The Three Universities Lecture Series
Religious Studies and Theology
Semester 1, 2012

This series of three lectures aims to share knowledge and build relationships across three Western Australian universities which share an interest in religious studies and/or theology. The lectures will be of particular interest to academics and students in the fields of philosophy, religious studies or theology but may also appeal to members of the broader community.

Each lecture will last approximately 45 minutes with some time for conversation.

A light supper and drinks will be provided at the end. The lectures are free and anyone is welcome to attend.

Each lecture commences at 4pm and the evening will conclude by 6pm.

Please register your interest with michael.wood@uwa.edu.au or phone 0435 065 326

Specific room locations will be advised by email closer to each date.

The prayers of Michael Leunig
Thursday 29th March, 4–6pm at UWA

Associate Professor Tony Hughes-d’Aeth lectures in English and Cultural Studies at the University of Western Australia. He has published widely on Australian literature and film. The lecture on Michael Leunig derives from an essay commissioned for a forthcoming collection of essays on Australian literature, and considers the relationship between prayer and literature in Australia.

Moral Pragmatism: Thin Universals and Thick Practices
Thursday 26th April, 4–6pm at University of Notre Dame Australia

Given there is no consensus, in the history of philosophy or theology, about how a rational agent ought to solve complex moral dilemmas, Dr. Matthews will advocate that the thick theoretical differences that separate us are not as significant as the thin universals that unite us as rational moral agents. Dr Philip Matthews is Senior Lecturer and Undergraduate Coordinator of Philosophy at the School of Philosophy and Theology, University of Notre Dame, Fremantle.

Same-Sex Relations: A First Century CE Perspective
Tuesday 29th May, 4–6pm at Murdoch University

Emeritus Professor Bill Loader recently completed a five year Australian Research Council Professorial Fellowship Project (2005-2010) on Attitudes towards Sexuality in Judaism and Christianity in the Hellenistic Greco-Roman Era. Professor Loader has written numerous books on sexuality in the New Testament period. He is a Minister of the Uniting Church in Australia.