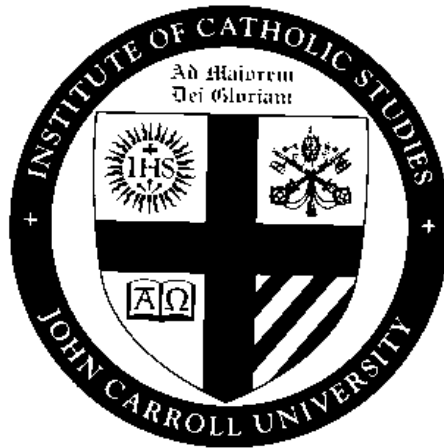


# The Institute of Catholic Studies



Fall Courses 2020

# 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

## Fall Courses 2020

### **HS 218: Saints and Scoundrels: The Jesuits from Renaissance to Revolution (ISJ)**

Dr. Paul Murphy (MWF 9:00-9:50am)

Will examine the Society of Jesus, one of the most prominent, notorious, talented, and despised groups in the modern world. We will seek to clarify the historical and cultural significance of the Society of Jesus, the largest religious order in the Catholic Church. This will include study of their founder, Ignatius of Loyola, their place in the world of Renaissance and Reformation learning and culture, the works of the Jesuits in Asia and Latin America during the period of European expansion from the sixteenth to the eighteenth centuries, the roles played by the Jesuits during the Enlightenment and French Revolution, the suppression of the Society of Jesus in the eighteenth century, the place of the Society in the modern world, particularly their reaction to Liberalism in Western society and their role in the Catholic Church since the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965).

### **HS 263-21: Italian History 1914-1957**

This course is offered in Vatican City.

### **PL 230-21: Christian Thinkers**

This course is offered in Vatican City.

### **PL 240-41: 17th and 18th Century European Philosophy (PLKR)**

Dr. Beth Rath (TR 11:20am-12:35pm)

This section meets at Borromeo Seminary.

Permission to take this course is required from the instructor.

This course explores central themes in political philosophy and natural theology from the 17th and 18th centuries.

**PL 302-21: Introduction to Ethics**

This course is offered in Vatican City.

**PL 307-51: Philosophy of Religion**

Dr. Walter Stepanenko

Philosophical problems of religion, such as the nature and ground of religious beliefs, the nature of religious experience, the relation of religion and science, the existence of God, immortality, and evil.

**PL 311-21: Business Ethics**

This course is offered in Vatican City.

**PL 391-41: What Does Science Prove? (PLKR)**

Dr. Beth Rath (TR 2:55-4:10pm)

This course meets at Borromeo Seminary.

Permission to take this course is required from the instructor.

One popular idea circulating in the mainstream is that religion and science are fundamentally incompatible. In this course, we will try to relieve the alleged science OR religion dilemma. To do this, we focus on the question of what science actually proves with respect to theological claims. Some of the themes that we investigate in this course include: the origins of the universe, cognitive psychology of religious belief, human uniqueness and immortality, artificial intelligence, moral responsibility and neuroscience, and the historical Adam.

**PL 395-41: Metaphysics (PLKR)**

Dr. Joel Johnson (TR 9:55-11:10am)

This course meets at Borromeo Seminary.

Permission to take this course is required from the instructor.

This course is an investigation of metaphysical themes, such as realism, idealism, universals, substances, causation, and beauty with applications to topics in theology. The first half of the course is focused on issues pertaining to being as such and the possibility of

concrete individuals. The second half of the course covers two main topics: 1) substance and 2) beauty. The course draws from ancient, medieval, modern, and contemporary thinkers.

**PL 396-41: Theories of Knowledge (PLKR)**

Dr. Joel Johnson (TR 1:30-2:45pm)

This course meets at Borromeo Seminary.

Permission to take this course is required from the instructor.

This course is designed to introduce students to the seminal problems and texts in the philosophy of knowledge, also known as Epistemology. Issues such as the nature of perception, skepticism, truth, and philosophical thinking will be developed through close textual reading and class discussion.

**TRS 200-41: Hebrew Bible**

Fr. Mark Ott (TR 8:30-9:45am)

This course meets at Borromeo Seminary.

Permission to take this course is required from the instructor.

This course is an introduction to the Old Testament. It is concerned with the composition of the Sacred Scriptures as well as with the historical, social, and religious environment that gave rise to them.

**TRS 200: Hebrew Bible**

Dr. Sheila McGinn

Section 51 meets TR 9:30-10:45am

Section 52 meets TR 11:00am-12:30pm

Historical and cultural environment of the Jewish Bible (the collection of scriptures in the *Torah*, *Nebi'im*, and *Kethubim*, or “Tanakh,” which Christians call the “Old Testament”), its nature and composition, and its religious and theological developments.

