# The Institute of Catholic Studies



Spring Courses 2012

# The Aim of the Catholic Studies Program

The mission of the Institute of Catholic Studies is to provide students, faculty, and the larger community with the opportunity to deepen their knowledge of how Catholicism and Catholics have interacted with the world, both shaping and being shaped by culture and society in the past and in the present. As Catholic and Jesuit, John Carroll University is an ideal home for such an undertaking.

Through an interdisciplinary Catholic Studies Program, the Institute provides opportunities for encounter with and formation in the Catholic intellectual tradition as expressed in many scholarly disciplines from philosophy to science. It offers courses and public events that highlight the contributions of Catholic intellectuals and scholars that explore the current conditions in which Catholics find themselves in the first decade of the twenty-first century.

By these undertakings the Institute offers students a solid interdisciplinary foundation for understanding the interaction of faith and culture in the past as well as for navigating their way in the future.

# Catholic Studies Courses Spring Semester 2012

#### EN 299D-51: Shakespeare and Religious Conflict

Dr. Chris Roark (MWF 12:00 - 12:50 PM)

This course will consider five of Shakespeare's plays (Merchant of Venice, Measure for Measure, Henry V, Hamlet, and Macbeth) in the context of the English Reformation and English Catholic culture. For much of the 16th century, after Henry VIII broke from Rome and created the Church of England, it was illegal to participate in the Catholic mass. Indeed, priests were burned at the stake for celebrating the mass, and English authorities took attendance at Anglican churches to make sure those who had Catholic sympathies showed up. In response, Catholics in England plotted to murder Queen Elizabeth and to blow up the English Parliament, while encouraging Catholic Spain to invade the country. Among other things, we will study if Shakespeare had Catholic sympathies, and how this and the conflict between Catholics and Protestants might have been reflected in his plays.

#### EN 312-51: Late Medieval Literature

Dr. Emily Butler (MWF 11:00 - 11:50 AM) Fulfills core requirements for Division II & International "L" designation.

This course will sample Middle English literature from a variety of genres, with a particular focus on those texts that allow us to discuss literacy and the act of reading in the Middle Ages.

#### EN 321-51: Renaissance: Stuart Literature

Dr. Chris Roark (MW 3:30 - 4:45 PM) Prerequisite: a 200-level literature course.

Major authors, themes, genres, and forms of British literature of the seventeenth century.

# HS 405-1: Rome: City of Emperors, Popes, and Saints

Dr. Paul V. Murphy (W 5:00 - 7:30 PM) Fulfills core requirement for International "S" designation.

Permission to take this course must be granted by the department chair. This class requires a Spring break trip to Italy with a travel fee required. This course is designed to provide students with an in-depth examination of the history and culture of the city of Rome from its origins to the 20th century. We will focus on the institutions and historical figures that have played prominent roles in the shaping of the city, its culture, its religion, and its politics. The course requires a spring break tour of Rome from March 1 to March 10, 2012.

# HS 496A: SP: Catholics, Facism, and War, 1920-45

Dr. William F. Ryan (THR 6:30 - 9:15 PM)

This course explores how Catholics confronted the moral and religious dilemmas of Fascism and world war from 1920 until 1945. Catholic authorities thought that the end of the First World War (1918) presented them with an opportunity to reiterate their longstanding reservations to liberalism and modernity - the very forces, they argued, that were responsible for the Great War. The rise of Fascism in Italy and National Socialism in Germany presented problems and opportunities for Catholics, however. These regimes fought communists and put forth bold theories in favor of social justice, but their militarism was cause for anxiety. American Catholics also witnessed developments in Europe with ambivalence. They saw Bolshevism as a greater menace than fascism, but in any case they were willing to let the Pope take the lead with European affairs. After a while, though, Catholics on both sides of the Atlantic could no longer ignore the atrocities and war-mongering in Italy and Germany. This course explores how Catholics debated the difficult issues of the interwar years. It examines European and American Catholic attitudes toward Jews, isolationist impulses in the USA, and inter-ethnic squabbles amongst American Catholics. We will also examine ongoing debates about the Papacy and the Holocaust, as well as the larger question of Catholic allegiance to a nation or to a larger universal ideal. Though the course will focus on Europe, consideration of "race thinking" regarding the Japanese will also be included.

