

# PLUREL CONFERENCES

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS HELD BY PLUREL:

- [The notion of religion as applied in education and research](#) (organized by PluRel's staff, in English/Norwegian, Oslo 7.-9.01.13)
- [Occupy Earth! Ritual Gestures to Save the World](#) (organized by the research initiative with the same title, in English, Oslo 23.-25.03.12)
- [Religion, populism and extremism](#) (one day conference, in Norwegian, 18.01.2012)
- [On the Heterogeneity of the Secular: Negotiating Religion in Law and Public Space](#) (organized by the research group Human Rights and Religion, in English, Oslo 27.-28.04.2012 > book).
- [Religion across Media. Theoretical Perspectives and Case Studies](#) (organized by the research group Religion and Media, in English, Oslo 13.-15.02.2012).
- [Religious Pluralization as cultural condition for social cohesion and social conflict in a post-secular age](#) (organized by the research initiative PROSPECT, in English, Jerusalem 19.-20.02.12)
- [Religious Pluralization and Secularity](#) (organized by the research initiative PROSPECT, in English, Oslo 23.-24.2011)
- [Complexity and Legitimacy: Religion, Secularity, and Values in the Polis](#) (organized centrally, in English, Oslo 18.-20.11.201)
- [Human Rights and Religion in the Context of West-Nordic Traditions](#) (organized by the research group Human Rights and Religion, in Scandinavian languages, Oslo 20.-21.05. 2010)
- [Religion, Value Systems and Citizenship in Late Modern Europe](#) (organized centrally, in English, Oslo 03.-04.06.2010)
- [The Formative Past and the Formation of the Future](#) (organized centrally, in English, Oslo 16.-18.09.2009)

### SELECTED CONFERENCES HELD IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OTHERS:

- [Holy Travel and Holy Place](#) (one day conference, in Norwegian, Oslo 24.09.12 – in cooperation with a research group based at IKOS<sup>1</sup>)
- [Sacralization of space](#) (one day conference, in Norwegian, Oslo 29.11.10 - in cooperation with a research group based at IKOS) [Medialization, Religion and Transformations of the Nordic Public Sphere](#) (in cooperation with NOREL, Sigtuna/Sweden 26.-28.05.10)
- [Religious Beliefs and Practices in Denmark-Norway](#) (in Norwegian/Danish, Oslo 17.-18.06.2010 – in cooperation with an IKOS-based research initiative)
- [Cultural Histories of Meditation](#) (in English, Oslo 12.-16.05.2010 – in cooperation with an IKOS-based research initiative)
- [Religion in Africa and Norway](#) (in English, Oslo 25.-27.05.2012 – in cooperation with the research project “Broken Bodies, Healing Traditions”).
- [Exploring Experiences of Immanent Transcendence. Perspectives from Religion, Aesthetics and Biosemiotic](#) (in English, Oslo 03.-04.06,2010 – in cooperation with ILOS; a precursor to PluRel’s research group Aesthetics, Theology and the Natural Science)
- [Values, Integration, and State Intervention](#) (in Norwegian, Oslo, 07.-08.09.2009 – in cooperation with the research program Culcom)
- [Workshop on Festivals](#), Oslo 22.-25.10.2009 (organized by PluRel’s previous research group Perspectives on Festivity).

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<sup>1</sup> IKOS = Department of Culture Studies and Oriental Languages, Faculty of Humanities (the base of Religious Studies at UiO).

# PLUREL SEMINARS

Typical format: two hours, with prepared presentations and responses, plus discussion. The seminars are normally related either to the activities of the research groups of PluRel's phd-/postdoc-group,

## 2012 (January-September):

In total, 24 seminars and guest lectures from January to September (21 in English)

Thirteen seminars organized by the research group Oslo Buddhist Studies Forum:

- See details, [Spring 2012](#)

Three seminars organized by the research group Tibetan and Himalayan Studies:

- See details, [Spring 2012](#)

Two seminars/guest lectures organized by the research group Islamic Studies:

- Guest lecture by Tim Winter: [Realism and the Real: paradoxes of Islamic pluralist soteriology](#)
- Seminar on [Politiske holdninger hos norske muslimske ledere](#) («Political attitudes among Norwegian Muslim leaders»)

One seminar organized by the research group Aesthetics, Theology and the Natural Science:

- Seminar on [Sammenhenger. Estetikk, teologi og naturvitenskap?](#) («Connections. Aesthetics, Theology and Natural Science»)

Five other seminars/guest lectures:

- Guest lecture by Brian Victoria [The Nature and Causes of "Holy War" in the World's Major Religions](#) (related to the research initiative "Military Chaplancy in an Era of Religious Pluralism»)
- Seminar on [Spansk gullalder, historiens relevans og religiøs mangfold](#) («Spanish golden age, the relevance of history and religious plurality», in connection with book published by a PluRel-researcher)
- Seminar on [Fundamentalism: prophecy and protest](#) (in connection with book published by a PluRel-researcher)
- Guest lecture by José Casanova: [Multiple Secularities: Comparative Reflections on the Nordic Protestant and the Southern Catholic Patterns from a Global Perspective](#) (in connection with a PluRel conference)
- Guest lecture by Kim Knott: [Interrogating the Secular: A Spatial Approach](#) (in connection with a PluRel conference)

## 2011:

In total, 25 seminars and guest lectures (23 in English).

