

## Undergraduate Course Descriptions

Undergraduate courses are designated as being offered every semester, once per year, or on a regular two-year cycle. Other courses are not offered on a regularly scheduled basis, but are offered as needed if there is sufficient interest. After the brief description of each course, any prerequisites are listed along with the normal course offering schedule.

The following conventions are utilized with regard to course prefixes and numbering. Three-letter course prefixes indicate the subject area. Three-digit course numbers are indicative of course content level and the year normally taken.

ANT	Anthropology	MAT	Math
ART	Art	MUS	Music
BIO	Biology	PHI	Philosophy
COM	Communication	PSY	Psychology
ENG	English	SCI	Science
ENS	Environmental Sciences	SOC	Social Sciences
HIS	History	SPA	Spanish
HUM	Humanities	TRS	Theology & Religious Studies
ICS	Intercultural Studies		

000-099            Non-credit hour developmental courses

100-199           Freshman-level courses

200-299           Sophomore-level courses

300-399           Junior-level courses

400-499           Senior-level courses

Examples: PHI 102 indicates a course in the area of Philosophy with freshman-year level content, while TRS 353 indicates a course in the area of Theology & Religious Studies with junior-year level content.

### **ANT 163                    CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY                    3 Credit Hours**

Students learn a comparative, contextualized, holistic approach to understanding the diversity of world cultures, including their own. Topics include family, kinship and marriage, language and communication, religion, economic systems, political systems, gender, ethnicity and race, and culture change. Spring Semester.

### **ART 110                    ELEMENTS OF ART                    1 Credit Hour**

Covers the basic language and concepts of art and design as well as the basics of art appreciation and analysis. Students are exposed to the world of visual art in all of its mediums. Students will view, research, write about, and make works of art as they learn about art and its significance. Every semester.

**ART 121      DRAWING      3 Credit Hours**

Combines fundamentals of art and basic drawing skills in exploring various subject matter and media. Students learn the basics of drawing from observation, linear perspective, and creative drawing techniques. Course requires two hours of studio per week for each credit taken. Fall Semester.

**ART 135      DIGITAL IMAGING      3 Credit Hours**

An introduction to image making through the use of digital technology. Students will explore digital image creation, digital collage, and digital image manipulation. Projects are centered on specific skill sets. Course requires two hours of studio per week for each credit taken. Prerequisite: ART 110 or permission of instructor. As needed.

**ART 145      PAINTING      3 Credit Hours**

An introductory class in painting. Students will learn how to prepare canvases, mix paints, develop composition skills, and develop thematic work. Course requires two hours of studio per week for each credit taken. Prerequisite: ART 121 or permission of instructor. Spring Semester.

**ART 275      TOPICS      3 Credit Hours**

Provides an opportunity for advanced art students to pursue special interests in art, art history, or art appreciation. Topics are chosen by the instructor according to the students' area of interest. As needed.

**ART 377      CONTEMPORARY AND WORLD ART      3 Credit Hours**

This course engages the visual arts of various cultures and times as a way of understanding what it is to be human by exploring themes such as survival, religion, politics, social advocacy, and identity through the creation of art, architecture, and media. Spring Semester.

**ART 395      ADVANCED STUDIO ART      1-3 Credit Hours**

Offers advanced students the opportunity for further study and development in studio practice. Three credit hours of art studio and permission of instructor required. Class requires two hours of studio per week for each credit hour. As needed.

**BIO 221      LIFE SCIENCES      4 Credit Hours**

Provides an overview of scientific method, the unity of life processes and basic biological functions, organic macromolecules, cell biology, and the function of organ systems in the human body. In laboratory periods, students will gain hands-on experience with concepts learned in lectures. Requires three lecture hours and two lab hours per week. Fall Semester.

**COM 120      INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS      3 Credit Hours**

A course aimed at introducing communication theory, increasing the student's awareness of communication with others in one-on-one situations, and improving personal communication skills. Topics studied include perception, listening, nonverbal communication, language, and conflict management. Fall Semester.

**COM 160 PUBLIC SPEAKING 3 Credit Hours**

A performance class that teaches skills and theory of public oratory; provides guided practice in preparation and delivery of informative and persuasive speeches. Focuses on extemporaneous delivery, but will include work with scripted and impromptu methods of speaking. Prerequisite: COM 120. Every semester.

**COM 275 TOPICS 3 Credit Hours**

Explores communication topics not covered in other courses. Topics are chosen by the instructor according to the students' areas of interest. As needed.

