Theology & Religious Studies Department

Course Offerings
Summer and Fall 2021

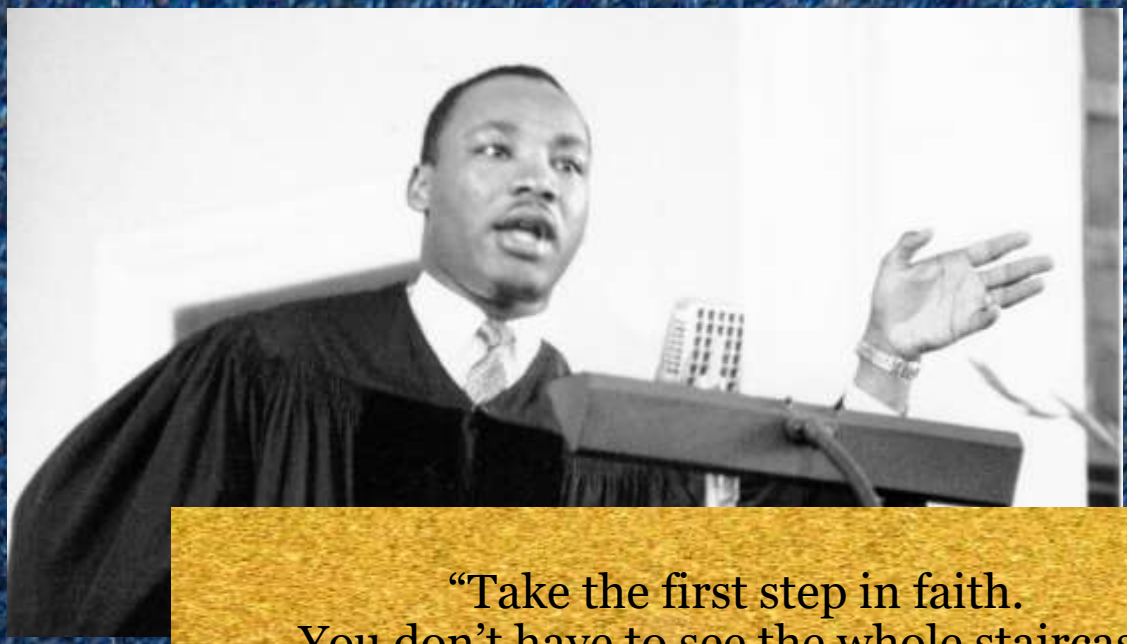
ST&RS

SUMMER Courses (P. 2)

100-200-Level Courses (Pp. 3-6)

300-Level Courses (Pp. 7-11)

Grad-Level Courses (P. 12)



"Take the first step in faith.
You don't have to see the whole staircase,
just take the first step."
~Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.~

Key:

BSI:
Borromeo Seminary course

CAPA:
Creative and Performing Arts

CS:
Catholic Studies

EGC:
Engaging Global Community

ISJ:
Issues in Social Justice

LINK:
Linked course

SLC:
Service Learning Component

Department of Theology & Religious Studies
John Carroll University
1 John Carroll Boulevard
University Heights, OH 44118 USA

Phone: 216-397-4700
Fax: 216-397-4518
E-mail: trs@jcu.edu
Website: go.jcu.edu/trs
Facebook:
www.facebook.com/TRSatJCU

Jesus in Film & History

Sheila McGinn, PhD

Summer 1—Online

Just as there are four gospel portrayals of him, Jesus likewise has been the subject of a multitude of film portrayals. This course will provide the opportunity for viewing and discussion of a variety of film portrayals of Jesus (from 1953–present) in comparison with the canonical gospel accounts and current "historical Jesus" research. We will explore the socio-historical context of this "Jesus material" and analyze its message(s) for contemporary U.S. culture.

