

This workshop will provide an opportunity for graduate and postgraduate students to engage with specialists in the field of 'Alterations of Consciousness' and other subjects more broadly based in the field of Western Esotericism.

It should be stressed that while the focus of the talks will be on 'Alterations of Consciousness', time will be available for students to interact with the scholars and discuss more general strategies for research.

Program

Doors open for registration at 10:30 and the event begins at 11:00.

The day will be divided into the following parts:

1) Oratory: Presentations by guest speakers (11.00-13.00)

11:00-11:10 Welcome to the Workshop from ESSWE President Prof. Andreas Kilcher (ETH Zurich)

11:10-11:30: Prof Wouter J. Hanegraaff (University of Amsterdam): "Gnosis and Alterations of Consciousness."

11:30-11:50: Prof Birgit Menzel (Universität Mainz): "Alterations of Consciousness in Russia and their Scholarly Investigation."

11:50-12:10: Dr Egil Asprem (University of California, Santa Barbara): "Reverse Engineering Astral Projection."

12:10-12:20 Brief break

12:20-13:00 Prof Ann Taves (University of California, Santa Barbara): "What just happened? [Sudden] Alterations of Consciousness and Other Experience Events."

Lunch Break (13:00-14:30)

As this is a free event, lunch is not provided, but there are many cafes and restaurants nearby the Spui.

2) Laboratory (14:30-15:30)

Students have the opportunity to discuss practical research issues with the following scholars, in addition to the speakers: Henrik Bogdan, Jean-Pierre Brach, Peter Forshaw, Boaz Huss, Andreas Kilcher, Sophie Page, Marco Pasi, Mark Sedgwick, Gyorgy Szonyi, & Helmut Zander.

Coffee Break (15:30-15:45)

3) Roundtable Discussion (Chair: Christian Greer)

15:45-16:15 - Themes that have arisen during the workshop.

Workshop Close (16:15), followed by ESSWE Members' Meeting until 16:45 and then wine and nibbles in a local bar.