

# Course Descriptions

## Sacred Scripture

### **SS 001 Introduction to the Old Testament – 2 credit hours**

The course begins with the role of the Bible in the scheme of divine revelation. A description of the arrangement of the Old Testament and a brief introduction to the relationship between history and the development of Old Testament literature are covered. The various types of modern critical methods of biblical interpretation are covered. Each of the four major divisions (the Pentateuch, the Deuteronomistic History, the Prophets, and the Wisdom literature) of the Old Testament is then presented from a general perspective.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will develop a general familiarity with the literature of the Old Testament. They will be able to distinguish between literary form and historical facts. Finally, they will grow in their appreciation for the critical study that is demanded by a reverence for the Bible as God's inspired Word.

### **SS 002 Introduction to the New Testament – 2 credit hours**

The student is first familiarized with modern critical methods of the study of the Bible and then provided an overview of each of the books of the New Testament. The books are examined as to their literary forms as well as their relation to the historical periods of Jesus and the apostolic church. One secondary text will be used for this course.

Envisioned outcomes: A familiarity with the books of the New Testament, an appreciation for redaction as an important method followed by the gospel writers under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, a basic knowledge of the key motifs of the gospels, the important concerns of the epistles, a rudimentary knowledge of early church history, and the literary forms of the New Testament writings.

### **SS 101 Methodology of Biblical Studies – 3 credit hours**

The course is an overview of the Catholic Bible with a brief introduction to the contents of each book in the Old and New Testaments. Also covered is the Catholic interpretation of Scripture through the study of *Interpretation of the Bible in the Church* and *Dei Verbum*. One or more secondary texts will be used for the biblical background and biblical interpretation.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will be able to demonstrate a familiarity with the methods of biblical criticism. They will be able to read the Bible as a source of

spirituality and theological reflection. Students will be able to articulate their understanding of biblical concepts orally and in writing.

### **SS 102 Synoptic Gospels and Acts - 3 credit hours**

The course is a study of the themes and parallels in the Synoptic Gospels and utilizes exegetical methods such as literary, form, source and redaction criticisms as aids to studying these three gospels. An overview of the narrative of the Acts of the Apostles will be presented. At least one secondary text will be used for the Synoptic Gospels and one for the Acts.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will develop proficiency in the use of redaction criticism as a tool for reading the Synoptics. Students will also be able to apply narrative criticism in the reading of a single gospel or the Acts, and demonstrate a basic familiarity with the contents of the Synoptic Gospels and the Acts.

### **SS 203 Pauline Letters and Hebrews – 3 credit hours**

The course provides an overview of the Pauline corpus and a study of Romans, 1 Corinthians, Galatians, Philippians, 1 Thessalonians, 2 Thessalonians, Philemon, Ephesians and 1 Timothy. Emphasis will be given to the pastoral dimension of the Pauline epistles. Hebrews will also be studied in detail. One or more secondary texts will be used in this course.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the Pauline corpus. Students will be familiar with issues of authenticity and integrity. They will be able to apply historical criticism to the epistles. They will be able to articulate the fundamentals of Pauline theology.

### **SS 204 Prophets – 3 credit hours**

The course surveys the development of prophecy in Israel in chronological order: 8<sup>th</sup> century (Amos, Hosea, Micah, Isaiah), 7<sup>th</sup> century to exilic period (Zephaniah, Huldah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Deutero-Isaiah), post-exilic period (Haggai, Zechariah, Trito-Isaiah, Deutero-Zechariah, Malachi). Important theological themes and developments are examined through an exegesis of key texts.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will develop an appreciation of the literary forms of prophetic literature and understand the function served by such literature in Salvation History.

**SS 305 Pentateuch - 3 credit hours**

The course begins with the introductory material which includes a survey of the history of source and form criticism of the Pentateuch. Then a more specific study of passages in the Pentateuch is undertaken. The course may be taught by means of either diachronic or synchronic hermeneutical methods. More weight is given to the narratives in Genesis, Exodus and Numbers. The legal material in Leviticus and Deuteronomy is more generally considered.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will have knowledge of the contents of the Pentateuch, and an appreciation for the diverse literary forms and the importance of these forms in answering historical questions. Students will develop an appreciation of the form and function of biblical law and the notion of covenant in relation to law.

**SS 306 Johannine Literature – 3 credit hours**

The course will include a careful reading of the Gospel and the three letters of John as well as the book of Revelation. All five books will be subjected to detailed study with the aid of commentaries.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will be familiar with the Johannine corpus and Johannine theology. They will also be familiar with the hermeneutics of the Apocalypse.

