholeness in Nature. At the Research Institute (the Institute for Contextual Science) we draw from a spectrum of phenomenological methods originating in Goethe's scientific work and developed further through Rudolf Steiner's anthroposophy as spiritual science. Critical reflection and epistemological assessment of these methods are an integral part of the research process. We aspire to shift the position of the researcher from external observer to participatory observer. In this way, knowledge leading to technological progress is metamorphosed into knowledge for the evolution of consciousness in service to Nature.



Contact / Send Registration to:

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