**ENG 090 BASIC WRITING 2 Non-Credit Hours**

A developmental course in basic writing. Emphasizes standard grammar and syntax in effective sentences and paragraphs. Students who pass the writing placement test will be exempt from this course. Every semester concurrently with ENG 111.

**ENG 110 APPROACHES TO LITERATURE 1 Credit Hour**

Explains and applies fundamental terms and concepts used in interpretation of poetry, drama and short story. Taken concurrently with ENG 111 or after. Every semester.

**ENG 111 EXPOSITORY WRITING 3 Credit Hours**

Teaches the writing of expository essays with emphasis on purpose, focus, thesis, patterns of organization, coherence, and control of style using standard syntax and grammar. Every semester.

**ENG 112 ACADEMIC WRITING 3 Credit Hours**

Prepares students to conduct purposeful research and write effective reports, analyses, research papers and other forms of writing commonly required in higher education. Teaches research skills, rhetorical principles, and proper documentation of sources. Prerequisite: ENG 111. Every semester.

**ENG 275 TOPICS 3 Credit Hours**

Explores topics in writing or literature not covered in other courses. Topics chosen by the instructor according to the students' areas of interest. As needed.

**ENG 316 CREATIVE WRITING 3 Credit Hours**

Introduces genres, models, strategies, and forms. Features regular writing practice, workshops and revision of students' poetry, short stories, short dramatic pieces, and creative nonfiction. Prerequisite: ENG 112 or permission of instructor. Spring Semester.

**ENG 318                      ADVANCED WRITING                      3 Credit Hours**

Gives students guided practice in persuasive and critical writing for advanced education and workplace. Expands students' awareness of audience, use of rhetorical strategies, range of techniques, and refined control of prose style.

Prerequisite: ENG 112 or permission of instructor. Fall Semester.

**ENG 332                      AMERICAN LITERATURE SURVEY                      3 Credit Hours**

Surveys literature created in the United States. Emphasizes literature as a cultural phenomenon developing out of and existing in a social and historical context.

Prerequisite: ENG 110. As needed.

**ENG 353                      MYTHOLOGY                      3 Credit Hours**

Examines archetypes and develops themes from African, Asian, Greco Roman, Northern European, and Native American creation myths, fertility myths, or hero myths. Takes a cultural and historical perspective in examining these myths as they order and connect events, motives, and values in the human experience. Prerequisites: ENG 110 and Junior standing, or permission of instructor. Fall Semester.

**ENG 354                      CONTEMPORARY WORLD LITERATURE                      3 Credit Hours**

Features analysis of distinctive literary contexts and approaches to significant social issues reflected in recent literature from Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Europe, Australia and the Americas—most published in, or translated into English in the last ten years. Texts will vary. Seminar format. Prerequisites: ENG 110 and Junior standing, or permission of instructor. Spring Semester.

**ENG 375                      INTERMEDIATE TOPICS                      3 Credit Hours**

Focuses on particular authors, genres, issues, or topics developed in consultation with students. Could involve intermediate-level topics such as *The Missionary in Literature*, *Environmental Literature*, *Latino Voices in the U.S.*, *The Immigrant Autobiography*, or *Literature by and about Women*. Prerequisite: ENG 110 and Junior standing, or permission of instructor. As needed.

**ENS 212                      INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE                      3 Credit Hours**

Surveys the scientific knowledge and methods that are key to understanding critical concerns in human-environmental relations. Topics include energy and matter, ecosystems and how they operate, climate, species interactions, principles of environmental sustainability, population dynamics, and biodiversity in relationship to evolution. Prerequisite BIO 221. Spring Semester.

**ENS 312                      ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY: HUMAN-ENVIRONMENT RELATIONS                      3 Credit Hours**

Students learn and apply the concepts of sustainability and Catholic social teaching to some of the most critical issues in human-environment relations in order to understand and address them better. Topics vary, but generally include food, hunger and agriculture, water resources, human population, and urbanization. Prerequisite: ENS 212. Fall Semester.

**ENS 412 ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY:  
ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP 3 Credit Hours**

Addresses issues in human-environment relations using a similar approach as in ENS 312, but at a higher level of complexity. Focuses on concerns such as energy, air pollution and climate disruption, solid and hazardous waste, environment and human health, and environmental economics, politics and justice. Prerequisite: ENS 212. Spring Semester.

