

LIFESTYLE



NASA hired 24 theologians to study human reaction to aliens: new book

By [Hannah Sparks](#)

December 27, 2021 | 10:53am | Updated



MORE ON:
ALIENS

Wisconsin 'UFO sightings' may have been local Christmas lights show

No sign of alien life despite 'several hundred' UFO reports: DoD

'Aliens' crawling on coast spark panic online: 'Is it safe to go into the water?'

Nicolas Cage: I thought I was an 'alien' as a child

Between heaven and Earth, where do aliens fit in?

That's the question that NASA hopes theologians at the Center for Theological Inquiry (CTI) in Princeton, New Jersey, can answer, in a recent effort to understand how humans will react to news that intelligent life exists on other planets.

University of Cambridge religious scholar Rev. Dr. Andrew Davison, who also holds a doctorate in biochemistry from Oxford, is one of the 24 theologians enlisted to help with the project, [the Times UK reported](#) last week.

In a recent statement on the [University of Cambridge's Faculty of Divinity blog](#), Davison says his research so far has already seen "just how frequently theology-and-astrobiology has been topic in popular writing" during the previous 150 years.

Davison's upcoming book, "Astrobiology and Christian Doctrine," due out in 2022, according to the Times, will cover part of CTI and his joint spiritual exploration, in which his "most significant question" is how theologians would respond to the notion "of there having



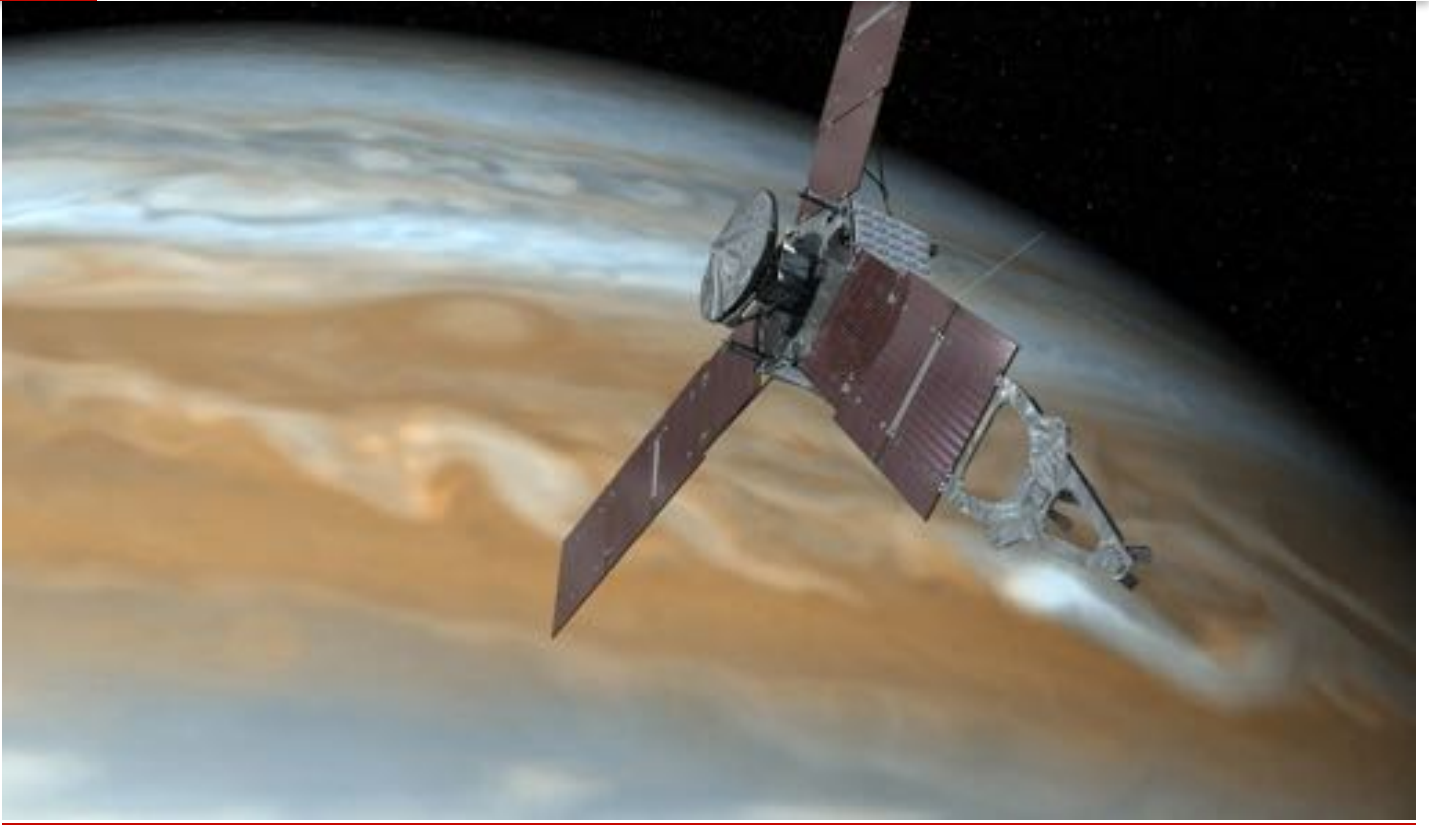
Rev. Dr. Andrew Davison also holds a doctorate in biochemistry from Oxford.

