

Sacred Heart Major Seminary

Pastoral Catechetics

MNS 271

Fall 2008-2009

Two credits

Instructor: Putrow
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Course Description:

This course is an introduction to and exploration of the catechetical principles stated in The General Directory for Catechesis and The National Directory for Catechesis. Catechesis is that form of Ministry of the Word, which is intended to make people's faith living, active and conscious through the light of instruction. Since catechesis is directed to the baptized, it is lifelong and calls for conversion and is oriented to adults as well as to children.

Classes will focus on the process of catechesis and its applications to pastoral ministry in general.

Objectives:

At the conclusion of the term, the fully participative learner will:

1. be familiar with the major catechetical documents
2. understand the process of catechesis
3. have tools for evaluating catechetical experiences
4. be able to articulate the role of catechesis within the Catholic tradition and practice
5. be able to apply formal knowledge to pastoral experiences of catechesis

Class Requirements:

1. Regular attendance
2. Active participation
3. Assigned reading and response to reflection questions in form of written notes
4. Written report on two articles
5. Required essays: conversion, faith, commandments of a catechetical presentation
6. Collaborative preparation and presentation of a catechetical process

Quality of work

The presentation of all written assignments should reflect college level work – typed, free from spelling and grammatical errors, clear and concise.

General Outline of Course:

- I. Introduction
- II. Historical overview
- III. Catechetical documents
- IV. Catechesis: process and content
- V. Catechesis and pastoral ministry
 - i. Sacramental preparation
 - ii. Enculturation
 - iii. Adult catechesis
- VI. Practical applications
- VII. Current questions

Texts:

Catechist's Companion to the National Directory for Catechesis: Huntington, IN: Our Sunday Visitor, 2005.

Mongoven, A.M. *The Prophetic Spirit of Catechesis*. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 2000.

Various assigned articles

Grading:

Class preparation and participation	40%
Catechetical process presentation	30%
Essays, reports on articles	30%

Refer to SHMS Bulletin for description of work required for each grade.

Recording devices in class may be used only with the permission of the instructor.

Personal computers may be used in class provided they are not distracting to other persons.

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Bibliography

Catechism of the Catholic Church. Washington, D.C.: USCC, 1994.

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DeBoy, J. Getting Started in Adult Religious Education. New York: Paulist Press, 1979.

Deck, A., Tarango, Y. and Matovina, T. (eds.) Hispanic Ministry. Kansas City: Sheed and Ward, 1995.

Dooley, C. and Collins, M. (eds.) The Echo Within: Emerging Issues in Religious Education. Allen, TX: Thomas Moore, 1997.

Dooley, C. "The General Directory for Catechesis and the Catechism: Focus on Evangelizing". Origins 28, #3 (June 4, 1998), 34-39.

Donovan, Vincent J. Christianity Rediscovered: An Epistle From the Masai. Notre Dame, Indiana: Fides/Claretian, 1978.

Economic Justice for All. Washington, D.C.: USCC, 1986.

The General Directory for Catechesis. Washington D.C.: USCC, 1997.

Grey, M., Heaton, A. and Sullivan, D. (eds.) The Candles Are Still Burning. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 1995.

Groome, T.H. Christian Religious Education: Sharing Our Story and Vision. New York: Harper and Row, 1980.

Groome, T, H. Sharing the Faith. San Francisco: Harper Row, 1991.

Groome, T, H. Educating for Life. Allen, TX: Thomas More, 1998.

Gula, Richard. Ethics in Pastoral Ministry. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1996.

International Council for Catechesis. Adult Catechesis in the Christian Community. Washington, D.C.: NCEA, 1990.

