

Courses Fall 2008

CATH-111 Explorations in Catholic Culture- Prof. A. Tambasco & J. Pfordresher

The central theme considered in the course is this: how does Catholic faith (as a religion of "both/and," not "either/or") interact with various forms of human culture? The class will investigate Catholic tradition to see how it emerged from earlier, existing cultures and how it developed its own forms of cultural expression. We will in addition probe its relevance for contemporary society. We begin with narrative: the earliest stories about Jesus of Nazareth, the problems in reading them, and the central beliefs of Catholicism as they are derived from these accounts. After this overview, we look at four ways in which Catholicism has found expression within human cultural traditions. [TR 1:15-2:30]

CATH-130 Contemporary Marriage and Family- Prof. E. Mastroianni

This introductory course explores a contemporary approach to a theology of marriage and family from a Roman Catholic perspective. It provides an opportunity for students to study Catholic teaching and to discuss disputed questions. Students will write and present a 10-page paper that entails a dialogue between Church teaching and contemporary research on marriage and family. [MW 2:40-3:55PM]

CATH-133 Dying for God: Martyrdom in the West- Prof. D. McManus

This course will examine the competing notions of martyrdom which have risen in Western religious traditions. Ranging from ancient to modern times, course readings, films and speakers will try to establish the difference between religious martyrs and ethno-martyrs, and to examine their inter-relationship. Principal religious traditions to be examined will include Christianity, Judaism and Islam. [W 4:15-6:45PM]

CATH-144 Yoga and Meditation – Prof. J. Borelli

This course is an introduction to meditation as religious practice through textual exploration of a variety of forms of yoga within the Hindu tradition and comparative; theological study of Christian texts on meditation and prayer mostly from the Catholic tradition. [TR 10:15-11:30AM]

CATH- 152 Catholics Go to the Movies: Questioning Catholicism from The King of Kings to The Da Vinci Code- Prof. D. Apostolos- Cappadona

The role of images described as the *biblia pauperum* by Pope Gregory I was transferred to movies in the early 20th century. Throughout this course, students will engage the relationships between religion/theology and visual narratives; fiction and scripture; and the shifting cultural landscape that identifies or misidentifies the culture and values of Roman Catholicism. As historical/theological background to the reception of “religious films,” students will read a variety of papal documents including Gregory’s “Letter to Serenus, Bishop of Marseilles” and Pius XII’s encyclical defining the role of “modern media” as well as the relevant Ethics Codes for filmmakers. Throughout the course, students will be asked to consider the evolution of text into image by both their seeing of a film and their reading of the book upon which it is based. [M 6:15-8:45 PM]

CATH-153 Endo Shusaku- Prof. K. Doak

In this course we will read through most of the novels of Endo Shusaku (1923-1996), one of modern Japan's most important writers. Endo is a unique writer whose travels and stories take the reader from 16th century samurai to twentieth century France and India. Often compared with Francois Mauriac and Graham Greene, he is Japan's most famous "Catholic writer." In this course, we will explore such themes as racial differences, Catholicism in the non-West, and Japanese culture in the modern world. [MW 2:40-3:55]

CATH-301 Readings in Catholic Studies – TBA

During the senior year students taking the Catholic Studies Minor will enroll in this capstone course. Each student will choose from a list of titles a classic text from the Catholic tradition. The student will work with this and related texts under the direction of a tutor drawn from faculty members interested in Catholic Studies. Much of the semester's work will be done individually and independently. However, at certain times during the semester students doing this work will gather to describe to each other what they had been reading individually and to reexamine through discussion some of the topics which they had considered in their previous Catholic Studies courses. The program's Director will chair these discussion sessions. The semester's work will culminate in an extended essay that each student will write and present.

[PERMISSION OF CATHOLIC STUDIES DIRECTOR
REQUIRED TO ENROLL.]

NOTE: All CATH courses, except 301, satisfy one semester of the college Theology requirement.

Minor Requirements

Cross-Listed Courses Fall 2008

To earn a minor in Catholic Studies, undergraduate students must complete: an introduction to Catholic Studies course, one additional Catholic Studies core course, four electives within the various academic departments, and the senior capstone course.

A. INTRODUCTION TO CATHOLIC STUDIES

CATH 111 – Explorations in Catholic Culture

B. CORE COURSES

At least one other CATH course

C. ELECTIVES

After completing the first two requirements, minor candidates should work with the program's Director to select elective courses within the various academic departments—typically with a limit of two courses from any one department—which logically connect with the issues and themes encountered in their Catholic Studies courses. Each semester the Catholic Studies Department compiles a list of courses that can be used to meet the requirement. These “cross-listed” courses can be found at www.georgetown.edu/departments/catholic

D. SENIOR CAPSTONE COURSE

As a sixth course in the senior year, minor candidates are required to take an independent reading course CATH-301, Catholic Studies Minor Senior Tutorial.

ARTH-228 Northern Renaissance
ARTH-412 The Illuminated Manuscript
ENGL-479 Reading/Teaching/Social Reflection
HIST-243 History of Ireland
HUMW 011-02 Germanic/Christian Hero
JUPS-123 Introduction to Justice and Peace
MUSC-100 Chapel Choir
PHIL-276 Dante and Christian Imagination
THEO-096 Latino Church Doing Justice
THEO-121 Catholic Ritual, Spirituality, Justice
THEO-122 The Church and the Poor
THEO-272 Systematic Theology

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