Office Hours: Wednesdays, 1-2:30pm and by appt.

# TESP 50—Catholic Theology: Foundations *MWF 9:15-10:20am, Kenna 304*

## Course Description:

This course is an RTC-2 level intermediate reflection upon the meaning of Christian faith as approached through a Roman Catholic Lens. It presupposes no deep knowledge of Roman Catholicism. The course itself is structured into five parts: (1) Faith, (2) Doctrine of God, (3) Christology, (4) Pneumatology and the Holy Spirit, and (5) Contemporary Modern Life and Praxis. Through a concise and serious examination of Catholic faith, we will seek its contemporary significance, relevance, and implications for living in the world, spreading the gospel, and ushering in the kingdom of God on earth.

Students who seek RTC-2 credit for this course must have completed an RTC-1 course. Transfer students are exempted from this rule.

#### Course Aim:

The aim of the course is a critical theological understanding of Catholic faith focusing on the meaning and articulation of Catholic faith, its theological significance and contemporary relevance, as well as its theological implications for the development of spirituality, new ways of being, and practical aspects of living one's faith.

## Core Curriculum Learning Goals and Objectives:

Learning Goal 1: Students will be able to analyze complex and diverse religious phenomena (such as architecture and art, music, ritual, scriptures, theologies, and other cultural expressions of religious belief). (LG 1)

Learning Goal 2: Students will be able to integrate and compare several different disciplinary approaches to a coherent set of religious phenomena. (LG 2)

Learning Goal 3: Students will be able to clarify and express beliefs in light of their critical inquiry into the religious dimensions of human existence. (LG 3)

#### Assigned Texts:

Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, *Introduction to Christianity* (San Francisco, CA: Ignatius Press, 2004). Paperback Edition. ISBN 978-1-58617-029-5. Available on Kindle.

Gerhard Lohfink, *Jesus of Nazareth: What He Wanted, Who He Was* (Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2012. A Michael Glazer Book.

Johannes Baptist Metz. *Poverty of Spirit*. New York: Paulist Press, 1998).

Karl Rahner, Do You Believe in God? (Will be made available to students on Camino).

#### Assessment and Grading:

- Intellectual Engagement [10%]
- Introductory Essay on Karl Rahner [10%]
- Three Critical Essays on Roman Catholic Faith
  - o Christology [15%]
  - o Pneumatology or Holy Spirit [15%]
  - o Contemporary Modern Life and Praxis [15%]
- Final Exam (consisting of essay and short answer questions) [35%]

## Late Paper Policy:

Late papers will be reduced at least one full grade for each day late unless negotiated with the professor prior to the due date. Papers turned in too late or not at all will receive a 0 and no credit for the assignment.

## Achievement of Learning Objectives:

#### Learning Goal 1—

• Achieved through careful study and reflection on theological foundations of Catholic faith including contemporary theological significance, relevance, and implications. Encouragement of independent analysis and interpretation of meaning and understanding of scripture, tradition, doctrine, and practice of Catholic faith in relationship to foundational interpretations and assertions of Catholic theology.

# Learning Goal 2—

- Approach to learning Catholic foundations will include interdisciplinary analysis including historical, social, and cultural analysis; scriptural interpretation; and application of the social sciences.
- Final Exam will include short answer and essay questions that require students to think in deeper, more critical, and more interdisciplinary ways about Catholicism.

# Learning Goal 3—

- Final portion of course will focus on contemporary modern life and praxis. The intentional emphasis of this conclusion to the class is development and articulation of one's own faith, beliefs, and theological outlook. Students are encouraged to consider translation of belief into praxis or concrete actions and deeds to express their faith, spirituality, and ways of being.
- Critical essays will focus on the meaning and understanding of Catholic faith in relationship to one's own personal belief system and concrete ways to translate those beliefs into personal praxis or a purposeful way of being in the world.
- Final Exam will include short answer and essay questions asking students to express their perspectives, assertions, and conclusions about their beliefs and Catholic foundations in addition to their significance, contemporary relevance, and implications.

Final grades will be based on the following scale: A (95 and above); A-(90-94); B+ (87-89); B (84-86); B- (80-83); C+ (77-79); C (74-76); C- (70-73); D (60-69); F (below 60). Final grades are not negotiable and cannot be changed, except in the case of clerical error.