Islam & the Environment

Zeki Saritoprak, PhD

Summer 3—Online

This course is an overview of environmental issues and Islamic approaches to these challenges based on the major sources of Islam: the Qur'an and the Hadith (i.e., the sayings and actions of the Prophet). We will also discuss Islamic legal structures to protect the environment. Special emphasis will be given to contemporary Islamic activism for the protection of the natural world. We will elaborate on the beauty and spiritualty of nature as laid out in the Islamic sources as well as the legal prohibitions of the destruction of nature.

Teaching Theology

Edward Hahnenberg, PhD

Summer 2—MTW, 3:00-5:40pm, June 21-July 22

Introduction to pedagogy for theological educators. Explores the nature and goals of theological education, the vocation of the theology teacher, the sociological research relevant to religious education, the developmental needs of adolescents and young adults, diversity in the classroom, and concrete pedagogical strategies. The class will give special attention to exploring practical ways to advance the learning goals of the U.S. Catholic Bishops' High School Curriculum Framework in a pedagogically effective manner.

Sacred Quest

Edward Hahnenberg, PhD

TR 8:00-9:15 AM, TR 9:30-10:45 AM

Sacred Quest introduces the academic study of religion by exploring the various ways individuals and communities articulate their experience of the divine. The course moves 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.

"Go forth and set the world on fire."
~ St. Ignatius of Loyola ~

Hebrew Bible

Fr. Mark Ott

TR 8:30am-9:45am

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. ***Taught at Borromeo Seminary.***

New Testament

Sheila McGinn, PhD

MWF 11:00—11:50 PM; 12:00—12:50 PM

Development and composition of the New Testament; the historical, cultural, and religious environments out of which it arose; and the various theological perspectives found within it.

Introduction to Judaism

Noah Bickart, PhD

TR 11:00—12:15 PM; 12:30—1:45 PM

Historical overview of the development of Judaism from its biblical beginnings through the modern period, including a discussion of the major religious ideas of classical Judaism.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

Fr. Mark Latcovich

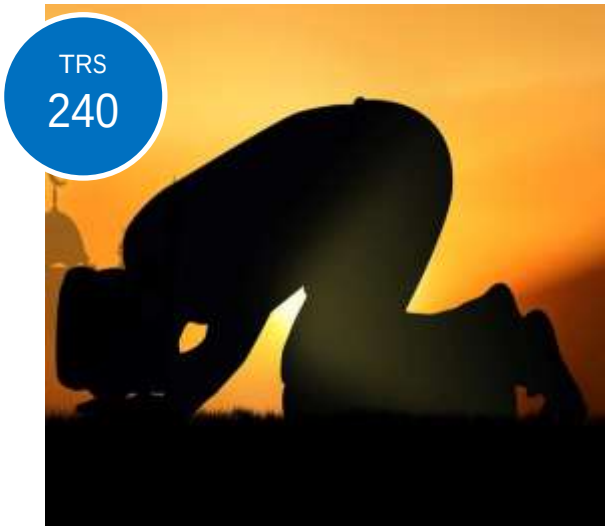
TR 8:30—9:45 AM

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*. Emphasis on scripture, grace, sacraments, sin, redemption, the role of Jesus, the Church Magisterium, ethical norms, and morality. ***Taught at Borromeo Seminary.***