**SS 407 Psalms and Wisdom Literature – 3 credit hours**

The course begins with an overview of the structure and shape of the Psalter within the canon of the Bible. Selected psalms will be studied from literary, historical and theological points of view. Emphasis will be placed on Psalms as poetry and prayer. Selected portions of Job, Ecclesiastes, Proverbs, Sirach and Wisdom will be subjected to detailed study. These texts will first be studied in their historical and literary contexts and then their significance for Christian theology will be explored.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will develop an appreciation of the forms of biblical poetry and their didactic and liturgical functions. They will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the wisdom and liturgical traditions of Israel.

**Historical Theology**

**HT 102 Patristic Period – 3 credit hours**

This course covers the period of the Apostolic Fathers through the Second Council of Nicaea in 787 A.D. The purpose of the course is to provide a structured encounter with

the writers of Christian Antiquity, who engaged Greco-Roman thought with Christian Revelation and in the process articulated the theological synthesis which remains the foundation of Catholic dogma. The course also examines the emergence of a struggle between the relative authorities of the Church and state that manifested itself in the Patristic period. An emphasis will be placed on the primary sources so that students can encounter the Fathers of the Church directly.

Envisioned Outcomes: Students will be familiar with the major writers and selected texts of the Patristic Period. Students will also understand the major developments of Catholic history and theology in the Patristic Period. Finally, students will be able to construct theological explanations and syntheses using the writings of the Fathers and councils of the Patristic Period.

### **HT 202 Medieval Period – 3 credit hours**

This course covers the period from the crowning of Charlemagne as Holy Roman Emperor in 800 A.D. through the Great Schism, which lasted from 1378 to 1417. The purpose of this course is to enable the student to engage the Medieval Mind as it arrived at the synthesis of Faith and Reason as articulated in the proper relationship between philosophy and theology. Particular attention will be given to the development of scientific precision in the theological process through the use of the dialectic method. Emphasis will be given to the primary sources so that students can directly encounter the thought of such theologians as Anselm, Bonaventure, and Thomas Aquinas.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will become familiar with the major writers and important texts of the Medieval Period. They will be able to outline an understanding of the major historical and theological developments in the Medieval Period. Finally, students will be able to construct theological explanations using the writings and councils of the Medieval Period.

### **HT 303 Early Modern and Enlightenment Period – 3 credit hours**

This course covers the period from the Council of Constance, which met from 1414 to 1417, to the French Revolution, which began in 1789. The purpose of the course is to trace the disintegration of the medieval synthesis in the violence accompanying the Protestant movements in Western Europe, and the replacement of that synthesis with the erroneous assumption that faith and reason, religion and science, are intrinsically incompatible. The teaching of the Church which was given as a corrective to these errors will be studied, along with the institutional changes that were a result of the Church's adaptation to an increasingly secular world.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will become familiar with the major writers and selected texts of the Early Modern and Enlightenment Period. They will be able to outline the overall developments in history and theology in the Early Modern and Enlightenment

Period. Finally, students will be able to construct theological explanations using the writings and councils of the Early Modern and Enlightenment Period.

#### **HT 404 Modern and Contemporary Period - 3 credit hours**

This course covers the period from the French Revolution, which began in 1789, through the period following the Second Vatican Council, which met from 1962 to 1965. The purpose of the course is to enable the student to observe the manner in which the Catholic Church fulfilled its teaching role in a world fragmented by increasingly destructive wars, neo-pagan ideologies, militant nationalism, atheist materialism, and secular anti-clericalism. Both papal and conciliar teaching of the period, as well as study of the many persecutions of the era, will be used to structure the survey of the period.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will be familiar with the major writers and texts of the Modern and Contemporary Period. They will be able to outline the major developments of Catholic history and theology in the Modern and Contemporary Period. Finally, they will be able to construct theological explanations using the writings and councils of the Modern and Contemporary Period.

#### **HT 405 The Catholic Church in America – 3 credit hours**

The course covers the particular development of the Catholic Church in what is today the United States, from the European colonization through the Second Vatican Council. The purpose of the course is to trace the origins of the separate traditions of colonial Catholicism and study how they subsequently developed. Particular attention is given to the external influences which prompted internal changes in American Catholicism such as: the creation of the constitutional secular republic, the waves of Catholic immigrants who relocated to the United States beginning in the early nineteenth century, the recurring episodes of anti-Catholicism which caused American Catholicism to become hyper-patriotic, the post-World War II social and moral engagement with larger historical trends such as gender/civil rights, economic movements, government policy, and bioethics. The course will end in the post-Vatican II period, with a reflection on the current state of the Church in light of its history.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will be familiar with important texts in American Catholic History. They will be able to outline the major developments in Catholic history and theology in the United States. Finally, they will be able to explain the various contemporary situations in the American Catholic experience, making specific reference to its historical and theological milieu.

