



SCALA

FOUNDATION

Dinner seminars, study groups,
and travel courses to help
students experience a classical
liberal arts education.



Scala is the Latin word for ladder. The two sides of a ladder symbolize the need for balance between body and soul. The steps of the ladder represent that we ascend to excellence while also descending in humility.

Scala Foundation is an academic initiative located in Princeton, New Jersey, that aims to strengthen classical liberal arts education and promote authentic human wellbeing. Although core questions about human existence were part of a classical education, today many students struggle to connect their classroom experiences to ultimate concerns such as questions of moral truth, the common good, and virtue. Gaining wisdom, deepening faith, developing virtues, and building friendships have been separated from acquiring knowledge. Without a passion for truth and an intimate community of peers, intellectual pursuits may not lead to flourishing lives and thriving communities.

In Scala's activities, faculty model how a challenging learning environment can take place in an atmosphere of hospitality and friendship. Faculty also help students explore the philosophical assumptions behind what they are learning. Scala's activities promote virtues such as thoroughness, intellectual courage, and creative thinking.

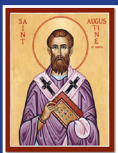
SEMINARS & STUDY GROUPS

Scala's seminars and study groups bring together small groups of undergraduate and graduate students for Socratic discussion of texts led by faculty. By sharing meals and cultural activities, students who attend Scala's activities build friendship and community that is crucial to transformative educational experiences.

Scala's Study Groups include:

- Monasticism and Christian Spiritualities
- Inspiring Women

Scala's Dinner Seminars include:



Augustine: From Friendship to Republic

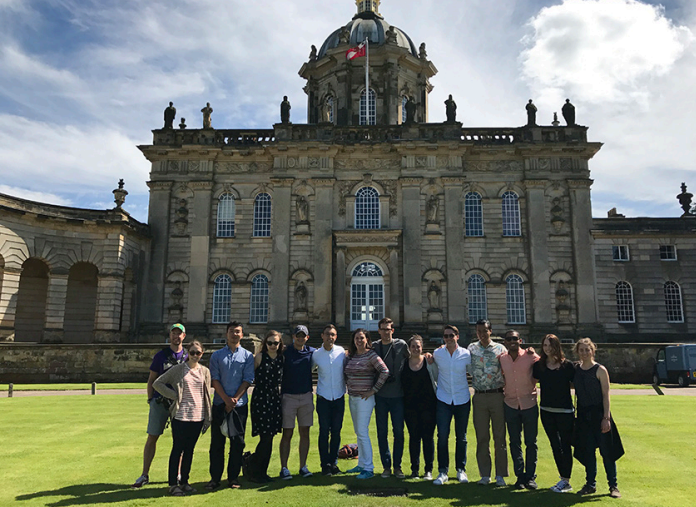
*Peter Brown, Professor of History,
Princeton University*



Aquinas and Thomism on Faith and Reason

*Fr. Thomas Joseph White, Director of the
Thomistic Institute, Dominican House of Studies*





SUMMER SEMINAR & TRAVEL EVENTS

Scala's inaugural summer seminar, "Rediscovering Integral Humanism," was held in 2017 at Oxford University and Ampleforth Abbey. A similar summer seminar will be held annually.

What is the purpose of higher education? Why do we pursue specialized fields of knowledge in a university environment? What is the relationship between education and freedom? How are culture and faith informed by education? By reading authors such as Augusto del Noce, Jacques Maritain, John Cardinal Henry Newman, Jean Leclercq, and Luigi Giussani, we pondered how an understanding of integral humanism can influence education, culture and community. By conducting this seminar in two places that have preserved classical culture—Oxford University and Ampleforth Abbey—students experienced living examples of the integration of learning, culture and faith.

Watch student testimonials at scalafoundation.org.

“This program has exceeded my expectations and has given me direction as a potential educator for the first time while providing opportunities for deep spiritual reflection.” – **John A., Columbia Law School**

“Scala has been a wonderful community for me this semester...I found a culturally enriching, yet friendly environment in which to tackle big issues that are often pushed aside in the academic curriculum.”
– **Federica Q., Princeton University graduate student**

“Scala is unique in that following each lecture is the opportunity to dine together, and I found the informal conversation that happened while sharing a meal was just as rewarding as the lecture.”
– **Graham M., Princeton Theological Seminary**

“I also feel empowered as an individual, having met a group of graduate students endeavoring to live a flourishing academic and personal life who understand that the two cannot be divorced. Meeting them, and knowing that the conversations have only just begun, has shifted my perspective considerably.”
– **Rena W., Baylor University**



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F O U N D A T I O N



"The intellectual and personal transformations students experience by attending Scala's activities constantly remind me that a liberal arts education must not only expand our knowledge but also deepen our wisdom about the art of everyday living."

**Professor Margarita Mooney,
Executive Director,
Scala Foundation**

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As a non-profit, Scala Foundation relies entirely on the financial support of donors for its programming. Scala Foundation is a non-profit public charity under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of the United States. All donations to Scala Foundation are tax-deductible.

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