Introduction to Islam

Jacob Waldenmaier, PhD

MWF 9:00—9:50 AM; TR 3:30—4:45 PM

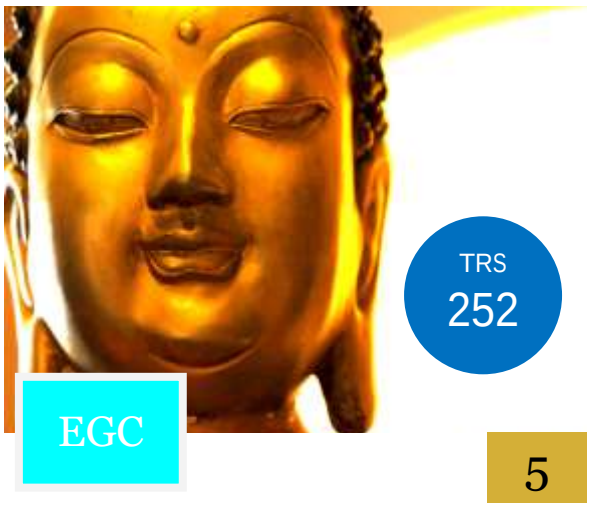


Surveys the history of Islam, impact of Islamic belief and culture on global social and political development, and fundamental tenets and practices of Islam. Includes a modern interpretation of the Islamic tradition.

Religions of India

Paul Nietupski, PhD

MWF 9:00—9:50 AM; 10:00– 10:50 AM



Study of interpretation of India's religions and cultures, including the discussion of methods and cultural biases in the study of foreign religions and cultures. Focus on Hinduism and Buddhism in the Indian subcontinent and how these were transmitted to other Asian countries.

Cool & New Courses– *200 Level*

Moral Decision Making

Fr. James Bretzke, SJ; Paul Lauritzen, PhD

TR 9:30—10:45 AM;
MWF 1:00—1:50 PM (Honors)

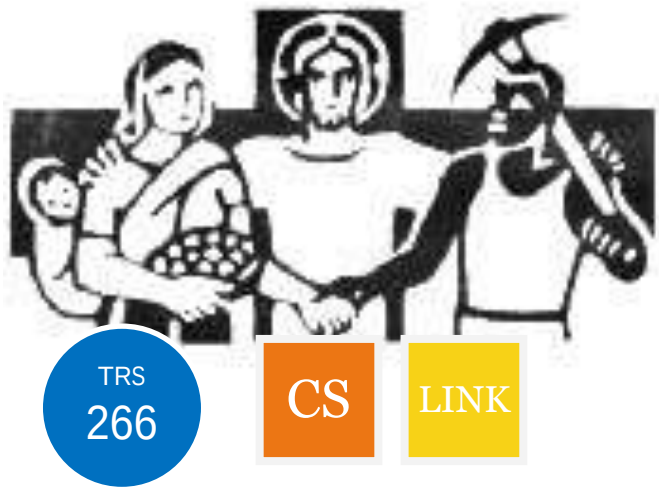
Examination of contemporary moral issues with a focus on methods for analyzing and evaluating moral problems; sources from the Christian tradition that form moral identity and ethical decisions.

Religion, Freedom, and Law

Kristen Tobey, PhD

TR 2:00—3:15 PM;
TR 3:30—4:45 PM (Honors)

Introduction to issues framed by legal and religious context. How morality and religion contribute to ethical dilemmas for individual lawyers; history of American interface between religion and law; how religion and law address similar questions in different ways; dilemmas pertaining to morality and freedom where religion and law interface; public forum and judicial system's approach to religious issues; religious topics debated and litigated in public life.



Catholic Social Teaching in Business

Megan Wilson-Reitz

MWF 11:00—11:50 AM

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 100 Catholic Social Teaching in Business.

Romans, Greeks & Early Christians

Allan Georgia, PhD

MWF 12:00-12:50pm

This course will explore what it meant that the earliest Christians lived in cities dominated by Roman architecture, Greek art, and all the trappings of a Mediterranean under imperial control. We will engage voices from the first two centuries of Christian history, including Jesus of Nazareth, Paul the Apostle, Justin Martyr, Irenaeus, Clement of Alexandria and Tertullian, alongside classical voices like Plato, Ovid, Chariton, Apuleius, Aristophanes and Cicero, among many others.

"There is only one problem on which all my existence, my peace, and my happiness depends: to discover myself in discovering God."
~Thomas Merton

Religious Enthusiasm

Kristen Tobey, PhD

TR 9:30-10:45 am

A sociological inquiry into religious fervor in 20th- and 21st-century America. Examines the histories and lived religious experiences of several modern/ contemporary "enthusiastic" religious movements, paying particular attention to the discrepancy between the appeal they exert over adherents, versus the fear and mistrust they often excite in society at large. Case studies are used to explore the dynamics of contemporary American religion and offer ways to think about American religious history . Forms a core link with HS 240.

