

Dante 1321-2021

A Man for All Seasons

An exploration of Dante, his life and work both in their historical context and their continuing relevance for us today.

*Organised and presented by Alessandro Scafi (Warburg Institute), John Took (UCL) and Tabitha Tuckett (UCL).
From 12 January to 18 May 2021 - Tuesday evenings from 7.00 to 8.30 pm*

Introduction

1. Dante: His World, His Life and His Work.

12 January 2021

Part 1: The *Divine Comedy*

2. Introduction to the *Commedia*. Preliminary considerations: issues in the area of theology, anthropology, ethics and eschatology.

19 January 2021

3. *Inferno*. Darkness, despair and a song of descents.

26 January 2021

4. *Purgatorio*. Sorrow, striving and a song of ascents.

2 February 2021

5. *Paradiso*. Humanity, transhumanity and a rapt resolution.

9 February 2021

Part 2: Dante as poet, philosopher and theologian

6. Dante as the poet and philosopher of being and becoming. Dante and the 'existential point of view'.

23 February 2021

7. Dante as a poet and philosopher of love. Patterns of love-understanding in the *Vita nova*, the *Fiore*, the *Rime*, the *Convivio* and the *Commedia*.

2 March 2021

8. Dante as a philosopher and theologian. A complex humanity: philosophy and theology from the *Convivio* and the *Monarchia* to the *Commedia*.

9 March 2021

Part 3: Special topics and areas of concern

9. Dante, language and literature

Language, literature and a consummate humanity.

16 March 2021

- 10. The Dantean polarities.** Soul and body, nature and grace, free will and destiny.
23 March 2021
- 11. Dante, princes and popes.** Political catastrophe and a radical solution.
30 March 2021
- 12a. Botticelli and the 1481 printed edition of the *Commedia***
4 May 2021 (to be confirmed)
(5pm – to be confirmed)
- 12b. Dante and Islam.** A cultural intersection.
4 May 2021
- 13. Last word.** Dante, a man for all seasons.
11 May 2021

Part 4: A special event

- 14. A cause for celebration**
18 May 2021