The Santa Clara University Undergraduate Bulletin identifies the standards for grades as follows: A (excellent), B (good), C (adequate), D (barely passing), F (not passing)

#### Academic Honesty:

Plagiarism or academic dishonesty in any form (as described in the Student Conduct Code) will result in a failed grade for the project, and possibly for the course. All allegations of academic dishonesty will be reported to the department chair and Office of Student Life. For a full presentation of University policies concerning plagiarism, see:

http://scu.edu/studentlife/resources/upload/Academic-Integrity-brochure-2014.pdf

In order to avoid the sanctions applied to cases of academic dishonesty, please make sure that you properly cite all sources that you utilize in your writing, including works that are directly quoted or paraphrased, as well as works used as a source of information. This includes both print and online sources. Your paper submissions must consist of your own writing, and any direct quotations or paraphrasing from other works must be properly cited.

#### Disability Accommodations:

If you have a disability for which accommodations may be required in this class, please contact Disabilities Resources, Benson 216, <a href="www.scu.edu/disabilities">www.scu.edu/disabilities</a> as soon as possible to discuss your needs and register for accommodations with the University. If you have already arranged accommodations through Disabilities Resources, please discuss them with me during my office hours. Students who have medical needs related to pregnancy or parenting may be eligible for accommodations.

While I am happy to assist you, I am unable to provide accommodations until I have received verification from Disabilities Resources. The Disabilities Resources office will work with students and faculty to arrange proctored exams for students whose accommodations include double time for exams and/or assisted technology. (Students with approved accommodations of time-and-a-half should talk with me as soon as possible). Disabilities Resources must be contacted in advance to schedule proctored examinations or to arrange other accommodations. The Disabilities Resources office would be grateful for advance notice of at least two weeks. For more information you may contact Disabilities Resources at 408-554-4109.

#### Title IX Syllabus Statement:

Santa Clara University upholds a zero tolerance policy for discrimination, harassment and sexual misconduct. If you (or someone you know) have experienced discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, domestic and dating violence or stalking, we encourage you to tell someone promptly. For more information, please go to www.scu.edu/studentlife and click on the link for the University's Gender-Based Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct Policy or contact the University's EEO and Title IX Coordinator, Belinda Guthrie at 408-554-3043 or by email at bguthrie@scu.edu. Reports may be submitted online through www.scu.edu/osl/report or anonymously through Ethicspoint: www.ethicspoint.comhttp://stage-www.scu.edu/hr/quick-links/ethics-point/

# Reporting Practices:

While I want you to feel comfortable coming to me with issues you may be struggling with or concerns you may be having, please be aware that there are some reporting requirements that are part of my job at Santa Clara University.

For example, if you inform me of an issue of harassment, sexual violence, or discrimination, I will keep the information as private as I can, but I am required to bring it to the attention of the institution's EEO and Title IX Coordinator. If you inform me that you are struggling with an issue that may be resulting in, or caused by, traumatic or unusual stress, I will likely inform the campus Student Care Team (SCU CARE).

If you would like to reach out directly to the Student Care Team for assistance, you can contact them at <a href="www.scu.edu/osl/report">www.scu.edu/osl/report</a>. If you would like to talk to the Office of EEO and Title IX directly, they can be reached at 408-554-3043 or by email at <a href="mailto:bguthrie@scu.edu">bguthrie@scu.edu</a>. Reports may be submitted online through <a href="www.scu.edu/osl/report">www.scu.edu/osl/report</a> or anonymously through Ethicspoint: <a href="www.ethicspoint.com">www.ethicspoint.com</a>. Additionally, you can report incidents or complaints to the Office of Student Life (OSL), Campus Safety Services, and local

law enforcement. For confidential support, contact the Counseling and Psychological Services office (CAPS), the YWCA, or a member of the clergy (for example, a priest or minister).

Finally, please be aware that if, for some reason, our interaction involves a disruptive behavior, a concern about your safety or the safety of others, or potential violation of University policy, I will inform the Office of Student Life. The purpose of this is to keep OSL apprised of incidents of concern, and to ensure that students can receive or stay connected to the academic support and student wellness services they need.

#### **Course Schedule**

Mon, Jan 4: Introduction to Course

**FAITH** 

Wed, Jan 6: Intellectual Honesty and Faith

Reading: Karl Rahner, Do You Believe in God? [Part I-III, p.3-41] (Camino)

Fri, Jan 8: Contemporary Faith?