Eight seminars with presentations from PhD- or Postdoc-fellows:

- Seminar on [Religion, Civility and Conflict](#)
- Seminar on [Giving Meaning to Mary: Producing Symbols of Suffering at the Slovak National Pilgrimage](#)
- Seminar on [“Culture”, “religion”, and the Norwegian debate about Muslim women](#)
- Seminar on [Religion og likestilling. Hva er norske myndigheters politikk?](#) («Religion and equality between the sexes: What is the policy of Norwegian authorities?»)
- Seminar on [The Ethics of Trust. Perspectives from Islam](#)
- Seminar on [Defining and Reinventing Shinto: Religion, Secularism and Nationalism in the Context of Modern Japanese History](#)
- Seminar on [Babylonian Theology as an Intercultural Strategy](#)
- Seminar on [The Other in the A Common Word Dialogue Process](#)

Six seminars organized by the research group Oslo Buddhist Studies Forum

- See [details](#)

Three seminars organized by the research group Tibetan and Himalayan Studies:

- See details for [Autumn](#) 2011

Four seminars/guest lectures organized by the research group Islamic Studies:

- Seminar on [Islamisme og salafisme: hvor går frontene i dag?](#) («Islamism and Salafism: Where are the fault lines today?»)
- Guest lecture by Tim Winter: [British Muslims and the rhetoric of indigenisation](#)
- Guest lecture by John Bowen: [Islamic shariah councils in England: a challenge for civil law?](#)
- Seminar on IslamNet: Salafisme på norsk? (“IslamNet – Salafism in Norwegian?”)

One guest lecture organized by the research group Constructs of Jerusalem:

- Guest lecture by Jaroslav Folda: [The Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Crusader Jerusalem and Christian Multiculturalism in the Levant](#)

Three other seminars/guest lectures:

- Guest lecture by Chiara Letizia: [Shaping secularism in Nepal: reflections on goddess Kumari at the Supreme Court](#) (related to the research initiative PROSPECT)
- Seminar on [Interreligious conflict and peacebuilding in Nigeria](#)
- Guest lecture by Gwendolyn Leick: [The Cult of Dead Dictators: Popular Religion and the State](#)

## 2010:

In total, 20 seminars and guest lectures.

Three seminars organized by the research group Media and Religion:

- See [details](#) for a series of seminars about “Media, normativity and secularity”

Three seminars by the research group Oslo Buddhist Studies Forum:

- Themes not specified here

Five seminars organized by the research group Islamic Studies:

- Seminar on [Bror og nabo/neste i islamsk tradisjon](#) («Brother and neighbor in Islamic tradition»)
- Seminar on [Talal Asad og Saba Mahmood si tenkning om islam og sekularitet](#) («Talal Asad and Saba Mahmood’s perspectives on islam and secularity»)
- Seminar on [Samtale om velayat-e faqih-doktrinen](#) («The velayat-e faqih doctrine at the nexus of religion, politics and secularity»)
- Seminar on [Religion og integrasjon blant norsk-pakistanske muslimer](#) («Religion and Integration among Norwegian-Pakistani Muslims» – in connection with a PluRel-financed research project)
- Seminar on [Forskning på sjia-islam i Norge](#) («Research on Shi’ite Islam in Norway»)

Nine other seminars/guest lectures:

- Workshop on [Sekularisme på norsk](#) («Workshop on secularism in Norwegian»)
- Seminar on [Den religiøse volden - misbruk av religionen eller en nødvendig konsekvens?](#) («Religious violence – misuse of religion or a necessary consequence»?)
- Seminar on [Meditasjonens kulturhistorier](#) («Cultural histories of meditation»)
- Seminar on ["Å tro i Norge" - Religionsfrihet i globaliseringens tid](#) («Believing in Norway, Beliefs in Norway: a ‘Humanitarian Great Power’ under Globalization» – in cooperation with Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, Faculty of Law)
- Seminar on [Festivaler og sosial inndeling: harmoni og motstand. En eksempelstudie fra Sør-India](#) («Festivals and social stratification: harmony and resistance. A case study from South-India»)
- Seminar on [Døden i tidlig protestantisk tradisjon](#) («Death in early Protestant tradition»)
- Seminar on [Sakralisering av kulturelle erindringssteder - hva innebærer sakralisering?](#) («Sacralization of sites of cultural memory»)
- Guest lecture by José Casanova: [Secularity in Context. Religion, Value Systems and Citizenships in Late Modern Europe](#) (in cooperation with the Faculty of Theology)
- Guest lecture by Tariq Ramadan: [The Quest for Meaning](#) (in cooperation with IKOS, Faculty of Humanities)

## 2009:

In total, 15 seminars and guest lectures. In addition, six meetings in PluRel Forum (public meetings, see below).

