

# 'Spiritual but not religious' Modern Mystics School Meets Urgent Need for Contemporary Spirituality

*Spiritual Wanderlust, an online school for spiritual formation, is launching a new year-long series of masterclasses focused on mystics of the 20th century.*

EUGENE, OREGON, UNITED STATES, February 17, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The timing couldn't be better for Spiritual Wanderlust's newest course, launched this month on the heels of a Pew Research Center study on American Spirituality. Results from that study reveal that 7 in 10 U.S. adults describe themselves as spiritual in some way, with 22% self-describing as spiritual but not religious.



Spiritual Wanderlust, an online school for spiritual formation, is launching a new year-long series of masterclasses focused on mystics of the 20th century.

Founded by former nun and author Kelly Deutsch in 2018, Spiritual Wanderlust recognized early on what Pew confirms in its research--that Americans no longer identify with organized religion like they used to.

“

Millions of people are 'deconstructing' from more rigid forms of religion that don't seem to fit. In a polarized America, modern mystics offer a message that the core of religion is union and love.”

*Kelly Deutsch*

Modern Mystics School is the fifth online course Deutsch has designed to satisfy the need of Americans--and other spiritual seekers from abroad--for a deeper sense of connection to the divine that is not necessarily entwined with religion.

The mystics covered in the new program lived in the 20th century and left behind legacy teachings that are still fresh and extremely relevant to modern seekers. Some of the leading teachers on the roster were actually students of those mystics--James Finley was a novice under Thomas

Merton and Kaira Jewel Lingo lived as a nun while she was studying with Thich Nhat Hanh.

Highlights from the series of twelve mystics include:

- Nicholas Black Elk. Nephew of Crazy Horse, part of Ghost Dance movement, now up for canonization as a Catholic saint
- Simone Weil, fierce activist who refused to be baptized despite her love of Catholicism, in order to express solidarity with those outside the church
- Howard Thurman, spiritual father of the Civil Rights movement

In addition to lectures, students will enjoy small group discussions, guided spiritual practices, curated reading lists, expertly researched study materials and more.

“While people are fleeing churches, they are not abandoning spirituality. In fact, I would argue that many are more hungry than ever for spiritual depths—they’re just not finding it within the institutions,” says Deutsch. “One thing I love about the moderns is that they have lived during most of our lifetimes and know what it looks like to stand up to racism and injustice, to live in a global community, to juggle the strains on our attention. They show us what it looks like to seek divine union in the midst of the modern melee.”

The platform for Modern Mystics School is modeled after Deutsch’s other hugely popular online offerings. Over the years, Spiritual Wanderlust has satisfied the spiritual curiosity of thousands of students from dozens of countries around the world.

## MODERN MYSTICS SCHOOL AT-A-GLANCE

[Modern Mystics School Website](#)

### WHAT

Masterclasses, guided practices, group discussions, curated reading lists and more

### WHEN

Feb 4, 2024 - Jan 11, 2025

### WHERE

Virtual LIVE on Zoom and self-study educational resource portal

### WHO (MYSTICS - TEACHERS)

Thich Nhat Hanh - Kaira Jewel Lingo

Nicholas Black Elk - Deacon Bill White

Henri Nouwen - Ronald Rolheiser

Bede Griffiths - Adam Bucko  
Sister Wendy Beckett - Robert Ellsberg  
Mary Oliver - Kelly Deutsch  
Caryll Houselander - Carl McColman  
Thomas Merton - James Finley  
Thomas Berry - Kathleen Deignan  
Simone Weil - Laurence Freeman  
Abraham Heschel - Dan Miller  
Howard Thurman - Lerita Coleman Brown

#### COST

Tiered packages \$27 - \$197/month, financial need scholarships available

#### TERMS

[Enrollment](#) is ongoing with recordings available

#### About Spiritual Wanderlust

Founded by former nun and author Kelly Deutsch in 2018, Spiritual Wanderlust is an online school of spiritual formation. Our goal is to support people on their path to wholeness and divine union, using all the gifts available to us through the contemplative tradition, modern psychology, and the wisdom of the ages.

#### [Spiritual Wanderlust Website](#)

Interviews available.

Kelly Deutsch  
Spiritual Wanderlust  
+1 541-357-6144  
[hello@spiritualwanderlust.org](mailto:hello@spiritualwanderlust.org)  
Visit us on social media:  
[Facebook](#)  
[Instagram](#)  
[YouTube](#)

---

This press release can be viewed online at: <https://www.einpresswire.com/article/689281683>

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.

© 1995-2024 Newsmatics Inc. All Right Reserved.