Martin, Malcolm, & Black Lives Matter

Reverend Bertrice Wood, PhD

TR 12:30-1:45PM; 2:00-3:15PM

Life, career, and teaching of the civil-rights leader and Christian theologian, Martin Luther King, Jr. Sources of King's unique theology; analysis of speeches and writings; King's relationship to other thinker-activists of his time, such as Mohandas K. Gandhi and Malcolm X; milestones of justice and peace; connections and comparisons with the contemporary "Black Lives Matter" movement.

History of Christmas

Nathaniel Morehouse, PhD

TR 11:00AM-12:15PM; 12:30-1:45PM

Origins of the feast; gospel infancy narratives; apocryphal traditions; Christology; Christmas in Medieval art and drama; cult of Saint Nicholas; origins and growth of Christmas music; Puritan attack on the feast; decline of the feast in 18th century; impact of the Industrial Revolution; the establishment of modern Christmas; modern commercialization; contemporary developments.

"This is important: to get to know people, listen, expand the circle of ideas."
- Pope Francis

Faith & Science

Fr. Donald Serva, SJ

MWF 9:00-:9:50 AM

Explores the historical controversies and contemporary conversations surrounding the relationship between religious belief and modern science, with particular attention to evolution and

Globalization, Theology and Justice

Deborah Zawislan, PhD

MW 3:30-4:45PM

Surveys and analyzes contributions of Catholic theology and tradition on issues related to globalization, such as economics, demographic shifts, ecology, consumerism, migration, human trafficking, and interreligious conflict. Approached through the lens of Catholic social teaching, possible responses are evaluated based on the principle of the common good and the potential impact upon the most vulnerable members of society .

CS

TRS
337

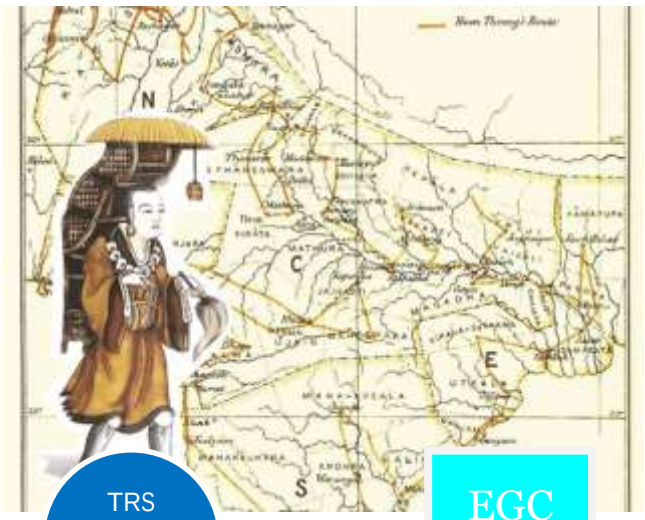
Jesuit Theology: Ignatius to Pope Francis

James Menkhaus, PhD

M 6:30-9:15PM

This course will examine the Jesuit tradition in order to answer the question: To what extent is Pope Francis a *Jesuit* Pope? Specifically, the course will be divided into three sections. During the first section, students will read the *Autobiography* of St. Ignatius and selections from his *Spiritual Exercises*. The second section will examine how Vatican II influenced Pedro Arrupe, and how Arrupe attempted to connect the Council's vision to his new role as Superior General of the Jesuits in 1965. Finally, the third section will focus on Pope Francis where we will read selections from papal documents in light of the previous Ignatian materials.