**HIS 211 WORLD HISTORY I 3 Credit Hours**

Begins with the emergence of humans and continues with the rise of Ancient and Medieval civilizations in the Middle East, Europe, and Asia and a survey of the major world cultures through the Middle Ages. Fall Semester.

**HIS 212 WORLD HISTORY II 3 Credit Hours**

Continues the story of the human community beginning with the Rise of the West and the Age of Exploration, surveying major concepts such as the growth of colonialism, nationalism, and the various political ideologies of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and their impact on Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Spring Semester.

**HIS 275 TOPICS 3 Credit Hours**

Explores history topics not covered in other courses. Topics chosen by the instructor according to the students' areas of interest. As needed.

**HUM 101 FRESHMAN SEMINAR 1 Credit Hour**

Prepares students for life in college and develops a range of academic skills, including critical and creative thinking, library research, and the use of electronic technology for learning. Required of all first semester students. Every semester.

**ICS 111 INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION 3 Credit Hours**

In today's globalized world, interaction with people of diverse cultural backgrounds is becoming increasingly common, making intercultural communication necessary for social harmony and organizational success. This course will provide the theoretical, methodological, and ethnographic tools to understand the tenets and implications of intercultural communication at all scales—interpersonal through global—and to acquire skills and attitudes that increase intercultural competence. Spring Semester.

**ICS 231 GLOBALIZATION I 3 Credit Hours**

Provides an overview of the major milestones in the history of globalization—human migration out of Africa, development of trade routes, the formation of colonial empires, the origins and spread of global capitalism, decolonization and state formation movements after WWII, the rise of US imperialism, and the spread of neoliberalism. The course also examines how the Bretton Woods economic system and global trade impact the poorer nations, the global environment, and the growing inequality between the Global North and the Global South. Fall Semester.



**MUS 110**            **ELEMENTS OF MUSIC**            **1 Credit Hour**  
Studies the fundamentals of music notation and applied skills necessary for simple music reading and the articulation of musical ideas. Every semester.

**MUS 111**            **EAR TRAINING AND SIGHT SINGING**    **1 Credit Hour**  
Ear training and sight singing for those interested in advancing theory skills and practical application of music knowledge. Prerequisite: MUS 110 or permission of instructor. As needed.

**MUS 121**            **APPLIED PIANO**            **1 Credit Hour**  
Offers individual piano instruction. The course progresses at the student's rate with exercises and repertoire. To develop adequate skills, applied music courses require a minimum of 30 minutes of daily practice. Every semester.

**MUS 131**            **APPLIED BEGINNING GUITAR**            **1 Credit Hour**  
Provides small-group instruction for students with little or no guitar background. Covers tuning, maintenance of instrument, correct playing position, twelve to fifteen basic major, minor and seventh chords, and two to three strumming and picking styles. To develop adequate skills, applied music courses require a minimum of 30 minutes of daily practice. Every semester.

**MUS 132**            **APPLIED INTERMEDIATE GUITAR**            **1 Credit Hour**  
Provides group instruction in ensemble playing, transposition, additional chords beyond beginning level class and four to six strumming and picking styles. To develop adequate skills, applied music courses require a minimum of 30 minutes of daily practice. Prerequisite: MUS 131 or permission of instructor. Every semester.

**MUS 133**            **APPLIED ADVANCED GUITAR**            **1 Credit Hour**  
Provides advanced guitar techniques such as advanced chords, more picking and strumming styles, and classical guitar solo work. May be taken more than once as are other applied music classes. To develop adequate skills, applied music courses require a minimum of 30 minutes of daily practice. Prerequisite: MUS 132 or permission of the instructor. As needed.

**MUS 151**            **APPLIED VOICE**            **1 Credit Hour**  
Offers individual voice instruction through exercises and repertoire. Emphasizes breathing, enunciation, pitch accuracy, tone quality, and performance poise. To develop adequate skills, applied music courses require a minimum of 30 minutes of daily practice. Every semester.

**MUS 161**            **APPLIED FLUTE**            **1 Credit Hour**  
Develops the skills necessary to perform flute repertoire and exercises based on the individual student's level of progress. To develop adequate skills, applied music courses require a minimum of 30 minutes of daily practice. Every semester.

**MUS 190                      APPLIED INSTRUMENT                      1 Credit Hour**

Provides instruction in an instrument not offered in other courses. Prerequisite: permission of music faculty member. To develop adequate skills, applied music courses require a minimum of 30 minutes of daily practice. Every semester.