John Paul II, Pope. "Apostolic Constitution on Publication of Catechism of the Catholic Church," Origins (January 14, 1993), 526-532

- John Paul II, Pope. "Catechesi Tradendae: Apostolic Exhortation on Catechesis", The Living Light 17:1 (Spring 1980), 44- 89.
- Law, Eric H. F. The Wolf Shall Dwell with the Lamb: A Spirituality for Leadership in a Multicultural Community. St. Louis: Chalice Press, 1996.
- Law, Eric H. F. The Bush was Blazing but not Consumed & Developing a Multicultural Community through Dialogue and Liturgy. St. Louis: Chalice Press, 1996.
- Lucas, D. "A Vital Distinction", The Month (July, 1989), 285-287.
- McKenzie, L. The Religious Education of Adults. Birmingham, AL: Religious Education Press, 1982.
- Marthaler, B. L. (ed.) Introducing the Catechism of the Catholic Church. New York: Paulist Press, 1994
- Marthaler, B. L. The Catechism Yesterday and Today. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 1995., 91-98.
- NCCB. Keep your Hand to the Plow. Washington, D.C.: USCC, 1995
- NCCB/USCC. Welcoming the Stranger Among Us: Unity in Diversity. Washington, DC: United States Catholic Conference, 2000.
- Paul VI. On Evangelization in the Modern World. Washington, D.C.: USCC, 1975.
- Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. Washington: United States Catholic Conference, 1988 (rev.)
- Stokes, K. (ed.) Faith Development in the Adult Life Cycle. Chicago: Sadlier Co., 1983.
- Story and Faith Journey of Seventeen Native Catechists. Washington, DC: USCC Dept. of Education and Tekawitha Conference National Center, 1982.
- USCC. Department of Education. The Hispanic Experience in the United States. Washington, D.C.: USCC, 1996.
- USCCB. *National Directory for Catechesis*. Washington, DC: USCCB, 2005.
- Warren, M. Faith, Culture and the Worshipping Community. Mahwah, New Jersey: Paulist Press, 1988.
- Warren, M. (ed.) Sourcebook for Modern Catechetics. Winona, Minnesota: St. Mary's Press, 1983.

Warren, M. (ed.) Sourcebook for Modern Catechetics v.2 Winona, MN: St. Mary Press, 1998.

Westerhoff, J. H. Will Our Children Have Faith? New York: The Seabury Press, 1976.

Williams, Clarence. Racial Sobriety. Detroit: Institute for the Recovery from Racism, 2002.

Periodicals of Catechetical Interest

*The Catechist

*Religion Teacher's Journal

Chicago Studies

Religious Education

Catechumenate

*More practice oriented

*Church

Living Light (no longer published)

*PACE (no longer published)

*Caravan

Modern Liturgy

(Now called Ministry and Liturgy)

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Tentative Schedule

Class #1 September 2, 2008

Content:

Introductions
Expectations
Clarification of terms
Introduction to The Catechism of the Catholic Church
Current dominant forms of catechesis

Class #2 September 9, 2008

Preparation for class:

Choose one catechetical area which is practical for you:

- Youth ministry (includes catechesis)
- Catechumenal catechesis
- Liturgical catechesis/ Sacramental catechesis
- Intergenerational catechesis
- Family catechesis
- Adult catechesis
- Catechesis with the African American community
- Catechesis with the Hispanic community

Choose two articles from the provided list related to your choice, read and report on them at the assigned time.

Read: Marthaler, B. "Measuring Success in Catechetical Programs". America (October 2, 1999), 22-26.

Read: Mongoven, 13-35. Question: How would you define a catechist? Your response should be based on the material in Chapter One.

Read Mongoven: 271-283 Question: You have been asked to participate in a program to help catechists deepen their identity as a catechetical minister. Name five points from this chapter that you would include in your work.

Content:

Continuation of last week
Historical overview of catechesis
Catechesis in the U.S.

Class #3 September 16, 2008

Preparation for class:

Read "Holistic, Inclusive, Comprehensive Catechesis: The GDC Revisited". The Living Light (Summer, 1998), 66-74.

Read "New Guide to Teaching the Faith". Catholic Update, #C0899, 1999.

Read Mongoven, 36-63. What has this chapter told you about catechesis in the U.S.?

Content:

Introduction to the major catechetical documents

General Directory for Catechesis

Major contributions to catechesis

Class #4 September 23, 2008

Preparation for class:

Read *Catechist's Companion*, 2-3. Prepare response to reflection questions.

Mongoven, 64-86; Documents will be assigned each person. Be prepared to answer the following questions about your assigned document: when, why, for whom, purpose?