University of Cambridge Corpus Christi College

This is the latest dispatch to come in a partnership between the US space agency and the religious institute. In 2014, NASA awarded CTI a \$1.1 million grant to study worshippers' interest in and openness to scientific inquiry called the Societal Implications of Astrobiology study.

Studies have shown links between religiosity and belief in extraterrestrial intelligence. Research [published in 2017](#) found that people with a strong desire to find meaning, but a low adherence to a particular religion, are more likely to believe aliens exist — indicating that faith in either theory may come from the same human impulse.





In 2014, NASA awarded the Center for Theological Inquiry at Princeton University a \$1.1 million grant to study worshippers' interest in and openness to the notion of alien life, in a program of research called the Societal Implications of Astrobiology.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

With NASA's support, CTI's director Will Storrar said they'd hoped to see "serious scholarship being published in books and journals" to come out on the subject, answering to the "profound wonder and mystery and implication of finding microbial life on another planet."

According to the Times, Davison's book notes that a "large number of people would turn to their religions traditions for guidance" if extraterrestrials were found, and what that means "for the standing and dignity of human life."





NASA has hired 24 theologians to help understand how humans will react to potential news of alien life.
Xinhua News Agency/Getty Images

“Detection [of alien life] might come in a decade or only in future centuries or perhaps never at all, but if or where it does, it will be useful to have thought through the implications in advance,” Davison writes.

FILED UNDER [ALIENS](#), [CHRISTIANITY](#), [NASA](#), [RELIGION](#), [12/27/21](#)

READ NEXT [I'm leaving NYC — to protect my children from its feckle...](#)

SPONSORED STORIES



Gal Gadot's Wedding Dress Is Still Turning Heads
Investing.com



I letti intelligenti sono il futuro del riposo notturno. [Clicca qui per vedere i prezzi.](#)
Letto intelligente | Ricerca Annunci

If you own a mouse, you have to play this game. No Install. Play for free.
Panzer.Quest strategy game





[Foto] Marco Verratti ha una moglie famosa che la maggior parte delle persone non conosce
<https://dadsnews.com/>



[Foto] Questi sono i cani più costosi al mondo
<https://mx.investing.com/>



15 minuti al giorno bastano per imparare una lingua? Con questa app è possibile.
Babbel



My body is too dangerous for social media — I'm 'naturally perfect'

I'm a serial mistress — I love sleeping with married men at Christmas



[Foto] **LISTEN NOW** vive la lussuosa Greta Thunberg
Editor Nation

ARTE Reportage - Volontari in Donbass: la Resistenza silenziosa - Guarda il documentario completo
ARTE.tv

Letti intelligenti innovativi e insoliti: i prezzi nel 2022 potrebbero sorprendervi
Letti intelligenti | Ricerca annunci



Listen on **Apple Podcasts**

Influencer who 'lives in bikinis' reveals she has a 'lash eye' and is 'disturbed' by her fame
with
... in the Philippines she's 'X-rated' industry 'Makiling'...



AdChoices [▶](#)

Sponsored

AdChoices [▶](#)

Sponsored



© 2022 NYP Holdings, Inc. All Rights Reserved | [Terms of Use](#) | [Membership Terms](#) | [Privacy Notice](#) | [Your Ad Choices](#) | [Sitemap](#) | [Your California Privacy Rights](#)

Powered by WordPress VIP

