Science & Theology Essay Prize
School of Divinity and the Project in Science-Engaged Theology

The University of St Andrews announces an essay competition to award a scholarship to prospective undergraduates to study theology. First prize is c.£40,000 towards tuition & fees (4 x £10,000 per year), and nine runner-up awards of £600.

Why St Andrews?
Scotland’s oldest university, St Andrews is a world-leader in the study of theology. Studying at St Andrews gives you the opportunity to:

• Explore the relationship between religion and the imagination
• Debate the place of religious belief in politics and international affairs
• Learn biblical languages and read ancient manuscripts
• Consider how increasing scientific knowledge can inform Christian thought and practice
• Obtain a world-class degree in Theology and, if you wish, an applied science, e.g. Theology & Physics, Theology & Psychology, Theology & Sustainability, etc.

How To Apply

• Write a 1500-word essay using one of the prompts found on our website, Deadline: 31 January 2020
• Complete the standard Undergraduate St Andrews application, Deadline: 15 January 2020
• Full rules are available on our website.

What is the Project in Science-Engaged Theology?
The Project in Science-Engaged Theology explores how current scientific studies and discoveries can inform theology’s sub-disciplines, such as liturgy, church history, biblical interpretation, and Christian ethics. We ask questions such as:

• Recent studies from cognitive scientists suggest that empathy is a bad thing. If these studies are sound, how should we interpret the Parable of the Good Samaritan?
• Does evolutionary biology of altruism challenge or support Christian views on love?
• Can you experience God through an online community?
• How might the science of addiction (and habit-formation more generally) inform the Christian belief that everyone is a sinner?
• Do recent MRI scans of people thinking about “The Trolley Problem,” support or undermine Thomas Aquinas’ Principle of Double Effect?
• Some cognitive psychologists argue that children have a ‘natural’ belief in God. What does this imply for theology, if anything?
• How might the medical sciences inform Christian conceptions of death and the ethics of dying?

The winners will be announced by 15th February 2020.

set.wp.st-andrews.ac.uk/scholarship
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