# Moral Theology

## **MT 101 Principles of Moral Theology I - 3 credit hours**

The course serves as an introduction to Moral Theology and is specifically designed to acquaint the student of theology with the Moral tradition of the Roman Catholic Church. This course will cover the history of Moral Theology and also specific basic moral notions such as: conscience, freedom, values, norms, and natural law. The basic connection between Moral Theology, Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition will also be explained, as well as how Moral Theology relates to other theological disciplines

Envisioned outcomes: The student will develop an appreciation of the history of Moral Theology and its connection to theological thought and development. The student taking this course should also be able to understand and articulate fundamental principles related to Moral Theology. These would include natural law, moral norms, and how Moral Theology relates to other theological disciplines and the human sciences.

## **MT 102 Principles of Moral Theology II - 3 credit hours**

This course presents the moral teaching of the encyclical *Veritatis Splendor* and the Catholic teaching on the virtues. The objective of this course is to acquaint the student of theology with the centrality of Jesus Christ in the Moral teaching of the Church. This focus will also enable the student to see the connection between the person of Christ and the moral life as exemplified in the virtues.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will have a comprehensive understanding of *Veritatis Splendor*. Students will be able to name and describe in detail the virtues in the moral life of the Christian.

## **MT 201 Human Sexuality and the States of Life - 3 credit hours**

This course will present the teaching of the Church concerning human sexuality with special focus on the history of this theme in theological tradition. It will cover basic moral values that refer especially to the virtue of chastity and how it applies to all states of life. It will also cover topics related to the goods of married life and marriage as a sacrament, while also including the spousal value of chaste celibacy. The *Theology of the Body* of John Paul II will serve as a major text for reflecting on these topics.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will come to a knowledge and appreciation of chaste celibacy within an overall understanding of the Church's teaching on sexuality. Students will be expected to know the main documents related to sexual moral teaching, and to be acquainted in a special way with the *Theology of the Body* of John Paul II, while also being motivated to assimilate this teaching into their life.

**MT 202      Theological Bioethics - 3 credit hours**

This course is designed to give the basic principles of medical ethics. Special attention will be given to the respect for life in its totality, and also to the presentation of different controversial contemporary issues related to the moral evils of contraception, abortion and euthanasia. Pastoral approaches to these issues will also be covered.

Envisioned outcomes: The student will be able to articulate the basic concepts related to the morality of bioethical issues in the light of the Church's teaching, especially as presented by the encyclical *Evangelium Vitae* of John Paul II. Students will also be able to grasp the complexity of certain debates in bioethics on which the Church has not offered a definitive answer. They should be able to articulate and comment on the theological discussions surrounding these issues.

**MT 302      Catholic Social Teaching - 3 credit hours**

This course offers a complete overview of the doctrinal corpus of Catholic social teaching. It explains the basic principles and norms for discernment and judgment as well as offering criteria for action. The course will show how these principles are connected with a correct and integral understanding of the human person. The main social encyclicals of the Church will be a constant reference point in explaining the meaning of the dignity of the human person in light of contemporary social challenges.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will be able to see how the social doctrine of the Church relates to Sacred Scripture, Tradition and to the discipline of Moral Theology. Students will be expected to articulate the basic content of the encyclicals and show how Catholic social teaching applies to pastoral situations as well as to contemporary social problems.

**PASTORAL THEOLOGY**

**PT 101      Pastoral Theology – 3 credit hours**

Integration of Spirituality, theology, and pastoral care. Based on scripture and the Documents of Vatican II, the students are enabled to develop a methodology for theological reflection in ministry and an understanding of the ordained priesthood. It also introduces the students to the methodology of Pastoral Field Education Programs at Notre Dame Seminary.

Envisioned outcomes: The student will be able to integrate spirituality, theology and pastoral care using sacred scripture and the Documents of Vatican II. Students will also have a good understanding of ministry and the ordained priesthood through theological reflection. Students will also to the Pastoral Field Programs offered at Notre Dame Seminary.

**PT 202          Pastoral Counseling – 3 credit hours**

This course is an introduction and understanding of pastoral counseling. It is a course on the relationship of spirituality, Catholic morality and psychology, pastoral counseling and the sacramental life of the Church. Lecture, role playing, and discussion are teaching formats used in the classroom. This course is required before a student can enroll in Clinical Pastoral Education.

Envisioned outcomes: The students are enabled to understand the relationship of spirituality, Catholic morality and psychology, pastoral counseling the sacramental life of the Church to apply in the pastoral care ministry. This course prepares the students for their Clinical Pastoral Education experience.

**PT 303          Liturgy and the Celebration of the Sacraments – 3 credit hours**

The various liturgical and sacramental rites of the Church will be studied with the aim of giving the student a practical understanding of how the rites are to be celebrated according to the mind of the Church. Emphasis will, therefore, be given to the *Prenotanda* (introductions) and the particular, rubrical directives and options given in the various official ritual books of the Church. Individual video-taping of Baptism, Marriage, Funeral rites is required.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will be enabled to celebrate the different liturgical and sacramental rites of the Church.