# IC 363-1: Framing Grace: Artists and Poets in the Renaissance Dr. Santa Casciani (M 6:30 - 9:15 PM)

The course studies the idea of framing the image of women, including how the self sees and frames itself in the poetry of Vittoria Colonna and Angelo Poliziano, and in the artistic representation of Michelangelo Buonarroti and Alessandro Botticelli. The course will address and analyze the cultural, literary, artistic, and religious climate of Italy during the Italian Renaissance. It will also study how the theory of framing becomes an integral part of the poets and artists of the Renaissance. Furthermore it will analyze the image of Mary and how it is reflected in both the painter and poets studied. Travel is required during Spring Break 2012.

#### PL 230-51: Christian Thinkers

Fr. Harry Gensler, SJ (MWF 11:00 - 11:50 AM)

Philosophical problems raised by selected Christian writers, both classical and contemporary.

# PL 240-41: 17th and 18th Century Philosophy

Fr. Damian Ference (TU-THR 9:55 - 11:10 AM) This course meets at Borromeo Seminary.

History of early modern philosophy with special attention given to the beginnings of modern science and its impact on Western ideas about nature, knowledge, mind, and God. Readings include selections from Descartes to Kant.

# PL 246-41: 19th and 20th Century Philosophy

Dr. Chad Engelland (TU-THR 11:20 AM - 12:35 PM) This course meets at Borromeo Seminary.

Study of some of the major figures of the nineteenth century from Fichte through Nietzsche.

# PL 304-41: Philosophy of the Human Person

Dr. Chad Engelland (TU-THR 2:55 - 4:10 PM) This course meets at Borromeo Seminary.

We human beings are the only kind of beings who are a question to ourselves. The course unfolds this question by first inquiring into our constitution in order to avoid the pitfalls of both materialism and dualism. It then seeks the true significance of the fundamental desire (eros) that animates our whole bodily and spiritual life. The course includes readings from Plato, St. Thomas Aquinas, Karol Wojtyla, Jacques Maritain, and other contemporary thinkers.

## PL 308-41: Philosophy of God

Dr. Chad Engelland (TU-THR 8:30 - 9:45 AM) This course meets at Borromeo Seminary.

Exploration of the existence and attributes of God as knowable by reason alone. Includes discussion of religious experience, the relationship of faith and reason, and the problem of evil.

### PL 368-41: Ethical Theory

Fr. Damian Ference (TU-THR 1:30 - 2:45 PM) This course meets at Borromeo Seminary.

Detailed examination of some of the major philosophical theories about the nature and justification of moral principles of rightness, obligation, and value. Special emphasis is given to the contemporary developments of such theories.

# PO 320-51: Christian Democracy in Europe

Dr. Andreas Sobisch (MWF 3:30 - 4:45 PM)

One of the most important contemporary political movements in Europe. Development of Catholic political and social thought from the French Revolution to the present; the role played by Christian Democratic parties in eight countries today.

# RL 101-56: Introduction to Religious Studies

Dr. Doris Donnelly (MF 2:00 - 3:15 PM)

Introduction to the academic study of religion. Topics include the nature of religion; the human search for meaning; revelation; symbol, myth, and ritual; faith as it relates to reason, experience, and morality. Introduction to the areas of scripture, theology, ethics, and religious traditions. RL 101 is designed to prepare students for courses at the 200 and 300 level.

# RL 101-61: Introduction to Religious Studies

Dr. Edward Hahnenberg (TU-THR 12:30 - 1:45 PM)

Introduction to the academic study of religion. Topics include the nature of religion; the human search for meaning; revelation; symbol, myth, and ritual; faith as it relates to reason, experience, and morality. Introduction to the areas of scripture, theology, ethics, and religious traditions. RL 101 is designed to prepare students for courses at the 200 and 300 level.

#### RL 205-41: New Testament Introduction

Bro. Charles McElroy, OFM Cap. (TU-THR 11:20 AM - 12:35 PM)
Fulfills core requirements for Division V.
This course meets at Borromeo Seminary.

This course is an introduction to the study of the New Testament in the Roman Catholic tradition. The development and composition of the New Testament as a part of the Catholic Canon of Scripture; the historical, cultural, and religious environment out of which it arose; and the various theologies and their impact on the Catholic Biblical imagination will be interpreted in light of the Catholic Church, and expose the student to the authentic Catholic exegesis rooted in the Tradition of the Church and exemplified by contemporary Catholic Biblical Scholarship.