One launching seminar: [Oppstartskonferansen](#) 23.02.2009)

Six seminars organized by the three research areas (precursors to PluRel's research groups)

- Seminar on [Synkretisme - et nyttig begrep?](#) («Syncretism – a useful concept?»; by research area 1)
- Seminar on [Utviklingen av religiøse diasporasamfunn - konsekvenser for integrasjon](#) («The development of religious diaspora communities – consequences for integration»; by research area 1)
- Seminar on [Bruk av historie i konstruksjon av religiøs identitet](#) («The use of history in the construction of religious identity»; by research area 1)
- Seminar on [Er sekularismen 'vestlig'?](#) («Is secularism a Western phenomenon?»; by research area 1 and 3)
- Seminar on [Religion og kollektiv erindring](#) («Religion and collective memory»; by research area 2)
- Seminar on [Islamismeforskning ved UiO](#) («UiO-research on Islamism»; by research area 3)

Two seminars organized by the research group Islamic Studies:

- Seminar on [Secularism and Liberal Democracy](#)
- Seminar on [Negotiating the Future of Shari'a](#)

Six other seminars/guest lectures

- [The Oslo Buddhist Studies Forum](#) (cf. the later research group with the same name)
- ['Interfaith rituals' with digital technology](#) (cf. the later research group Media and religion)
- Seminar on [Buddhism and Militarism in Northeast, Southeast and South Asia](#) (in connection with the development of research ideas on religion, military chaplaincy and violence)
- Seminar: [The Kanchipuram Research Project](#)
- Guest lectures by Matti Bunzl: [Antisemitism and Islamofobia in the new Europe](#) (in cooperation with others)
- Guest lecture by Ronald L. Grimes: [Ritual, Media, and Conflict](#)

# OTHER EVENTS

## Book launches, 2012

- Book launch: [Sekularisme med norske briller](#) («Secularism – with Norwegian glasses»)
- Book launch: [Religiøse ledere: makt og avmakt](#) («Religious leaders. Power and powerlessness in Norwegian faith communities»)

## PluRel Forum (2009) and other public meetings

- Hijab: et fagligperspektiv – mulig? Mars 2009 («Hijab: is a scholarly perspective possible?»)
- [Særkrav vs. likebehandling? Åpent møte om ‘snikislamisering’ og religionsfrihet](#), mars 2009 («Special or equal treatment? On ‘covert islamization’ and freedom of religion»)
- [Er media letturt i islamdebatten?](#) April 2009, i samarbeid med Oslo journalistklubb («Are the media easily deceived in debates on Islam?»)
- [«Snåsa» versus «Rikshospitalet». Åpent seminar om helse og religion i et pluralistisk Norge](#), May 2009 («Health and religion in a pluralist Norway»)
- Gaza i Oslo? Om ulike konfigureringer av forholdet mellom religion og politikk i det pluralistiske Norge, September 2009 («Gaza in Oslo? Configurations of religion and politics in pluralist Norway»)
- Organisert og uorganisert religion i Norge: folket og folkekirken, November 2009 («Organized and unorganized religion in Norway: the people and the people’s church»)
- [Den norske velferdsstaten – Islam i praksis?](#) («The Norwegian welfare state - Islam in practice?»), June 2011
- [The Politics of Presence. John R. Bowen on Islam in Europe](#), September 2011
- [Islamism and Uprising: Egypt and Syria](#). Professor Salwa Ismail in an open conversation with Prof. Bjørn Olav Utvik and Dr. Sindre Bangstad, UiO, April 2012.

## Seminars with officials and politicians, 2009

- [Religionspolitisk verksted for det norske samfunnet](#): et forum for dialog mellom politikere, forskere, mediefolk og representanter for tros- og livssynssamfunn, mai 2009 («Workshop on politics of religion in Norway», with politicians, researchers, media people and representatives of faith and life stance communities»)
- Religion i pluralistiske samfunn. Presentasjon under arrangementet for UD’s stasjonssjefer, august 2009 («Religion i pluralist societies», presentation for officials in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs)