

The Spring Term

Schedule and Syllabus
March 1 – May 10, 2025



PENDLE HILL

A Quaker Study, Retreat, and Conference Center

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Introduction

Welcome to The Spring Term, Pendle Hill’s annual resident student program for those seeking space and community in which to share the daily rhythm of learning, work, and worship. For the 2025 season, this 10-week program will be offered in three Sessions. Attend for the first 2-week session, the first and second 2-week session, or come for all 10 weeks of The Spring Term.

Learn more about the full program at <https://pendlehill.org/learn/springterm/>

10-Week Schedule

	Sunday First Day	Monday Second Day	Tuesday Third Day	Wednesday Fourth Day	Thursday Fifth Day	Friday Sixth Day	Saturday Seventh Day
March							1 Orientation
	2 Orientation	3 Arriving 1st Monday	4 Arriving	5 Arriving	6 Arriving	7 Arriving	8 Arriving
	9 Nourishing	10 Nourishing	11 Nourishing	12 Nourishing	13 Nourishing	14 Nourishing	15 End Session I Begin Session II
	16 Discerning	17 Discerning	18 Discerning	19 Discerning	20 Discerning	21 Discerning	22 Discerning
	23 Discerning	24 Discerning	25 Discerning	26 Discerning	27 Discerning	28 Discerning	29 Discerning
	30	31	1	2	3	4	5
		Scholar Presentations					
April	6	7 Weekly Elective 1 – Dwight Dunston 1st Monday	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14 Weekly Elective 2 -	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21 Weekly Elective 3 – John Baird	22	23	24	25	26
	Easter						
May	27	28 Writing Week	29	30	1	2 Publishers of the Truth	3 Publishers of the Truth
	4 Publishers of the Truth	5 Publishers 1st Monday	6	7	8 Final Presentations	9 Final Presentations	10

Session Descriptions

Session I, Arriving & Nourishing: March 1 - 15

Welcoming and Arriving, with Marcelle Martin, Frances Kreimer, and Francisco Burgos

How to Rest: Nourishing Practices to Renew and Restore Body, Mind, and spirit, with Valerie Brown

Session II, Discerning Our Calls: March 16 - 29

Discerning Our Calls, with Marcelle Martin

Session III, Learning in Community: April 1 - 30

Learning in Community, including elective courses with Dwight Dunston, John Baird, Francisco Burgos, and Pendle Hill scholars including Peter Blood.

Publishers of the Truth: May 2 - 5

A collaboration of Pendle Hill's Quaker Institute and the Earlham School of Religion's Quaker Leadership Conference.

Festival Week: May 6 - 10

A celebration of the end of the term.

Daily Schedule

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
7:30	7:30 - 8:30 AM Breakfast								
7:45									
8:00									
8:15									
8:30	8:30 - 9:30 AM Meeting for Worship								
8:45									
9:00									
9:15									
9:30	9:30 - 12:00 PM Personal Time	9:30 - 12:00 PM Community Learning Meeting	9:30 - 12:00 PM Community Work	9:30 - 12:00 PM Community Work	9:30 - 12:00 PM Community Work	9:30 - 12:00 PM Community Work	9:30 - 12:00 PM Personal Time		
9:45									
10:00									
10:15									
10:30	12:00 - 1:00 PM Lunch								
10:45									
11:00									
11:15									
11:30	1:00 - 6:00 PM Personal Time	1:00 - 2:30 PM Personal Time	1:00 - 2:30 PM Personal Time	1:00 - 2:30 PM Personal Time	1:00 - 2:30 PM Personal Time	1:00 - 2:30 PM Personal Time	1:00 - 6:00 PM Personal Time		
11:45									
12:00									
12:15		2:30 - 5:00 PM Learning Session (Weekly Elective in April)	2:30 - 5:00 PM Personal Time	2:30 - 5:00 PM Learning Session (Weekly Elective in April)	2:30 - 5:00 PM Art Studio	2:30 - 5:00 PM Learning Session (Weekly Elective in April)		2:30 - 5:00 PM Personal Time	
12:30									
12:45									
1:00		5:00 - 6:00 PM Personal Time	5:00 - 6:00 PM Personal Time	5:00 - 6:00 PM Personal Time	5:00 - 6:00 PM Personal Time	5:00 - 6:00 PM Personal Time		5:00 - 6:00 PM Personal Time	
1:15									
1:30									
1:45		6:00 - 7:00 PM Dinner							
2:00									
2:15									
2:30									
2:45	7:00 - 7:30 PM Personal Time	7:00 - 7:30 PM Personal Time	7:00 - 7:30 PM Personal Time	7:00 - 7:30 PM Personal Time	7:00 - 7:30 PM Personal Time	7:00 - 7:30 PM Personal Time	7:00 - 7:30 PM Personal Time		
3:00									
3:15									
3:30									
3:45	7:30 - 7:45 PM Epilogue	7:30 - 7:45 PM Epilogue	7:30 - 7:45 PM Epilogue	7:30 - 7:45 PM Epilogue	7:30 - 7:45 PM Epilogue	7:30 - 7:45 PM Epilogue	7:30 - 7:45 PM Epilogue		
4:00									
4:15									
4:30									
4:45	7:45 - 10:00 PM Personal Time	7:45 - 9:00 PM Evening Elective (April Only)	7:45 - 9:00 PM Evening Elective (April Only)	7:45 - 9:00 PM Evening Elective (April Only)	7:45 - 9:00 PM Community Worship	7:45 - 10:00 PM Personal Time	7:30 - 10:00 PM Social Time		
5:00									
5:15		9:00 - 10:00 PM Personal Time	9:00 - 10:00 PM Personal Time	9:00 - 10:00 PM Personal Time	9:00 - 10:00 PM Personal Time				
5:30									
5:45	10:00 PM Quiet Hours Begin								
6:00									
6:15									
6:30									
6:45	10:00 PM Quiet Hours Begin								
7:00									
7:15									
7:30									
7:45	10:00 PM Quiet Hours Begin								
8:00									
8:15									
8:30									
8:45	10:00 PM Quiet Hours Begin								
9:00									
9:15									
9:30									
9:45	10:00 PM Quiet Hours Begin								
10:00									

Syllabus

Session I: Arriving and Nourishing

March 1 to March 15

Leaders: Valerie Brown, Francisco Burgos, Frances Kreimer, Marcelle Martin

Welcome to Pendle Hill! Exhale deeply and savor a time in Pendle Hill's spiritual green house, to rest, renew, restore, and recharge. In this opening Session, you will be oriented to Pendle Hill, ground in our residential program of worship, work, and study in community, and learn nourishing practices of restoration.

During the first week, Marcelle Martin will invite participants into the rich history of Pendle Hill and Quaker practices of arriving and centering in the Spirit and within ourselves, including exploring ways to deeply engage in our daily worship together and practices to help each other tap into the wisdom in our own hearts. In writing and in sharing with each other, we will reflect on our life experience and pay attention to images, metaphors, intuition, dreams, and other ways of knowing ourselves more deeply and living into what we are passionate about.

In the second week, Valerie Brown will offer *How to Rest: Nourishing Practices to Renew and Restore Body, Mind, and Spirit*. Many of us believe that we have to earn rest and renewal and that overwork is the norm. Frazzled and stressed by the pull of too many demands of work, family, children, aging relatives, and our own health needs, we succumb to individual pressures that foster a collective culture of burnout and toxic productivity. Offering approaches from the Plum Village tradition and Zen master Thich Nhat Hanh and Parker Palmer and the Center for Courage & Renewal, Valerie will invite participants to explore the connection between radiant rest, peacemaking, social justice, and societal transformation to live in greater groundedness and alignment with your deepest values.

Participants may register to take Session I as an independent course, or may register to continue on for Session II, or for the full term.

Session II: Discerning Our Calls

March 15 to March 29

Leader: Marcelle Martin

Building on the centering and regenerative energy of the first session, this second session offers students practice in methods of spiritual discernment, as we seek greater clarity about how the Spirit is calling us to live and work at this time. The class will learn about leadings, the nature of a call, and being attentive to guidance that comes both from within and through others or outward events. Using Quaker tools of discernment, such as the clearness committee and faithfulness groups, as well as practices from other traditions, we will sort through our various motivations in search of those that are

divinely inspired. Experiential exercises are designed to hone our skills in helping each other toward greater clarity and faithfulness. Sessions will include time for sharing with partners and small groups, as well as group discussion. During the two-week course, each person will have the opportunity to be the focus of a faithfulness group session and will participate in some sessions focused on others. We will support each other in going forward with renewed clarity and courage. We will begin with an initial Saturday afternoon workshop, then meet Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons for two weeks.

Session III: Learning in Community

March 30 to April 30

Students who remain for the full term will continue the residential rhythm of work, study, and worship together, including weekly community meetings and weekly explorations in the art studio. Students will have the opportunity to choose afternoon and/or evening courses, in addition to pursuing their own independent leadings and a capstone project. Elective options will include *Journey Inward, Journey Outward: The Genius of Pendle Hill* with Center for Courage and Renewal facilitator and Pendle Hill board member John Baird; *Primitive Quakerism Revived: How Friends Can Become the Kind of Movement Early Friends Were* with Pendle Hill Kenneth L. Carroll Scholar, Peter Blood; and a course with Pendle Hill podcast host Dwight Dunston developing the skills to change one's mind. Pendle Hill Executive Director Francisco Burgos and Director of Education Frances Kreimer will also offer classes. Students who attend for the full term will also be assigned a spiritual nurturer with whom they will also meet weekly throughout the course of the program.