#### RL 205-51: New Testament Introduction

Dr. John Spencer (TU-THR 2:00 - 3:15 PM)

An introduction to the earliest Christian communities, the collection of literature which they produced (i.e., the New Testament), and their historical-cultural contexts. Some aspects considered are: the origins, formation, and development of these communities as they interact with their socio-political environment; their different theological perspectives in regard to Jesus, his life, teachings, death, resurrection, and his community of disciples - especially with regard to regional differences; the influence of Paul; and the apocalyptic perspective of early Christians. This course is part of the Catholic Studies curriculum because it engages the student with the Roman Catholic theological tradition of interpretation of the New Testament, both as an entity and in its respective parts. The ecclesial nature of authentic scriptural interpretation is fundamental to this tradition.

#### RL 228-51: American Christianity

Dr. Joseph Kelly (TU-THR 9:30 - 10:45 AM)

Development of Christianity in the U.S. from the colonial period to the present. Emphasis on interaction between Christianity and American culture and on development of Roman Catholicism in the U.S. Topics include the Puritans, religious liberty, abolition, revivalism, immigration, nativism, Industrial Revolution, Catholic education, prohibition, fundamentalism, rise of the laity, and modern secularism.

# RL 228-51: American Christianity Dr. Joseph Kelly (TU-THR 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM)

Development of Christianity in the U.S. from the colonial period to the present. Emphasis on interaction between Christianity and American culture and on development of Roman Catholicism in the U.S. Topics include the Puritans, religious liberty, abolition, revivalism, immigration, nativism, Industrial Revolution, Catholic education, prohibition, fundamentalism, rise of the laity, and modern secularism.

#### RL 231-51: Contemporary Catholic Theology

Dr. Doris Donnelly (MWF 11:00 - 11:50 AM) Fulfills core requirements for Division V.

This course will accent "contemporary" issues and concerns in Roman Catholic theology at the same time that we will pay attention to the foundations of the tradition. Among the foundations that we will examine are the contemporary approaches to the bible, sacraments, liturgy, vocation, authority, and prayer. Among the issues we will "update" are those concerning war and peace, the biotech revolution, immigration, poverty, healthcare, liberation technology, the laity, and sexuality. Because all students will have online subscriptions to America and Commonweal magazines, we will also attend to up-to-the-minute issues as they appear in the news.

#### RL 238-41 Catechism of the Catholic Church

Bro. Charles McElroy, OFM Cap. (TU-THR 8:30 - 9:45 AM)
Fulfills core requirements for Division V.
This course meets at Borromeo Seminary.

This course offers an overview of Roman Catholic theology based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church as well as a look at various themes and issues since the Second Vatican Council that find their roots and explanation in the Catechism. There will be an emphasis on scripture, grace, sacraments, sin, redemption, the role of Jesus, the Church Magisterium, ethical norms and morality.

# RL 272-51: Christian Spirituality (Honors)

Fr. Donald Cozzens (TU-THR 3:30 - 4:45 PM) Fulfills core requirements for Division V. Honors courses are open to all students.

Spirituality, that illusive quality of the soul that dwells on the borders of mystery and grace, resists definition. Christian spirituality is the concrete experience of grace and healing in the paschal mystery, the daily dying, rising, experience of communion and alienation, of virtue and sin that constitute our redeemed lives in Christ. This course is a way to reflect upon the experience of being in communion with the ultimate.

# RL 299A-41, RL 299B-41: SP TP: Third World Culture: Honduras

Fr. Thomas Dragga (TBA)
This course meets at Borremeo Seminary.

This course will use the discipline of theology to study and evaluate the political, social, historical, and religious themes that emerge from a study trip to Honduras. Instructor and students will go to Honduras in February to experience and observe life in a Third World culture. They will prepare for the trip by reading about the principles of Catholic Social Justice, as well as books by and about the people and Church workers in Honduras. Students will read and discuss the texts with the instructor before and after the trip. Students will keep journals of their thoughts and experiences during the trip. Students will present insights from their study and experience to a larger group of students when they return.

#### RL 299C-51: SP TP: Ethics of War and Peacemaking

Fr. Thomas Schubeck, SJ (TU-THR 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM) Fulfills core requirement for Division V.