Pilgrimage (Honors)



TRS 352

EGC

Paul Nietupski, PhD

W 5:00-7:45PM

Examines pilgrimage as a unifying theme in the study of world religions and as a key component of religious life. Treats pilgrimage as a perspective on the unity of spirit, mind, and body as an expression of the inseparability of individuals and larger religious communities; uses it as a point of departure to investigate symbols, rituals, myths, laws, doctrines, faiths, and visions manifested in world religions.

Human Rights and Rites in Asia

CS

TRS 359

Fr. James Bretzke, SJ

T 2:00-3:15PM

This course will focus on *contemporary lived expressions of* three of the world's most ancient and revered religious traditions of spiritual wisdom, namely Buddhism, Confucianism, and Christianity as they have developed and are *primarily* lived in the religio-politico-cultural context of East Asia *today*.

Theology of Sex, Gender and Identity

TRS 361

Russell Trippi

T 6:30-9:15PM

An exploration of Christian spirituality, religion, and theology from the LGBTQ+ perspective. Topics include the origin, history and themes of queer theology and its relation to Queer Theory; queering scriptural hermeneutics and theological doctrines; the intersection of queer people of color; and societal and ecological engagement in the post-colonial western world. Case studies on queerness, race, and ethnicity in Womanist, Asian-American, Latina/o, and Two-Spirit Indigenous theologies.

Religion, Terror & Culture Wars

Michele Freyhauf, ABDiss

MWF 8:00-8:50AM

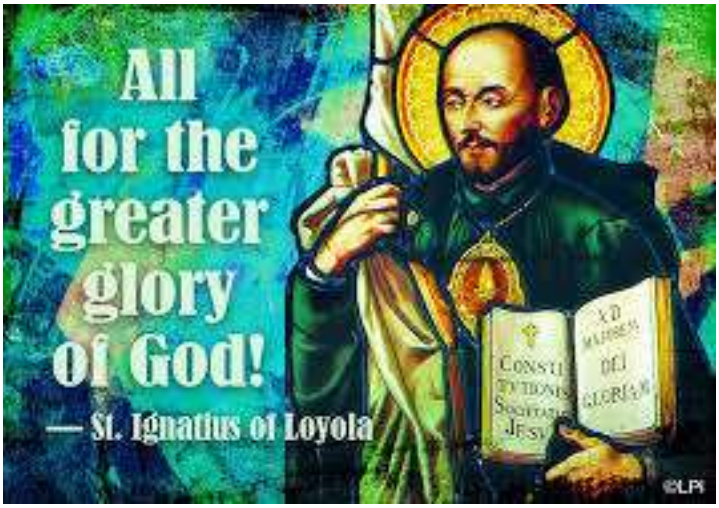
Ethical and practical issues regarding the importance of cultural memory and the destruction, recovery, and protection of cultural assets in a politicized global environment. Examination of past and present national and international threats to cultural assets.

Ignatian Spirituality

Andrew Cera, SJ

MF 2:00-3:15PM

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.



Scripture and Revelation

Sheila McGinn, PhD

M 5:00-7:40PM

Problems of and approaches to understanding the Jewish and Christian scriptures as "revelatory texts." Special focus on the methods essential to exegesis, biblical interpretation, and contemporary uses of the scriptures

TRS 400

CS

"God is not a being among other beings, but the infinite whither that makes possible the very functioning of our human spirit."
- Elizabeth A. Johnson

Pilgrimage

Paul Nietupski, PhD

W 5:00-7:40PM

Examines pilgrimage as a unifying theme in the study of world religions and as a key component of religious life. Treats pilgrimage as a perspective on the unity of spirit, mind, and body as an expression of the inseparability of individuals and larger religious communities; uses it as a point of departure to investigate symbols, rituals, myths, laws, doctrines, faiths, and visions manifested in world religions.

