

Oblate School of Theology

Fall 2008 Selected Courses

GRADUATE COURSES

Fundamental Principles of Spiritual Direction

Monday 7:00-9:30pm Fr. William Meyer, SM

This introductory graduate course will enable the student to explore the process of Spiritual Direction. It will involve one in the skills needed to help others with their religious experience, including prayer. Basic listening and counseling skills will be practiced. Selected related topics including the theological contexts of spirituality, integration, ministry and professional ethics as related to Spiritual Direction, the difference between Spiritual Direction and Pastoral Counseling, and the complex issues of when and how to refer one to counseling will be discussed.

Sound Bytes/Sound Decisions: Political Responsibility

Tuesday 7:00-9:00pm Fr. Leo Perez, OMI

In an era when the political process has come to be characterized by curt rhetoric and jingoism, this course will examine the theological and philosophical issues of the relationship between public life and Christian responsibility.

Through readings and analysis of social issues in American Culture, the participants will come to a better understanding of the Church's call for full political responsibility.

Toward a Contemporary Theology of Religious Life

Tuesday 7:00-9:00pm Sr. Maria Cimperman, OSU

This course explores scriptural, historical and theological elements of religious life with attention to the signs of the times for religious life in a contemporary and global context. Topics include: 1) various forms of religious life and the historical situations that gave rise to them, 2) the understanding of the vows and how these are expressed in different contexts, and 3) religious life in the world and church today.

Storyteller's Art in the Bible

Wednesday 7:00-9:00pm Fr. Stephen Sherwood, CMF

A recent trend in Bible study has been the fruitful application of modern studies of the art of storytelling (narratology) to the stories told in the Bible. This course will read Bible stories using the tools provided by this recent approach. We will also sample some representative authors who use this technique in order to shed new light on both the Old and the New Testament narratives.

Mysticism

Wednesday 7:00-9:30pm Dr. Ed Alcott

This course will investigate the highest stage of spirituality which is mysticism. Although comparisons will be made with Eastern Mysticism, emphasis is placed on the historical, theological and psychological aspects of mysticism.

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

Survey of Basic Theology

Thursday 7:00-9:30pm Mrs. Bonnie LeMelle Abadie

An introduction to contemporary theology in the areas of Scripture, Discipleship and Conversion, Ecclesiology, and Ministry. Offered only in Fall semesters.

Spirituality and Spiritual Traditions

Thursday 7:00-9:30pm Fr. Arturo Cepeda

In the first semester a working definition of spirituality will be identified. Areas that assist or inhibit spiritual growth will be reviewed. The current understanding of how human growth affects spiritual growth will be studied. The concept of the desert as it has evolved and its place in current spirituality will be reviewed. In addition, the course will examine how spirituality impacts our concept of time, sports, addiction, and sexuality. The importance of spirituality in discernment, architecture and liturgy will be studied.

REGISTRATION THROUGH AUGUST 14, 2008