**MUS 211                      INTERMEDIATE MUSIC THEORY                      3 Credit Hours**

Reviews circle of fifths, dominant seventh chord; studies melodic organization, natural and harmonic minor scales, triad inversions, cadences, non-harmonic tones and simple harmonization of a simple hymn melody in a major key. Prerequisite: MUS 110 or permission of instructor. As needed.

**MUS 261                      LITURGICAL ENSEMBLE                      1 Credit Hour**

Studies in harmonization, in practice and theory, in preparation for liturgies. Students will learn to sing harmonies, read harmonic vocal lines and create harmonies for melodies of common hymns. Prerequisite: MUS 110 or permission of instructor. Every semester.

**MUS 275                      TOPICS                      3 Credit Hours**

Provides an opportunity for students to pursue special interests in music application, music history, literature, composition, improvisation, or advanced theory. Topics chosen by instructor according to the students' areas of interest and musical background. Prerequisite: MUS 110 or permission of instructor. As needed.

**MUS 375                      INTERMEDIATE TOPICS                      3 Credit Hours**

Provides an opportunity for students to pursue intermediate-level special interests in music application, music history, literature, composition, improvisation, or advanced theory. Topics chosen by instructor according to the students' areas of interest and musical background. Prerequisite: MUS 110 or permission of instructor. As needed.

**MUS 376                      WORLD MUSIC                      3 Credit Hours**

Explores cultures of the world through their musical activities such as listening, transmitting, and music making. Contextualizes musical change due to globalization, colonization, immigration and technological advances. Through reading, listening and music making projects, examines categories and concepts in music such as folk-art music, vocal-instrumental music, sacred-secular music, and traditional-modern music. Fall Semester.

**MUS 475                      ADVANCED TOPICS                      3 Credit Hours**

Provides an opportunity for students to pursue advanced-level special interests in music application, music history, literature, composition, improvisation, or advanced theory. Topics chosen by instructor according to the students' areas of interest and musical background. Prerequisite: MUS 110 or permission of instructor. As needed.



**PHI 102                      LOGIC    3 Credit Hours**  
Studies basic concepts of deductive and inductive logic. Develops critical reasoning skills through analyzing and evaluating arguments in ordinary language, as well as through learning to recognize various informal fallacies. Studies principles of formal deductive reasoning and methods of evaluating deductive arguments. Fall Semester.

**PHI 210                      ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY    3 Credit Hours**  
Compares philosophical world views of Plato and Aristotle. Includes consideration of philosophers who precede (Pre-Socratics and Socrates) and may include those who follow (Epicurus, the Stoics, and the Skeptics). Spring Semester.

**PHI 215                      ETHICS    3 Credit Hours**  
Considers and assesses major historical and contemporary ethical theories such as natural law theory, virtue ethics, Kantianism, utilitarianism, and the philosophical issues involved in these theories. Analyzes some contemporary problems in light of ethical norms. Spring Semester.

**PHI 219                      ASIAN PHILOSOPHY    3 Credit Hours**  
Examines the philosophical and spiritual thought of Hinduism, Confucianism, Daoism, and Buddhism and explores the role of yoga, meditation, ritual, and other social practices. Fall Semester.

**PHI 225                      PHILOSOPHY OF HUMAN NATURE    3 Credit Hours**  
Analyzes various theories and concepts of human nature throughout history, including the mind-body problem, mortality vs. immortality, and freedom vs. determinism. May also study the related concepts of person and being. Fall Semester.

**PHI 275                      TOPICS    3 Credit Hours**  
Explores various topics in the area of philosophy not covered in other courses. Topics chosen by the instructor according to the students' areas of interest. As needed.

**PHI 302                      SYMBOLIC LOGIC    3 Credit Hours**  
Introduces the techniques of modern symbolic logic. Develops a system of symbolic logic for analysis and evaluation of arguments in English. Identification and avoidance of many formal fallacies that occur in everyday reasoning. Fall, odd-numbered years.

**PHI 320                      MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY    3 Credit Hours**  
Presents philosophies of the Middle Ages. Philosophers discussed may include Plotinus, Augustine, Boethius, Anselm, Abelard, Ibn-Sina (Avicenna), Ibn-Rushd (Averroes), Moses ben Maimon, Bonaventure, Aquinas, Duns Scotus, and Ockham. Prerequisite: PHI 210. Fall Semester.