**PT 404          The Global Church – 2 credit hours (1/2 credit per year)**

A four-year cycle of one-day workshops, focusing on theological, liturgical, and spiritual understandings in a specific ethnic or other particular community and its current pastoral needs.

Envisioned outcomes: Students are enabled to connect with the theological, liturgical, and spiritual understandings as well as the pastoral needs present in the universal Church.

**PT 405          Church Administration – 1 credit hour**

This course is designed to provide students with selected church management-administrative theory, models, and skills to better understand and facilitate priestly ministry. This material is treated within a theological context of Church Mission, Community, Stewardship, and Signs of the times.

Envisioned outcomes: To prepare and empower the students in the administrative management of a church or parish once they are in priestly ministry.

**PT 406                      Marriage and Family – 1 credit hour**

This course presents in a practical way the vision of the Sacrament of Matrimony and the Domestic Church, the uniqueness of each couple/individual and their capacity to grow in faith and in their Sacrament of Matrimony, and their ability to build their own domestic church. To introduce as well resources available in regards to the Sacrament of Matrimony, marriage preparation enrichment, divorce and death of a spouse.

Envisioned outcomes: Students are given a good understanding of the Sacrament of Matrimony and the Domestic Church to empower them to exercise their priestly ministry in regards to the Sacrament of Matrimony and the growth of the Domestic Church.

**PT 407                      Eucharist and Penance Practicum – 1 credit hour**

This course will explore the basic of presiding at the Eucharist and the Rite of Penance, and provide a theological review of the sacraments. Lecture, discussion, supervised practice and self-evaluation are teaching formats used in the course.

Envisioned outcomes: Prepare and empower the students to be ordained in the celebration of the Eucharist and the Rite of Penance.

**SPIRITUAL THEOLOGY**

**SpT 001                      Prayer: Introduction to Methods and Sources – 2 credit hours**

A practical course that draws on Scripture, Liturgy and Spiritual writings of the Catholic tradition, as well as the experience and participation of students, to survey various forms of prayer.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will be able to use and incorporate scripture, liturgy and spiritual writings of the Catholic tradition in their prayers.

**SpT 002                      A Survey of Christian Spirituality – 2 credit hours**

This course studies the important developments in the history of Christian Spirituality, beginning with the New Testament and Fathers of the Church, and including representative traditions from the medieval, reformation and modern periods. Students

will explore teachings of the various schools of spirituality and will discover what each has to offer the contemporary Christian.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will be enabled to enrich their own prayer life and others by the knowledge and use of the various schools of spirituality. They will also be able to understand what is spirituality and know its developments through time.

### **SpT 101      Spiritual Theology – 3 credit hours**

This course is an introduction to the study of Christian spirituality. It reflects on the theological foundations and practices of the Christian life and explores how ministry is rooted in and fosters the minister's relationship with God. An effort will be made to articulate spirituality for the diocesan priest.

Envisioned outcomes: The course will enable the students to have a better understanding of what spirituality is and knowledge of the history of Christian spirituality. The students will also have a deeper awareness of the importance of fostering a spiritual life in their ministry and more importantly developing a close relationship with God as the source of strength in their ministry life.

### **SpT 402      Spiritual Direction and Conversion – 2 credit hours**

Spiritual direction has a long and revered history among the many ministries of the Christian tradition. Spiritual direction also weaves in and out of the varied services asked of a priest in pastoral ministry. This course introduces some of the theoretical and practical aspects of spiritual direction and its relationship to other pastoral ministries; the nature of religious experience and its role in spiritual direction; facilitating another's life of prayer; discernment. Lecture, discussion and role playing are used in the course to let students experience possible situations they may encounter in their ministry.

Envisioned outcomes: This workshop introduces the students to what spiritual direction entails and exposes them to its different aspects in regard to the role of the priest in regard to people's religious experience, life of prayer and discernment.

## **SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY**

### **ST 001      Catechism of the Catholic Church I – 3 credit hours**

This course introduces the student to teaching of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. Topics include the Trinity, the Incarnation, the Holy Spirit, the Church, Mary, and Eschatology.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will be able to discuss the basics of Catholic doctrine as found in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. They will be able to articulate answers to basic catechetical questions with clarity and precision.

**ST 002            Catechism of the Catholic Church II – 3 credit hours**

This course introduces the student to teaching of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. Topics include the Sacraments, Morality, Conscience, Virtue, Sin, Social Justice, Grace, and Prayer.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will be able to discuss the basics of Catholic doctrine as found in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. They will be able to articulate answers to basic catechetical questions with clarity and precision.