Content:

National Directory for Catechesis

Catechesis and evangelization

Class #5 September 30, 2008

Preparation for class:

Article #1 due – cf. Study Sheet – Format for Reporting Critical Reading.

Read *Catechist's Companion* 4-7; prepare answers to reflection questions

Content:

Four signs of catechesis

Discussion of articles read

Class #6 October 7, 2008

Preparation for class:

Mongoven, 87-116.

Groups assigned for: Mongoven, Natural Signs 146-175

Ecclesial Signs 205-235

Biblical Signs 176-204

Liturgical Signs 237-270

Content:

Content continues from last week

Discussion of reading

Class #7 October 14, 2008

Preparation for class:

Read: O'Malley, Wm. "Plow Before You Plant", *America* (September 16, 2000), 15-18.

Content:

Introduction to process of conversion

Liturgy and catechesis

Video: Liturgical catechesis
Work on plan

Class #8 October 21, 2008 Midterm

Preparation for class:

Read: Groome, Thomas. "An Overview of Shared Christian Praxis". PACE 22
(November, 1992), 3-5.

Content:

Continuation of principles of adult catechesis and methodology

Class #9 October 28, 2008

Preparation for class:

Read *Catechist's Companion*, 8-10
Prepare responses to questions

Content:

Further development of the signs of catechesis and their application to a catechetical plan
Principles of adult catechesis
Methodology – Shared Christian Praxis
Group work on plan; writing the objective

Class #10 November 4, 2008

Preparation for class:

Read *Catechist's Companion*, 12-13 (yellow section)

Content:

Conversion: justice and peace
Video: Conversion
Work on plan

Class #11 November 11, 2008

Preparation for class:

Written essay: What is conversion?

Content:

What is a catechist?
Faith development, Human development
Work on plan

Class #12 November 18, 2008

Preparation for class:

Written essay: What is Faith?

Westerhoff, John, "The Shaking of the Foundations" in Will Our Children Have Faith?, 1-25.

Content:

Faith and faith development continued
Presentation of catechetical plans

Class #13 November 25, 2008

Preparation for class:

Article #2 due
Continue work on plan

Content:

Presentation of catechetical plans

Class #14 December 2, 2008

Preparation for class:

Final essay: The Ten Commandments of Catechesis

Content:

Presentation of catechetical plans

Class #15 December 9, 2008

TBD

Re: Assigned Articles

For articles you may choose from this list or choose from another source. If the article you choose is not on this list, you must get prior approval from the instructor for that article.

Youth Ministry

Renewing the Vision (read whole piece in lieu of two articles)

Adult Catechesis

Our Hearts Were Burning (read whole piece in lieu of two articles)

Principles of Adult Learning in DeBoy, *Getting Started in Adult Religious Education*, pp. 75-79.

Krispy Kremes and the DaVinci Code by Jim McDermott in *America* (September 19, 2005), pp.8-11.

Intergenerational Catechesis or All Community Catechesis

Roberto, John. *Becoming a Church of Lifelong Learning. A Vision of Lifelong Faith Formation*. pp. 26-49

Huebsch, Bill. *Whole Community Catechesis in Plain English*. pp. 1-25.

African American Catechesis

Conwill, G. "Black Catechesis: Catching the Flame and Passing It On. In Taking Down our Harps, 199-231.

NCCB. Keep your Hand to the Plow. Washington, D.C.: USCC, 1995

Hispanic Catechesis

The internet has many sites which are helpful if you read Spanish. Check articles with instructor if you use any.

Catechumenal Catechesis

Capra, Elio. Baptismal Catechesis as the Model for All Catechesis. *Catechumenate* (July 2004), 2-7.

Chriszt, Dennis. Sacramental Catechesis: Penance and Reconciliation. *Catechumenate* (July 2008), 17 –23.

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Format for Reporting Critical Reading

Bibliographic Citation:

What is the author's main point?

What new material did you learn?

What past learning was reinforced?

Was there anything about the content that you found particularly interesting?

How could you apply what you learned in this article?

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Reserve List

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