- PHI 323                      PHILOSOPHY OF THE ARTS                      3 Credit Hours**  
Surveys theories in aesthetics concerned with the nature of human creativity, the definition of an art work, the concept of expression, the logic of aesthetic concepts, and the criteria for the evaluation of works of art. Authors read may include Plato, Aristotle, Hume, Kant, Nietzsche, Tolstoy, Collingwood, Sibley, and Danto. As needed.
- PHI 327                      POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY                      3 Credit Hours**  
Studies various philosophical theories regarding the nature and justification of the state. Topics include competing conceptions of justice, rights, liberty, and equality. Authors read may include Plato, Aristotle, Augustine, Aquinas, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Burke, Marx, and Rawls. Prerequisite: PHI 210. Spring, odd-numbered years.
- PHI 330                      MODERN PHILOSOPHY                      3 Credit Hours**  
Examines the dispute between rationalism and empiricism in the modern period, leading to the dominance of Kant's critical philosophy. Philosophers studied may include Hobbes, Descartes, Spinoza, Leibniz, Locke, Berkeley, Hume, and Kant. Prerequisite: PHI 320. Spring Semester.
- PHI 335                      EPISTEMOLOGY                      3 Credit Hours**  
Studies knowledge and its objects and related concepts such as belief, certainty, and truth. Investigates skepticism and the possibility of knowledge, the sources and methods of acquiring knowledge, and the possible limits of human knowledge. Prerequisite: PHI 330. Spring Semester.
- PHI 371                      PHILOSOPHY OF GOD                      3 Credit Hours**  
Considers in detail classical, modern, and contemporary versions of the most important arguments for the existence of God, such as the ontological argument and the cosmological argument. Also examined are the nature of God, the nature of religious experience, the problem of evil, and the analysis of religious language. Spring Semester.
- PHI 373                      PHILOSOPHICAL COUNSELING                      3 Credit Hours**  
Philosophical counseling consists of a trained philosopher helping a person deal with a problem or issue of concern. It involves a study of a person's ideas and how they affect his/her life—and how changing their ideas can change their life. Current theories and methods of philosophical counseling are examined, including: Socratic Dialogue, PEACE, Platonic Cave, and Logic Based Therapy. Students will develop practical philosophical counseling skills (active listening, empathy, non-judgmental acceptance) and apply these to particular cases through classroom role play. This is a course in applied philosophy. Prerequisite: PHI 330. As needed.



**PHI 440 CONTEMPORARY PHILOSOPHY 3 Credit Hours**

Examines the development of Western Philosophy from the late nineteenth century to the present day. Philosophical movements studied may include pragmatism, analytic philosophy, phenomenology, existentialism, and post-modernism. Philosophers studied may include Nietzsche, Russell, Wittgenstein, Quine, Husserl, Heidegger, Sartre, and Rorty. Prerequisite: PHI 330. Fall Semester.

**PHI 444 ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS 3 Credit Hours**

This course consists of two parts. In the first part, relatively brief and introductory, there is an examination of the general principles and theories that are operative in the philosophical consideration of any moral issue. In the second part, there is an application of these principles and theories to the key moral issues related to the environment through study, discussion, and debate—principally through a case-study approach. The objective of this course will be to offer the student opportunities to study and refine the techniques necessary to make good, rational decisions about environmental moral issues. Spring, even-numbered years.

**PHI 445 METAPHYSICS 3 Credit Hours**

Studies the nature of being, the problem of the one and the many, substance and accident, essence and existence, matter and form. Considers the existence and nature of God, the universe as journey, and the great circle of being. Discusses the importance of the experiential and rational knowledge of being. Prerequisite: PHI 330. Fall Semester.

**PHI 475 ADVANCED TOPICS 3 Credit Hours**

Explores various advanced-level topics in the area of philosophy not covered in other courses. Topics chosen by the instructor according to the students' areas of interest. As needed.

**PHI 498 SENIOR SEMINAR 2 Credit Hours**

The Senior Seminar assesses students' degree of synthesis of philosophical knowledge by challenging them to identify philosophical views and presuppositions in non-philosophical works, such as novels, dramas, poems, films, and works of visual art. Students must draw on their philosophical knowledge in such areas as ethics, philosophy of human nature, epistemology, and metaphysics in order to succeed in the course. Prerequisite: PHI 440, Seniors only. Must be taken concurrently with PHI 499. Spring Semester, and as needed.

