

Signature Assignment for THM-353 Catholic Social Teaching Paper

Course: THM-353 Catholic Social Teaching
Instructor: Stephen Nguyen
Assignment Title: Term Paper
Assignment ID:

Outcomes to be assessed:

PLO – CORE/4 – Social & Global Responsibility:

Divine Word College graduates will be informed about the world's most pressing issues, especially those affecting the poor and marginalized, applying knowledge and skills to develop solutions in accord with Catholic Social Teaching.

Assignment Description:

How to build up the Kingdom of God is the requirement for Christians of all times and places. Contextually this question becomes the challenge and responsibility for the Church and the Christian individual when they have to deal with all social and global issues that pose themselves always new in the ever changing social, political, economic, and technological environment of human society. Specifically it becomes that of the attitude, position, responsibility, and praxis of Christians from the perspective of the Christian faith.

The Catholic Social Teaching then is the endeavor of the Church to offer Catholics an experiential, biblical, and theological foundation or methodology to approach social and global issues. It presents principles, points out social and global themes or problems, suggests analytical process in their contexts. In this way, it helps them specify practical applications or solutions to each social or global problem in accordance with the Christian faith, especially the one that affects the poor and marginalized.

Students may propose a topic of their own choice. However, they should discuss the topic with the instructor and seek approval before writing. They should draw on the knowledge, skills, and methods they are gaining from all courses in the TRS program and those in other disciplines as well. The paper should be 20 – 25 pages in length, double-spaced, 12-point font, and formatted to conform to the Chicago Style.

Evaluation criteria:

The Paper will be evaluated on the following criteria

(See also the attached rubric):

1. Ability to clearly identify a particular social and/or global problem, issue, or need that faces the community, especially the poor and marginalized;
2. Ability to identify all possible causes of that problem, issue, or need by a contextual analysis;
3. Ability to use appropriate sources of information to formulate an effective solution to the problem, issue or need;
4. Ability to apply theological principles and official church teachings, while distinguishing them from theological opinions that may or may not apply in the particular cultural and socio-political context of the community; and
5. Ability to propose an action plan to respond to the problem, issue, or need, which may involve dialogue with external groups or communities.

Formatting:

Use Chicago Style.

Use footnotes.

Use a minimum of 10 scholarly references.