This course will introduce students to the just war - nonviolent peace traditions that arise from both the Jewish-Christian and Islamic traditions. It examines the causes of conflict, how it can be controlled, and finally how peace may be achieved through negotiation and policies. The course is divided into three parts. The first part traces the development of the just war theory and pacifism in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The second part assesses the morality of war, including nuclear war and terrorism, in the 20th and 21st centuries. The third part deals with peace building that tries to eliminate injustices that lead to war.

# RL 306-51: Jesus in Film and History

Dr. Sheila McGinn (TU 3:30 - 6:15 PM) Prerequisite or corequisite: RL 205 or equivalent.

Introduction to the historical person Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus' words and deeds as understood by his own contemporaries. Comparisons to how Jesus was later understood and portrayed by his followers and popular media (e.g., art, literature, film).

## RL 368-41: Christian Social Justice

Bro. Charles McElroy, OFM Cap. (TU-THR 2:55 - 4:10 PM)
Fulfills Core requirements for Division V.
This course meets at Borromeo Seminary.
Permission to take this course must be granted by the department chair.

This course will present an overview of some contemporary conceptions of justice with reference to social and economic issues as they are treated in the Roman Catholic tradition. The course will trace the development of important documents and movements in Catholic social justice efforts.

# RL 371-51: Ignatian Spirituality: Origins and Development Dr. Joan Nuth (TU-THR 2:00 - 3:15 PM)

Study of the life and writings of Ignatius Loyola and the spirituality that emerged from his religious experience, the dissemination of Ignatian spirituality across the globe through the creation of the Jesuit order, the mission and ministry of the first Jesuits, the development of Ignatian spirituality through the centuries, and a focus on its contemporary relevance.

## RL 399B-51: SP TP: The Catholic Experience

Mr. James Menkhaus (MW 3:30 - 4:45 PM) Permission to take this course must be granted by the department chair.

As the capstone course for the Catholic Studies minor, this course expects students to draw from their earlier Catholic Studies courses. It also expects students to integrate these courses with the material of this course and to be able to articulate a means to interpret the world through a Catholic lens. The course is designed to respond to three questions: [1.] Who am I before God? [2.] Who is God before me? And [3.] What does it mean to be Catholic in today's world? Among the topics to be addressed are the following: the Creed, theophanies, interreligious dialogue, the Eucharist, war and peace, ethical choices, the role of the imagination in Catholic life, and the Catholic university.

#### RL 408-1: Paul and His Writings

Dr. Sheila McGinn (THR 6:30 - 9:15 PM)
Fulfills Core requirements for Division V.
International "S" requirement, and Writing "W" requirement.
Permission to take this class must be granted by the department chair.

This seminar introduces students to the scholarly analysis of the earliest extant Christian documents, the writings of Paul of Tarsus, and other writings from his followers. Reading and discussion of key studies that dominate the current debate will focus around such themes as apocalypticism, authenticity and pseudonymity, epistolography, literacy and rhetorical criticism, sociology of sectarian movements, feminist hermeneutics, canonicity and the authority of scripture, and development of doctrine. The readings will be coordinated with lecture and discussion sessions where various exegetical methods will be applied to the interpretation of the Pauline corpus, with selected Pauline texts providing "case studies" for discussion.

# RL 430-1: Introduction to Systematic Theology

Dr. Edward Hahnenberg (THR 6:30 - 9:15 PM)

Nature, method, and content of systematic theology, with emphasis on the influence of history and culture on the articulation of doctrine. Readings and discussions centered on significant contributors to Christian systematic theology.

# Minor in Catholic Studies

Students who wish to pursue the *Minor in Catholic Studies* must complete 18 credit hours in approved Catholic Studies Courses distributed as follows:

1 course in Religious Studies
1 course in Philosophy
1 course in Humanities
2 electives in Catholic Studies
1 required capstone seminar

In fulfilling these requirements, three courses must be at the 300-400 level. If you are interested in pursuing the *Minor*, please call or e-mail Dr. Paul V. Murphy. Leave your name, phone number, e-mail address, and class year.

Students who have questions about the Catholic Studies Program or who would like more information, should contact the Director of the Institute of Catholic Studies.

Dr. Paul V. Murphy, Director Institute of Catholic Studies

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