**PHI 499 SENIOR SYNTHESIS CAPSTONE 1 Credit Hour**

The Senior Synthesis Capstone assesses students' ability to apply appropriate methods of philosophical analysis and argument to critical issues of contemporary or perennial relevance, and to propose viable responses to these issues in the context of a major research paper and public presentation. Prerequisite: PHI 440, Seniors only. Must be taken concurrently with PHI 498. Spring Semester, and as needed.



**SCI 475                    ADVANCED TOPICS                    3 Credit Hours**

Surveys advanced-level science topics for which considerable academic preparation is required. Prerequisite: Junior standing in Intercultural Studies and permission of instructor. As needed.

**SOC 275                    TOPICS                    3 Credit Hours**

Explores social science topics not covered in other courses. Topics chosen by the instructor according to the students' areas of interest. As needed.

**SOC 341                    THEORIES OF SOCIETY AND CULTURE                    3 Credit Hours**

This course explores the interface between sociology and cultural anthropology. It surveys the range of theories revolving around society and culture. It will highlight conceptual tools and interpretive frames useful for social and cultural research. Spring Semester.

**SOC 375                    INTERMEDIATE TOPICS                    3 Credit Hours**

Explores intermediate-level social science topics not covered in other courses. Topics chosen by the instructor according to the students' areas of interest. As needed.

**SOC 461                    METHODS OF SOCIAL RESEARCH                    2 Credit Hours**

Guided practicum in quantitative and qualitative social research. Prerequisite: SOC 341. Fall Semester.

**SOC 475                    ADVANCED TOPICS                    3 Credit Hours**

Develops advanced-level social science topics for which considerable academic preparation is required. Prerequisite: Junior standing in Intercultural Studies and permission of instructor. As needed.

**SPA 121                    FUNDAMENTAL SPANISH I                    3 Credit Hours**

Introduces basic grammatical structures and vocabulary of the language. Includes the major indicative verb tenses as well as the present subjunctive mood. All four language skills (reading, writing, listening, and speaking) are emphasized. Includes cultural awareness of the Spanish-speaking world. Fall Semester.

**SPA 122                    FUNDAMENTAL SPANISH II                    3 Credit Hours**

Continues the introduction of basic grammatical vocabulary of the language. Includes the major indicative verb tenses as well as the present subjunctive mood. All four language skills (reading, writing, listening, and speaking) are emphasized. Includes cultural awareness of the Spanish-speaking world. Prerequisite: SPA 121 or equivalent. Spring Semester.

**SPA 223                    INTERMEDIATE SPANISH I                    3 Credit Hours**

Reviews and refines knowledge acquired in SPA 122 and builds students' language proficiency through reading, writing, listening activities, and discussion of print, audio, and visual materials. Prerequisite: SPA 122 or equivalent. Fall Semester.

**SPA 224                    INTERMEDIATE SPANISH II                    3 Credit Hours**

Continues to review and refine knowledge acquired in previous Spanish courses and to build students' proficiency through reading, writing, listening skills, and discussion of print, audio, and video materials. Prerequisite: SPA 223 or equivalent. Spring Semester.

**TRS 090                    FAITH, BELIEF, AND TRADITIONS 2 Non-Credit Hours**

A developmental course in the study of religion, faith, spirituality, and theology presented as essential dimensions of authentic human existence. Students who pass the Test of Basic-Intermediate Theology (TOBIT) placement test will be exempt from this course. Fall Semester concurrently with TRS 121.

**TRS 121                    CATHOLIC THEOLOGY                    3 Credit Hours**

A programmatic study of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. The four major sections, or "pillars," of the Catechism are examined in turn: the Creed (what the Church believes); the Sacraments (what the Church celebrates); the Commandments (what the Church lives), and; the Lord's Prayer (what the Church prays). In promulgating the Catechism, Pope John Paul II called these the "four movements of a great symphony." Required for entry into any other Theology & Religious Studies course beyond the Core Curriculum. Fall Semester concurrently with TRS 090.

**TRS 211                    OLD TESTAMENT                    3 Credit Hours**

Introduces the primary content, themes, and figures of the Hebrew Scriptures, with an emphasis on the manner in which the Hebrew Scriptures came to be written. A review of the major theological narrative of Israel's Sacred History will be central to the course, including the following components: creation, patriarchs, exodus, judges, monarchy, prophets, exile, and restoration. Prerequisite/concurrent with TRS 121. Spring Semester.