**ST 101            Fundamental Theology - 3 credit hours**

This course treats the foundational issues that are a necessity to the study of Systematic Theology. The course begins with an examination of the nature and method of theology and the sources and necessity of divine revelation. Topics covered in the course include God, His existence and attributes, the relation between faith and reason, biblical inspiration and interpretation, and the development of dogmas and authority in the Church.

**ST 102            Man, Grace and Salvation - 3 credit hours**  
*(formerly Christian Anthropology and Eschatology)*

This course treats the origin and constitution of man, the fall, and God's plan to restore man to full communion. Topics will include grace, justification, and the beatific vision. The course will explore these topics from scriptural, historical, and dogmatic perspectives. Students will be exposed to important texts from St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas and the Council of Trent.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will be able to articulate a theology of man's origin and end. They will be able to describe and defend the Church's teaching on justification as found in the Council of Trent. Students will have an understanding of grace, its various types, and the effects of sanctifying grace.

**ST 203            Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist -  
4 credit hours**

This course covers the theology of the Sacraments of Initiation. Baptism and Confirmation will be examined in their New Testament origins, Patristic development, conciliar definitions, and other magisterial pronouncements. The theology of the

Eucharist will be explored from a biblical and historical perspective, with an emphasis on the dogmatic teaching of the Church. This will include the medieval disputes concerning the Real Presence, and the teaching of the Council of Trent on Transubstantiation. Contemporary questions will also be examined.

Envisioned Outcomes: Students will be able to articulate the following: a general theology of the sacraments, a theology of the Sacraments of Initiation as a whole, and a theology of each Sacrament of Initiation in particular. Students will be conversant with the historical and dogmatic developments with regard to each of the sacraments. Finally, they will be able to integrate this theology of the sacraments with the Church's liturgical and canonical teachings with regard to Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist.

### **ST 204 Christology and Mariology - 3 credit hours**

This course treats the theology of the person and mission of Jesus Christ. While providing the biblical foundation for an understanding of Christ, the course is primarily directed to studying Christology from a historico-dogmatic perspective. The course will examine such important texts such as the *De Incarnatione* of St. Athanasius, the *Cur Deus Homo* of St. Anselm, and selections from the *Summa theologiae* of St. Thomas Aquinas. An essential Mariology will also be covered, examining the various Marian dogmas, and the relation of Mariology to other dogmatic areas such as Ecclesiology, Soteriology, and Spiritual Theology.

Envisioned Outcomes: Students will understand the problems and solutions in the Patristic development of Christology up to the Council of Chalcedon. They will be able to identify the subsequent Christological problems after Chalcedon and the Church's theological response. They will understand the various contributions to Christology in the Scholastic period. They will be able to evaluate modern christologies in light of the Catholic tradition in order to judge their soundness. They will be able to articulate an essential Mariology based on the dogmatic teaching of the Church.

### **ST 305 Sacrament of Marriage - 2 credit hours**

The course presents the theology of the Sacrament of Matrimony from Sacred Scripture, the Tradition, and the Magisterium. Important texts such as Augustine's *De boni conjugali*, Pius XI's *Casti conubii*, and John Paul II's *Love and Responsibility* will be closely examined.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will be able to articulate the Catholic understanding of the Sacrament of Marriage as found in the Sacred Scriptures and taught by the Magisterium. Students will be familiar with the creative teaching of Pope John Paul II on these subjects as found in his pre-papal and papal writings on this topic. They will develop an awareness and understanding of the sources of contemporary culture's

objections of the Church's teaching on marriage and the family. Finally, students will be able to articulate an authentic Catholic response to these objections.

### **ST 306 Ecclesiology and Ecumenism - 3 credit hours**

The course presents Ecclesiology from a scriptural, historical, and dogmatic perspective. Special emphasis will be on recent papal, magisterial, and conciliar documents that clearly articulate the Church's self-understanding. Topics covered include the Church as sacrament, papal primacy and authority, the relation between universal Church and local churches, the Church as one, holy, catholic, and apostolic, and the Church's teaching on ecumenism.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will be able to demonstrate and articulate an understanding of the foundation, structure, properties and function of the Church as found in the Scriptures, Tradition, and the Magisterium. They will be able to Students will be familiar with Vatican II's *Lumen Gentium*, *Unitatis redintegratio*, and *Ad gentes*.

### **ST 307 Triune God - 3 credit hours**

This course utilizes primary sources to trace the theological development of the Church's understanding of the greatest mystery of our faith, the Trinity. Besides the various conciliar and creedal developments, the course will examine the works of theologians such as Athanasius, Hilary of Poitiers, Gregory of Nyssa, Augustine, Anselm, and Aquinas. Various modern Trinitarian models will be examined in light of the Tradition.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will be able to express the Trinitarian faith of the Church as found in Sacred Scripture, Councils, and the Fathers and Doctors of the Church. They will understand and be able to accurately recount the issues that led to the Trinitarian controversies of the fourth century. Students will become familiar with various theologians and their contributions to Trinitarian theology. Finally, they will be able to analyze a given Trinitarian model with regard to its authenticity and soundness in light of the Catholic theological Tradition.