Publishers of the Truth: A Collaboration of Pendle Hill's Quaker Institute and Earlham School of Religion's Quaker Leadership Conference

May 2 to May 5

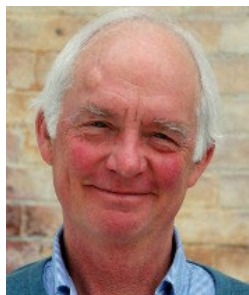
Friends from near and far will be invited to join Pendle Hill's residential community, exploring how to witness and publish the truth with integrity in an age of fractured political realities, disinformation, and artificial intelligence. Quaker publishers, podcasters, and public ministers will gather in this experiment in spiritual learning community.

Festival Week

May 6 to May 10

A time to celebrate the term together! Students will present final projects, enjoy the Spring Concert, and share closure of a transformative time together.

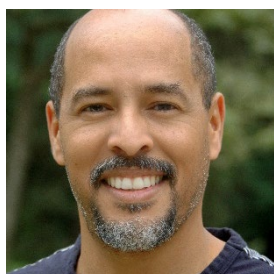
Program Leaders



John Baird has served as clerk of two Friends Meetings, head of two Friends schools, a board member at Pendle Hill and the Friends Council on Education. He's spent time as a religion and a biology teacher, as well as a Friend in Residence at Pendle Hill and Woodbrooke Study Centre. He has been prepared as a facilitator by the Center for Courage and Renewal, and has led retreats and workshops for schools, meetings, conference centers, and churches. John is a member of Durham Monthly Meeting (NC). He and his wife are the parents of three grown children.



Valerie Brown is an author, ordained Buddhist-Quaker Dharma teacher in the lineage of Zen Master Thich Nhat Hanh and the Plum Village tradition, facilitator, and executive coach specializing in leadership development and mindfulness practices with a focus on diversity, social equity, and inclusion. Her newest book is *Hope Leans Forward: Braving Your Way toward Simplicity, Awakening, and Peace* (Broadleaf, 2022). She has authored several popular Pendle Hill pamphlets, including *Living from the Center: Mindfulness Meditation and Centering for Friends* (PHP #407) and *Coming to Light: Cultivating Spiritual Discernment through the Quaker Clearness Committee* (PHP #446). She is a member of Solebury Monthly Meeting (PA).



Francisco Burgos is the executive director at Pendle Hill and has facilitated spiritual retreats and lectio divina sessions for many audiences. Francisco was a De La Salle Christian Brother for almost ten years, serving in Dominican Republic, Guatemala, and Costa Rica, and has been a Friend since 2004. He is a member of Harrisburg Friends Meeting and an attender of meetings including Monteverde Friends Meeting in Costa Rica and Adelphi Friends Meeting in Maryland.



Dwight Dunston aka Duns is a West Philly-based facilitator, hip-hop artist, educator, and activist with roots in the Carolinas and deeper roots in West Africa. His passions/gifts include supporting folks to tap into their superpowers and supporting communities to develop the tools, skills, and techniques to stay connected across different identities.



Frances Kreimer is the Education Director of Pendle Hill. She previously taught and directed Villanova University Law School's Clinic for Asylum, Refugee, and Emigrant Services, focusing on mental health, trauma healing, and movement lawyering. She is inspired by nurturing experiments in spiritual learning community at Pendle Hill and outside of it.



Marcelle Martin has led workshops at retreat centers and Quaker meetings across the United States, and was the resident Quaker Studies teacher at Pendle Hill for four years. The author of [Our Life is Love: The Quaker Spiritual Journey](#), and [A Guide to Faithfulness Groups](#), she has also written about faith in three Pendle Hill pamphlets and many articles. She feels a great affinity with the first Quakers in the 17th century, but also is clear that we are urgently called to something bold, radical, and new in our time. On her blog, [A Whole Heart](#), she shares inspiration to help us be all God has created us to be. She is a member of Swarthmore Friends Meeting and lives in Chester, PA, with her husband, Terry.



Lori Piñeiro Sinitzky (Ashkenazi and Caribbean) will teach a class in the art studio that will meet weekly throughout the term. She is an Equity, Justice, and Inclusion educator. She is informed by her identity as a 53-year-old straight, cisgender woman. Lori is a member of Green Street Meeting in Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and clerk of the Worship and Ministry committee. She is a graduate of Moore College of Art and Design in Philadelphia, a single mother of two young adult children, and works to create a more liberated and just world.

Resident Scholars

Coming Soon!