**TRS 212                    NEW TESTAMENT                    3 Credit Hours**

A basic introduction to the scientific study of the New Testament from historical and literary critical perspectives, with particular emphasis on an examination of the general social background and cultural dynamics implicit within the New Testament world, the particular circumstances surrounding the composition of individual books, and the theological perspectives of the various authors. Prerequisite/concurrent with TRS 121. Fall Semester.

**TRS 232 PUBLIC WITNESS REFLECTION SKILLS 3 Credit Hours**

Students will be introduced to public proclamation that is grounded in the document on liturgical preaching entitled *Fulfilled in Your Hearing*, published by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The course introduces students to proclaiming liturgical readings, leading prayer, and learning the practical dynamics of preaching (especially preparation methods, presentation skills, and critical review) tested in actual preaching opportunities. Competencies include public speaking and proclamation, coherent organization, convincing presentation, and critique of speaking skills. Prerequisite: TRS 121. Spring Semester.

**TRS 233 SACRAMENTAL & LITURGICAL THEOLOGY 3 Credit Hours**

This course studies the Christian sacramental worldview through contemporary and historical perspectives on the nature of sacramentality, Christ as sacrament, and Church as sacrament. Examines Catholic liturgical theology and practice as the source and summit of fruitful Christian life and community, with particular emphasis on the seven institutionalized sacraments of initiation, healing, and service. Prerequisite: TRS 121. Fall Semester.

**TRS 250 PRAYER 3 Credit Hours**

Introduces students to important themes and various approaches to prayer as the “the one thing needed” for a personal relationship with God, with a special focus on the teachings and traditions of the Catholic Church. Explores the theological and pastoral implications of these different approaches to prayer and includes a practicum focusing on a variety of prayer forms. Enables students to glorify God the Father, grow in deeper relationship to Christ, and develop the gifts of the Spirit through different forms of personal and corporate prayer. Prerequisite: TRS 121. Fall Semester.

**TRS 253 CHRISTIAN ETHICS 3 Credit Hours**

Examines the development and formulation of Christian ethical principles and methods based on Scripture, Catholic tradition and teaching, and philosophical and theological reflection. Introduces basic tenants of the Christian moral life, including the nature of the human person as a free and self-determined moral agent, the nature and function of conscience, and human sexuality. Also explores the Church’s social teaching regarding emerging moral issues in medicine, technology, politics, human rights, and environment as applicable to contemporary life and Christian commitment. Prerequisite: TRS 121. Spring Semester.

**TRS 273 PASTORAL CARE 3 Credit Hours**

The contemporary task of pastoral care is a continuation of the risen Christ’s presence in the human community. It is a commitment to embody Christ’s boundary-breaking ministry of reaching beyond ethnic, religious, socioeconomic, and gender barriers to affirm and include persons who live at the margins of society. The capacity for empathic, caring relationships is at the heart of effective pastoral ministry. This course explores the personal qualities and the interpersonal



skills that help create a welcoming and compassionate presence. In the setting of biblical spirituality and pastoral theology, with a shared process involving personal reflection and experiential practice, students address two fundamental components of pastoral care: 1) self-awareness and growth in the personal qualities of compassion involving culturally diverse experiences, and; 2) practice in the learned art/skill of interpersonal communication, with an emphasis on creativity and respecting diversity. Students examine the practice and significance of the Catholic approach to naming grace in personal and communal life and history. Prerequisite: TRS 121. Spring Semester.

**TRS 275**                      **TOPICS**    **3 Credit Hours**  
Explores various topics in the areas of theology and religious studies. Prerequisite: TRS 121. As needed.

**TRS 293**                      **NON-CHRISTIAN RELIGIONS**    **3 Credit Hours**  
An introduction to the major non-Christian religious traditions of the world, and their particular historical evolution with regard to beliefs, practices, institutions, and cultural expressions. Explores diversity of religious beliefs, relevant issues from comparative religious studies, and the socio-cultural impact of religion in various contexts. Prerequisite: TRS 121. Fall Semester.

**TRS 295**                      **SUMMER PASTORAL INTERNSHIP**    **1-3 Credit Hours**  
Supervised pastoral internship placement during the summer, providing students directed instruction with concurrent pastoral ministry practicum in a parish or faith-based institution for a period of six to eight weeks. Placements are available through the Department Chair, and require the completion of a written contract signed by the student, the instructor, and dedicated on-site ministry supervisor with attached syllabus detailing the number of credit hours and associated hours of instruction, independent study, and actual pastoral ministry practicum. Applications are processed during the Spring semester and are due no later than April 1st. Prerequisites: TRS 121 and TRS 273. Recommended: TRS 373. Every Summer, contingent upon need and availability.