### **ST 408 Sacraments of Healing: Penance and Anointing - 2 credit hours**

The course presents a study of the Sacraments of Penance and Anointing from a historical, theological, and pastoral perspective.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will develop an appreciation of the development of these sacraments into their present form; they will understand the theology of these sacraments so as to explain their necessity and value in the modern context. Students will develop the needed skills in order to present and administer these sacraments in various pastoral situations.

**ST 409          The Theology of the Priesthood and Holy Orders - 2 credit hours**

This course is an examination of the priesthood from a scriptural, historical, and dogmatic perspective. The development and theology of the three degrees of the Sacrament of Orders is examined, with emphasis on the priest as *in persona Christi*, and the threefold office of priest, teacher, and pastor in the life of all who are ordained.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will be able to articulate a theology of the priesthood that reflects the Church's conciliar and magisterial teaching. They will be able to integrate the theology of the priesthood into their own vocational journey. Students will be able to defend the Church's teaching on the ministerial priesthood on such topics as celibacy and obedience.

**Philosophy**

**PH 001 Logic/ Critical Thinking - 3 credit hours**

The purpose of this course is to expose students to the three acts of the mind in the Aristotelian tradition: understanding, judgment and reasoning. They will study the basic kinds of arguments and will learn to evaluate them as to validity, truth, and soundness. Contemporary symbolic logic will be covered briefly with regards to each of the major topics (notably hypothetical and disjunctive arguments), but not without criticism as to its nominalistic underpinnings.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will be able to distinguish univocal, equivocal and analogical terms; they will be able to classify terms using the ten categories and the five predicables (genus, species, etc.); they will be able to recognize and classify 25 of the more common fallacious arguments, such as *ad hominem*, straw man, begging the question, and authority appeal; they will be able to classify the quantity, quality, and distribution of propositions, and to evaluate the truth-value of propositions based on the square of opposition; Finally, students will be able to classify disjunctive and hypothetical arguments and identify them as valid or invalid.

**PH 002          History of Philosophy - 6 credit hours**

A general survey of the principal thinkers and movements in the history of western philosophical thought from the Pre-Socratics to existential and linguistic philosophers is offered in this course. Students will be assisted in grasping pertinent ideas of philosophers and of philosophical schools of thought and in assessing the metaphysical, moral, and religious implications of those approaches. Special attention will be paid to the foundations of philosophy in Plato and Aristotle, and the various reasons for and consequences of the modern turn away from classical philosophical approaches

Envisioned outcomes: Students will develop a familiarity with and appreciation for the Western philosophical tradition that has shaped the Western tradition. Students will be familiar with the relevance of philosophy for theological speculation and articulation of doctrine; students will improve their analytical abilities and critical evaluative skills in order to better understand the hidden philosophical assumptions operative in contemporary discourse. They will understand the classical tradition of philosophical inquiry and have a critical appreciation for the reasons why modernity has departed from that tradition.

**PH 003 Philosophical Anthropology - 3 credit hours**

This course is a presentation of the fundamental philosophical understanding of the human person. Platonic dualism will be contrasted with Aristotelian and Thomistic hylomorphism. These views of the human body/soul composite will be examined with relation to their respective theories of knowledge, moral theory, and metaphysics. Platonic and Aristotelian arguments in favor of the soul's immortality will be presented.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will become familiar with the fundamental views of the complex reality of human nature. They will have knowledge of the various powers of the soul, and how these can be integrated by virtue to direct humans to their proper end. Students will gain a basic knowledge of skepticism, idealism, and realism and the main proponents of each theory. Finally, students will develop a critical awareness of the problems with reductionist notions of human beings.

**PH 004 Survey of Epistemology and Ontology - 3 credit hours**

This course presents an examination of the various approaches to justifying our knowledge of the world, including rationalism, empiricism, idealism, and classical realism. Having shown that the proper object of consciousness is being, we will explore the nature and diversification of being and its relationship to a Supreme Being. The orientation is Thomistic and realist.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will develop an appreciation for the true extent of human knowledge as grounded in sense experience and intellectual insight. They will understand the necessity of metaphysical knowledge to augment science for a complete understanding of the universe and understand the unity and diversity of being as determined by metaphysical principles. Students will develop a critical sense of the inadequacy of rationalism, modern empiricism, and idealism. Students will be prepared for theological studies by developing an awareness of both the limits of human reason and the principles of reality that all people cognize as the foundation of human experience and which are presupposed in the life of faith.