**TRS 205: The New Testament**

Dr. Allen Georgia (MWF 11:00-11:50am)

A survey course introducing the scholarly study of the New Testament. As a course in the Catholic Studies curriculum, it will be grounded in the biblical scholarship and teachings of the Catholic Church. Specifically, it will explore the historical and cultural milieu that shaped the New Testament, its nature and composition, its religious and theological developments, and its significance for Catholics today.

### **TRS 238-41: Catechism of The Catholic Church**

Fr. Mark Latcovich (TR 8:30-9:45am)

This course meets at Borromeo Seminary.

Permission to take this course is required from the instructor.

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 gaining competency to catechize on the topics of Sacred Scripture, Christology, Paschal Mystery, Sacraments, Church, and vocations.

### **TRS 260: Moral Decision Making (ISJ)**

Fr. James Bretzke, SJ (TR 12:30am-1:45pm)

Examination of contemporary moral issues with a focus on methods for analyzing and evaluating moral problems; sources from the Christian tradition that form moral identity and ethical decisions. *This ISJ course in the Core curriculum requires service learning.*

### **TRS 266: Catholic Social Teaching in Business (Link)**

Megan Wilson-Reitz, MA (MWF 11:00-11:50pm)

Examines the historical context, biblical foundations, theological meanings, and ecclesiastical purposes of the major themes of Catholic Social Teaching (CST). Students learn the CST framework in this class and then apply it in the linked business class to examine and evaluate the systems and decisions of real businesses in the contemporary world. *Forms a Core Link with AC 1xx Catholic Social Teaching in Business.*

### **TRS 273-51: Sacred Quest (Honors)**

Dr. Ed Hahnenberg (TR 8:00-9:15am)

Introduces the academic study of religion by exploring the various ways individuals and communities articulate their experience of the divine. Move from a general consideration of the nature of religious experience to the ways in which this experience takes shape in various sacred scriptures, traditions, theologies, and moral claims.

### **TRS 321-21: History of the Papacy**

This course is offered in Vatican City.

### **TRS 336: Church & Ministry**

Fr. Don Serva, SJ (MWF 9:00-9:50am)

The main idea of a Catholic university is that truth is one or unitary because all truths have their source in the one God. Therefore, upon perceiving a new idea that claims to be true, the question to be asked is not where does it come from in this world (since we know where it comes from ultimately), but is the idea true. While theology and science are separate disciplines with their own methods, canons, and communities, we, who claim to be educated persons, cannot separate ourselves into theologians and scientists. We integrate both into our persons and act from both bodies of knowledge when making decisions. Hence, when a difficult problem of conflict confronts us, such as evolution and creation in human origins, we must analyze competing claims for contradictions, complementarity, or integration. Although the Judeo-Christian world-view may have helped give rise to modern science, it is now independent from its parent and has produced the very fruitful idea of evolution, which will in time invigorate theology with the scientific story of one universe changing through matter, through life, and through culture. We will try to answer the question of how God works in the world by appreciating the new ideas that science brings.

### **TRS 360: Catholic Moral Theology**

Fr. James Bretzke, SJ (M 5:00-7:45pm)

Methods for making informed and prudential moral decisions, in the interpersonal and social spheres, grounded in experience, Scripture, church teaching, and rational discourse. Addresses such topics as conscience; virtue; individual and social sin; the common good; political, economic, and social problems such as war and peace, poverty, and prejudice; and major themes of Catholic Social Teaching.

**TRS 371: Ignatian Spirituality: Origins and Development**

James Menkhous, MA (M 6:30-9:15pm)

Study of the life and writings of Ignatius Loyola and the spirituality that emerged from his religious experience, the dissemination of Ignatian spirituality through the creation of the Jesuit order, the mission and ministry of the first Jesuits, the development of Ignatian spirituality, and its contemporary relevance. Involves experiential learning.

**TRS 375: Augustine's Spiritual Quest**

Dr. Sheila McGinn (TR 2:00-3:15pm)

This course focuses on Augustine of Hippo as spiritual guide and model of an authentic Christian life. Historical analysis will provide the groundwork for spiritual and theological reflection on key works of the early Augustine (especially the Confessions and On Grace and Free Will).

**TRS 379: ST: Spirituality of the Catholic Novel**

Andrew Cera (TR 3:30-4:45pm)

Explores the expression of Catholic spirituality in the works of several twentieth Century English and American novelists (e.g., Graham Greene, Evelyn Waugh, Walker Percy, Flannery O'Connor, et al.) Students will examine how concepts like grace, mercy, redemption, charity, and love are manifest in the novels.



## **TRS 430: Introduction to Systematic Theology**

Dr. Ed Hahnenberg (W 5:00-7:45pm)

Consideration of concepts key to understanding how theology works: faith, revelation, scripture, symbol, tradition, community, and method. Explores how these concepts work in the writings of significant theologians. Places these thinkers within their historical and cultural worlds to help students reflect on what it means to do theology out of their unique commitments, contexts, and life experiences. *A Core Advanced Writing in the Major and Oral Performance course.*

# 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.

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Institute of Catholic Studies

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