TRS 552

Fall 2021 Courses	Meeting Times	Instructor	Attributes	Linked Course
TRS 170.51 Sacred Quest	TR 8:00am-9:15am	E. Hahnenberg	CS	
TRS 170.51 Sacred Quest	TR 9:30am-10:45am	E. Hahnenberg	CS	
TRS 200.41 Hebrew Bible	TR 8:30am-9:45am	M. Ott	*at Borromeo	
TRS 205.51 New Testament	MWF 11:00am-11:50am	S. McGinn	EGC, CS	
TRS 205.52 New Testament	MWF 12:00pm-12:50pm	S. McGinn	EGC, CS	
TRS 210.51 Introduction to Judaism	TR 11:00am-12:15pm	N. Bickart	PJHR	
TRS 210.52 Introduction to Judaism	TR 12:30pm-1:145pm	N. Bickart	PJHR	
TRS 238.51 Catechism of the Catholic Church	TR 8:30am-9:45am	M. Latcovich	CS, *at Borromeo	
TRS 240.51 Introduction to Islam	MWF 9:00am-9:50am	J. Waldenmaier	PJHR	
TRS 240.51 Introduction to Islam	TR 3:30pm-4:45pm	J. Waldenmaier	PJHR	
TRS 252.51 Religions of India	MWF 9:00am-9:50am	P. Nietupski	EGC, PJHR	
TRS 252.52 Religions of India	MWF 10:00am-10:50am	P. Nietupski	EGC, PJHR	
TRS 260.51 Moral Decision Making	TR 9:30am-10:45am	G. Bretzke	CS, ISJ, PJHR	
TRS 260.52 Moral Decision Making (Honors)	MWF 1:00pm-1:50pm	P. Lauritzen	CS, ISJ, PJHR	
TRS 262.51 Religion, Freedom and Law	TR 2:00pm-3:15pm	K. Tobey	PJHR	
TRS 262.52 Religion, Freedom and Law (Honors)	TR 3:30pm-4:45pm	K. Tobey	H, PJHR	
TRS 266.51 Catholic Social Teaching in Business	MWF 11:00am-11:50am	M. Wilson-Reitz	CS, Link, PJHR	AC 100
TRS 309.51 Romans, Greeks and Early Christians	MWF 12:00pm-12:50pm	Allan Georgia	CS	
TRS 322.51 Religious Enthusiasm	TR 9:30am-10:45am	K. Tobey	Link	HS 240
TRS 323.51 Martin, Malcom & Black Lives Matter	TR 12:30pm-1:45pm	B. Woods	PJHR	
TRS 323.52 Martin, Malcom & Black Lives Matter	TR 2:00pm-3:15pm	B. Woods	PJHR	
TRS 324.51 History of Christmas	TR 11:00am-12:15pm	N. Morehouse	CS	
TRS 324.52 History of Christmas	TR 12:30pm-1:45pm	N. Morehouse	CS	
TRS 336.51 Faith and Science	MWF 9:00am-9:50am	D. Serva	CS	
TRS 337.51 Globalization, Theology and Justice	MW 3:30pm-4:45pm	D. Zawislan	CS, PJHR	
TRS 339.1 Jesuit Theology: Ignatius to Pope Francis	M 6:30pm-9:15	J. Menkhaus	CS	
TRS 352.1 Pilgrimage (Honors)	W 5:00pm-7:45pm	P. Nietupski	H, EGC	
TRS 359.51 Human Rights and Rites in Asia	TR 2:00pm-3:15pm	J. Bretzke	PJHR	
TRS 361.1 Theology of Sex, Gender & Identity	T 6:30pm—9:15pm	R. Trippi	PJHR	
TRS 367.51 Religion, Terror & Culture Wars	MWF 8:00am-8:50am	M. Freyhauf	ISJ, PJHR	
TRS 371.51 Ignatian Spirituality	MF 2:00pm-3:15pm	A. Cera	CS	
TRS 400.1 Scripture and Revelation	M 5:00pm—7:40pm	S. McGinn	CS	
TRS 493.51 Senior Seminar	TR 3:30pm-4:45pm	N. Bickart		