**PH 005          Philosophical Ethics - 3 credit hours**

This course is an introductory survey of philosophical approaches to moral reasoning. We will critically analyze the major approaches to moral reasoning: utilitarianism, deontology, virtue ethics, and natural law, and evaluate their respective validity and practical usefulness. This discussion will be centered around the foundational principles of these moral theories, especially the ideas of goodness, freedom, obligation, virtue, and law.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will understand the underlying reasons for moral disagreement in our society; they will develop an appreciation for the logical coherence of each approach to moral reasoning. Students will understand and be able to articulate the theoretical underpinnings of the four main positions under consideration. They will be able to critique inadequate or sinful moral positions from the perspective of natural law and virtue. Finally, they will understand and be able to articulate the true nature and limits of human freedom.

**PH 006          Philosophy of God - 3 credit hours**

This course aims to show how the human mind can discover God's existence and His basic divine attributes by reason, even independently of His self-revelation in Scripture, as stated in Vatican I. It will consider general themes pertinent to man's rational (i.e. non-revealed) knowledge of God as the ultimate metaphysical principle. The course will first explore the foundational historical approaches to philosophical theology, with special attention to the inadequacies of skeptical, deistic, and pantheistic positions. The second half of the course will examine Thomas Aquinas's doctrine on God's existence, essence, attributes, operations, and will.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will understand and be able to articulate the importance of natural theology for the pastoral life. They will develop an appreciation of the need for proper metaphysical methodology. They will develop the skills necessary to defend the faith using rational arguments and analytical techniques. Related to this, students will develop the critical assimilative and evaluative skills required to actively utilize a philosophical approach to theology. Finally, students will grasp the importance of the *praeambula fidei* in counteracting an overly skeptical or dismissive approach to Scriptural claims about God's existence and nature.

**PH 007          Philosophy of Thomas Aquinas - 3 credit hours**

This course introduces the philosophical principles which guide Thomas's metaphysics, anthropology, epistemology, natural theology, and ethics. There will be special emphasis on both the internal coherence and the synthetic, integrative nature of Thomistic philosophy. These issues will be presented not only in the context of Aquinas's historical

background, but also with reference to the Modern philosophical assumptions that make a return to a realist appreciation of truth so critical for Catholics today.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will develop a deeper familiarity with the thought of Thomas Aquinas. They will acquire an adequate notion of the relation between faith and reason as well as an understanding of the human capacity to know metaphysical and ethical truths. Lastly, students will gain a preparation for theological studies by providing the intellectual groundwork on which theological speculation relies.

**PH 008      Philosophy/Theology Seminar - 3 credit hours**

This is a research course. Students select an approved topic, do the necessary research and prepare a report to be presented to the whole class. The centerpiece of the course will be research papers which will be presented to the class and discussed to further our appreciation of the interdependence of philosophy and theology. The procedure will lead students to recognize the epistemological and ontological presuppositions that lie behind differing conclusions. The student shall learn to discern which philosophical tenets are compatible with faith, and which limit or deny the full flourishing of human rationality by contradicting revelation. In elucidating these points, the truly integrative function of philosophy will be made manifest, especially in its role as the handmaiden to theology. Each presentation is followed by class discussion.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will develop an appreciation of the need for philosophical rigor as the foundation of theology. They will have an understanding of the danger of simplistic approaches to faith which can lead to fundamentalism and other errors. Students will gain an appreciation of the need to evaluate critically various philosophical approaches, both historical and contemporary, with regard to their usefulness in our attempt to articulate and understand the faith. Finally, students will be able to articulate the need for integration of faith and reason as a preparation for an effective life of ministry.

**PH 009      Introduction to Philosophy - 3 credit hours**

This introductory course in philosophy is thematic. It contains sections on epistemology and ontology, human nature, ethics, history, and bibliographical sections on a great number of philosophers. It discusses some of the main ideas and some of the central questions of philosophy in a variety of ways.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will gain an increased and clarified understanding of what philosophy is and the knowledge of some of the central ideas and questions of philosophy. Students will be able to evaluate philosophical answers through critical thinking. Finally, students will be able to articulate a position with respect to certain philosophical issues and to support that position with a philosophical argument.

## Languages

### **LAT 451 Ecclesiastical Latin I – 3 credit hours**

This course introduces students to the grammar and syntax of Ecclesiastical Latin, emphasizing the memorization and formation of declensional and conjugational paradigms. Daily homework exercises reinforce student learning. Approximately one half of the grammatical concepts required for a mastery of Ecclesiastical Latin are covered in this course, the remainder being covered in LAT 452. Additionally, students begin learning to pray in Latin.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will know how to pronounce Ecclesiastical Latin. They will have a working knowledge of basic Ecclesiastical Latin vocabulary. Students will be competent in the use of standard glossaries and dictionaries. Students will be able to decline all of the regular declensions of nouns, pronouns, and adjectives, as well as the more important irregular declensions. Students will be able to conjugate in the indicative and imperative moods all of the regular verb conjugations and the verb *sum*. Students will have a grasp on the basic elements of Ecclesiastical Latin syntax. Students will be able to parse and translate simple Latin sentences.

