

Th 115: Mystery of Salvation
Fall 2005, Saint Mary's University of Minnesota
T, Th 7:45-9:00am
Fr. Andrew Beerman, S.T.L., 3 credits

Professor contact information

Office: Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary

Work Phone: x7371

Course Description, 2005-2007 catalog: The Christian Bible inspires faith for billions of persons worldwide and is a best-seller every year. The Bible leads to Christ, the Mystery of Salvation. This course is divided into four parts corresponding to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*: professing our faith, celebrating our faith, living our faith, and praying our faith. The primary sources are Sacred Scripture and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. Prerequisite: IHM Seminarian or prior approval. This course satisfies a General Education requirement for Faith Traditions I.

Required texts:

*Sacred Scripture

Genesis 1-22

Exodus 1-20

Isaiah 6-12, 36-55

Job 1-6, 32-33, 38-42

Mark

Acts 1-10

Letter of St. Paul to the Galatians

**Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Second Edition. (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 1997)

**Reaching Out* (Henri Nouwen, Image Books, 1975)

Students will be required to write a 2-3 page reflection paper on each of the three sections in *Reaching Out*, including a summary of the section and personal reflection. Due Sep 27, Oct. 27, and Dec. 13.

Recommended texts:

Living the Catechism, Volumes I, II, III, and IV (Christoph Cardinal Schönborn, Ignatius Press) (Available at IHM Seminary Library)

Other texts and readings may be handouts, put on reserve in the library or online at the professor's discretion.

Course Goals, Objectives and Assessment:

1. Students will demonstrate an understanding of Roman Catholic theology and doctrine, that can include, for example, the nature of God, the essential events of Christian salvation history, and the role of the Church as a community of faith.

a. Objective 1: Students will be able to articulate the essential teachings of the Catholic Church

b. Objective 2: Students will be able to understand the development of doctrine especially with regard to the Trinity and Christology.

c. Objective 3: Students will be able to define and explain basic doctrine about the human person in relationship to God through the Church, including revelation, faith, grace, redemption and the sacraments.

2. Students will analyze intellectual, cultural, spiritual, or personal perspectives in terms of Judeo-Christian, especially Roman Catholic, traditions. Students will be able to identify and demonstrate various methods of Scriptural interpretation.

3. Students will be able to illustrate the connection between Judeo-Christian faith and service to humankind.

Assessment of these objectives occurs primarily through discussion, quizzes and/or examinations, and secondarily through papers and presentations.

Miscellanea:

Any student with a documented disability or disabling condition (physical/medical, learning, psychiatric), who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the instructor so that arrangements may be made with Disability Services (Bonnie Smith), preferably at the beginning of the semester.

All plagiarism will be dealt with seriously. The absolute lightest consequence of cheating will be a zero on the assignment.

Grading Scale

A	93-100
AB	88-92
B	83-87
BC	78-82
C	73-77
CD	68-72
D	60-67

Class requirements and evaluation

Week One

Aug. 30 Introduction, syllabus. Overview of Catechism. 10 points of USCCB.
Sept. 1 Believing in God – Faith, Revelation, Scripture. Interpretation of Scripture. CCC 26-141.

Week Two

Sept. 6 Overview of Bible History. Genesis, Exodus, Isaiah.
Sept. 8 Continuation of Genesis, Exodus, Isaiah.

Week Three

Sept. 13 Gospel of Mark, Acts, Galatians.
Sept. 15 Christian Prayer. Link between theology and spirituality. Prayer in the Bible and the Church. CCC 2558-2662.

Week Four

Sept. 20 How to Pray, Battle of Prayer, Intercession of Saints. CCC 2663-2751, 946-959.
Sept. 22 The Our Father CCC 2759-2865.

Week Five

Sept. 27 Profession of Faith. History of the Creed. Ecumenical Councils. CCC 142-197. **First Reflection Paper Due**
Sept. 29 I Believe in God. Exposition of the Trinity. CCC 198-267.

Week Six

Oct. 4 Problem of Evil. Book of Job. CCC 268-274, 302-314.
Oct. 6 Creation. Original Sin and its effects. CCC 279-301, 325-412

Week Seven

Oct. 11 I Believe in Jesus Christ. Incarnation. Life of Christ. CCC 430-478, 512-560.
Oct. 13 Mid-term exam

Week Eight

Oct. 20 Paschal Mystery- Death and Resurrection of Christ. CCC 571-664, 988-1014

Week Nine

Oct. 25 Role of Mary. CCC 484-507, 963-972. Eschatology – The Four Last Things. CCC 659-679, 1020-1050
Oct. 27 I Believe in the Holy Spirit. CCC 683-741. **2nd Reflection Paper Due**

Week Ten

- Nov. 1 I Believe the One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic Church. CCC 758-776, 811-933.
- Nov. 3 Overview of Sacraments, First Sacraments of Initiation. CCC 1210-1314.

Week Eleven

- Nov. 8 Liturgy. Celebration of the Eucharist. CCC 1066-1206
- Nov. 10 Eucharist. CCC 1322-1405.

Week Twelve

- Nov. 15 Penance, Anointing. CCC 1422-1484, 1499-1525.
- Nov. 17 Sacraments at the Service of Communion. 1533-1658.

Week Thirteen

- Nov. 22 Life in Christ. Morality. CCC 1701-1869, 1949-2016.

Week Fourteen

- Nov. 29 Ten Commandments CCC 2052-2317. Student Presentations.
- Dec. 1 Ten Commandments cont. 2331-2414, 2464-2550. Student Presentations.

Week Fifteen

- Dec. 6 Student Presentations. Ten Commandments continued.
- Dec. 8 Social Teaching of the Church. CCC 1872-1942, 2415-2449.

Week Sixteen

- Dec. 13 Amen! **3rd Reflection Paper Due**
- Dec. 15 (Study Day)
- Dec. 17 Final Examination 10:30-12:30