Reading: Karl Rahner, Do You Believe in God? [Part IV-V, p.42-77] (Camino)

Mon, Jan 11: What is Faith?

Reading: Karl Rahner, Do You Believe in God? [Part VI, p.78-87] (Camino)

#### **DOCTRINE OF GOD**

Wed, Jan 13: Experience of God?

Reading: Karl Rahner, Do You Believe in God? [Part VII-IX, p.88-114] (Camino)

Fri, Jan 15: Faith in One God

Reading: Ratzinger, Introduction to Christianity (The profession of faith in the one God, p. 110-115)

Mon, Jan 18: Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

Wed, Jan 20: Introductory Essay on Karl Rahner due in class or by 12noon in Professor Lampley's

box (Religious Studies Department, Kenna 323)

Faith in God Today

Reading: Ratzinger, Introduction to Christianity (Chapter IV, Faith in God Today, p.151-161)

Fri, Jan 22: Belief in the Triune God

Reading: Ratzinger, Introduction to Christianity

(Chapter V, Belief in the Triune God through Part I a. {point of departure of the belief in

the triune God}, p.162-165)

#### CHRISTOLOGY

Mon. Jan 25: So-Called Historical Jesus

Reading: Lohfink, Jesus of Nazareth (Chapter 1, p.1-23)

Wed, Jan 27: <u>Jesus and the World of Signs</u>

Reading: Lohfink, Jesus of Nazareth (Chapter 8, p.121-127)

Fri, Jan 29: The Life of Jesus: Living Unconditionally

Reading: Lohfink, Jesus of Nazareth (Chapter 13, "The Eye Torn Out," p.216-219)

Mon, Feb 1: Jesus as True Human and True God

Reading: Lohfink, Jesus of Nazareth (Chapter 20, p.329-347)

Wed, Feb 3: Theology of the Incarnation/Theology of the Cross

Reading: Ratzinger, Introduction to Christianity ("Theology of the Incarnation and

Theology of the Cross," p.228-230)

Fri, Feb 5: NO CLASS

Mon, Feb 8: NO CLASS

Wed, Feb 10: Christology and Redemption

Reading: Ratzinger, Introduction to Christianity ("Christology and the Doctrine of

*Redemption,* "p.230-234)

Fri, Feb 12: Gospel of John 1:1-18 (*Prologue*)

Mon, Feb 15: President's Day Holiday

Wed, Feb 17: Critical Essay #1 on Christology due in class or by 12noon in Professor Lampley's box

(Religious Studies Department, Kenna 323)

No Reading

## PNEUMATOLOGY or Doctrine of the HOLY SPIRIT

Fri, Feb 19: Gospel of John 2-4 (Spiritual Rebirth)

Mon, Feb 22: Gospel of John 14-17 (Holy Spirit as Comforter/Spirit of Truth)

Wed, Feb 24: Belief in the Holy Spirit

Reading: Ratzinger, Introduction to Christianity (PART THREE, Chapter I, p.331-337)

Fri, Feb 26: Holy, Catholic Church

Reading: Ratzinger, Introduction to Christianity (PART THREE, Chapter II, Section I.

"The Holy, Catholic Church," p.338-347)

Mon, Feb 29: Critical Essay #2 on the Holy Spirit due in class or by 12noon in Professor Lampley's

box (Religious Studies Department, Kenna 323)

No Reading

#### CONTEMPORARY MODERN LIFE AND PRAXIS

Wed, March 2: Johannes Baptist Metz, *Poverty of Spirit* 

Reading: TBA

Fri, March 4: Johannes Baptist Metz, Poverty of Spirit

Reading: TBA

Mon, March 7: Contemporary Catholic Perspectives

Reading: TBA

Wed, March 9: Contemporary Catholic Perspectives

Reading: TBA

Fri, March 11: Critical Essay #3 on Contemporary Praxis due in class or by 12noon in

Professor Lampley's box (Religious Studies Department, Kenna 323)

No Reading

# FINAL EXAM: Friday, March 18th, 9:10am-12:10pm, Kenna 304

This is the **Apostles Creed**, as used in the Roman Catholic Church's liturgy.

This creed is considered to be a faithful summary of the Apostles' teaching. It is the ancient baptismal symbol of the Church at Rome and earliest profession or statement of Christian faith

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the

power of the Holy Spirit

and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting.

#### Amen.