### **LAT 452 Ecclesiastical Latin II – 3 credit hours**

This course completes the presentation of grammar and syntax begun in LAT 451. Daily homework exercises reinforce the learning of new material, while helping students maintain familiarity with the concepts presented in the first semester. Additionally, students continue learning to pray in Latin. Prerequisite: LAT 451 or instructor's approval.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will have an expanded Ecclesiastical Latin vocabulary. They will be able to form and decline verbal nouns and adjectives. Students will be able to compare adjectives and adverbs. Students will be able to conjugate in the infinitive and subjunctive moods all of the regular verb conjugations and the verb *sum*. Students will be able to conjugate fully the more important irregular verbs. They will have a grasp on the more complex elements of Ecclesiastical Latin syntax. Finally, they will be able to parse and translate more complex Latin sentences.

### **LAT 453 Ecclesiastical Latin III: Liturgical Texts – 2 credit hours**

This course is a survey of Latin liturgical texts, primarily those found in the *Missale Romanum* and the *Liturgia Horarum*. Students practice the art of accurate and precise translation, while reinforcing their knowledge of Latin grammar and expanding their Latin vocabulary. Emphasis on facility with the more common liturgical texts gives students the linguistic aptitude to preside at the celebration of the liturgy in Latin.

Prerequisite: LAT 452 or instructor's approval.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will be able to pronounce Ecclesiastical Latin and read it aloud fluently. They will have a solid knowledge of common Ecclesiastical Latin vocabulary. Students will be able to translate liturgical texts accurately and precisely. They will have a familiarity with the more common liturgical texts in Latin.

**LAT 454      Ecclesiastical Latin IV: Readings in Ecclesiastical Latin –  
2 credit hours**

This course is a survey of the wide variety of Ecclesiastical Latin literature. Students read selections from such works as the *Code of Canon Law*, St. Thomas Aquinas' *Summa Theologica*, and St. Augustine's *Confessions*. Emphasis is placed on the fluent reading of these works in Latin without the need to translate. Prerequisite: LAT 453 or instructor's approval.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will have a broad knowledge of Ecclesiastical Latin vocabulary, including technical and idiomatic expressions. They will have an appreciation for the richness of Ecclesiastical Latin literature. Students will be able, at least in simpler texts, to engage with Latin as Latin, *i.e.* without translating.

**GR 451/452    New Testament Greek I and II – 2 credit hours each semester**

This two semester sequence covers all of the fundamental grammar and syntax of New Testament Greek. The presentation of grammatical paradigms moves at a swift pace, with the expectation that students have completed at least two semesters of Latin and are, therefore, familiar with the basic concepts of classical grammar. By the end of the second semester, students have engaged with actual passages from the Greek New Testament. Additionally, students learn to pray in Greek. Prerequisite: LAT 452 or instructor's approval.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will know how to pronounce ancient Greek. Students will have a solid knowledge of common New Testament vocabulary. Students will be competent in the use of standard glossaries and dictionaries. They will be able to decline all of the regular declensions of nouns, pronouns, and adjectives, as well as the more important irregular declensions. Students will be able to conjugate Greek verbs (thematic and athematic) in all the forms commonly found in the New Testament. They will have a grasp on the elements of New Testament Greek syntax. Finally, students will be able to parse and translate ordinary passages from the Greek New Testament.

## **HEB 451/452 Biblical Hebrew I and II – 2 credit hours each semester**

This two semester sequence covers all of the fundamental grammar and syntax of Biblical Hebrew. The presentation of grammatical paradigms moves at a swift pace, with the expectation that students have completed at least two semesters of Latin and are, therefore, familiar with the basic concepts of classical grammar. By the end of the second semester, students have engaged with actual passages from the Hebrew Old Testament. Additionally, students learn to pray in Hebrew. Prerequisite: LAT 452 or instructor's approval.

Envisioned outcomes: Students will know how to pronounce Biblical Hebrew. They will have a solid knowledge of common Biblical Hebrew vocabulary. Students will be competent in the use of standard glossaries and dictionaries. They will have a solid understanding of the structure of the Hebrew noun. They will be able to conjugate the sound verb, as well as recognize the forms of the conjugations of other verb patterns. Students will have a grasp on the elements of Biblical Hebrew syntax. Finally, they will be able to parse and translate ordinary passages from the Hebrew Old Testament.