



THE
WHEATLEY INSTITUTION

**Announcing the 1st Annual Wheatley
"Faith Seeking Understanding" Summer Seminar**

Theology and Social Issues

Sponsored by
The Wheatley Institution at Brigham Young University
under the direction of
Professor Terryl Givens, Wheatley Fellow and
Professor of Literature and Religion, University of Richmond

July 14 – August 1, 2014

Seminar Description:

What are the general contours of Christianity's efforts to find a marriage of belief and intellect? Does Mormonism face the same challenges as the broader Christian tradition? What are the contributions of Mormon theology to current debates in the political and cultural realms? How reasonable are LDS positions on the family, marriage, pro-life and end of life issues? Is the Mormon theological tradition an asset or a handicap in the public sphere? With what mix of revealed truth and rational discourse can Mormons best address these issues in public debate?

Students in the seminar will spend three weeks addressing these and related questions. Along the way they will survey illustrative moments in Christianity's engagement with secularism, and examine pivotal Mormon theological understanding of such concepts as agency, the eternal soul, embodiment, and human potential and purpose. Invited guests from inside and outside the Mormon tradition will share experiences related to religiously informed participation in the public square. The purpose is to foster Latter-day Saints who are better equipped to participate effectively in society-wide conversations where LDS values are relevant and at stake. The seminar will culminate with student-authored position papers to be presented in a public symposium.

The Wheatley Institution will provide \$1500 stipend to seminar participants, along with a housing allowance. The seminar will meet for two hours Monday through Thursday mornings on the BYU campus. Students will be expected to devote full time to the seminar during its three week duration. Applications are invited from graduate students (and perspective graduate students) in all disciplines.

Application for Wheatley Summer Seminar
July 14 – August 1, 2014

Name:

Current Address:

Telephone:

E-mail address:

Educational/Professional Plans:

Educational History

College/University:

Year Earned:

Degree:

Major or Specialization:

Will you require housing?

If yes, please circle one

Single

Family

On a separate sheet, please write a 1-2 page essay explaining your interest in the Wheatley Summer Seminar.

With this application, please submit a writing sample of 10-20 pages (usually a course paper or publication).

Applications must be received by Feb 28, 2014.

Notifications will be sent by March 15, 2014