**TRS 312**                      **MARIOLOGY**    **3 Credit Hours**  
This course is a study of the Blessed Virgin Mary's mediating role in salvation history as the Mother of God as expressed in Scripture, the Tradition of the Church, contemporary Marian documents from the Magisterium, and through popular intercultural Marian devotions; also, an exploration of the Virgin Mary's relevance for contemporary ecumenical and interreligious dialogue. Prerequisite: TRS 121. Fall, even-numbered years.

**TRS 322                    SVD HERITAGE & MISSION                    2 Credit Hours**

A general introduction to the heritage and mission of the Society of the Divine Word (SVD), beginning with an overview of the early history of the SVD focused on St. Arnold Janssen and other members of the Founding Generation. Subsequent topics include SVD prayer and spirituality, the SVD missionary paradigm of Prophetic Dialogue, the SVD in North America, and the SVD global mission today. Prerequisite: TRS 121. Spring Semester.

**TRS 333                    CHRISTOLOGY                    3 Credit Hours**

Presents an historical-critical reading of New Testament accounts regarding the person and ministry of Jesus Christ, and examines the experience of the historical Jesus and resulting understanding and profession of the Christ of faith. Explores the development of Christological definitions and controversies as found in the early Christian community, the creedal formulae of the early Church Councils, and the philosophical and theological treatises of patristic, medieval, and modern theologians. Surveys contemporary issues in Christology and the implications of proclaiming the uniqueness and universality of Jesus Christ for interreligious dialogue in today's religiously pluralist world. Prerequisites: TRS 121, TRS 211, and TRS 212. Spring Semester.

**TRS 335                    CHURCH HISTORY                    3 Credit Hours**

This course surveys the history of the Christian Church from its origins to the present time, presented according to the broad sweep of four main Church eras: Early Church (to 800); Medieval Church (800-1500); Reformation (1500-1650), and; Modern Church (1650-to present). Details the important historical events and controversies—including key persons, dates, movements, and theological concepts—that are essential for a critical appreciation of how the Church's has fulfilled its missionary mandate over the centuries. Prerequisite: TRS 121. Fall, odd-numbered years.

**TRS 336                    ECCLESIOLOGY                    3 Credit Hours**

This course explores the biblical foundations of the Church, and subsequent theological developments, regarding how the Church exercises its redemptive role in the world, and the variety of models for its institutional structures and its missionary activity. Special attention is given to issues challenging the Church today—the role of the Magisterium, secularism, atheism, ecumenism, and the Church's role and relation to other religions in a religiously pluralist context. Prerequisite: TRS 121. Spring, odd-numbered years.

**TRS 345                    SYNOPTIC GOSPELS                    3 Credit Hours**

This course describes the Synoptic Problem regarding the interrelationship among the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke—and the coherence of the Four-Source Hypothesis. Explores the convergences and divergences in narrative, theology, and Christology in each of the Synoptic Gospels regarding their respective portraits of Jesus Christ utilizing historical and literary critical methods, in particular redaction criticism. Detailed exegesis of some significant narratives and parables. Prerequisites: TRS 121, TRS 211, and TRS 212. Fall Semester.

**TRS 353                    CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING                    3 Credit Hours**

Provides an historical, theoretical, and practical overview of the primary principles and themes of the Catholic social encyclical tradition. Explores moral issues in medicine, technology, politics, economy, ecology, and human rights. Also evaluates Christian social responsibilities in the areas of peace-building, justice, reconciliation, and the integrity of creation. Prerequisite: TRS 121. Spring Semester.

**TRS 359                    CHRISTIAN SEXUALITY                    3 Credit Hours**

This course will examine the Catholic Church's official teachings on the various areas of sexual morality, looking both to traditional formulations and to more recent ways of thinking about issues of sexual morality. The course will also consider human sexuality, marriage, and family life as paths for growth in the Christian spiritual life. As needed.

**TRS 363                    SPIRITUALITY                    3 Credit Hours**

Explores the biblical, historical, and theological foundations for the practices and methods of Christian spirituality, emphasizing the teachings and traditions of the Catholic Church. Illumines key principles and stages in the spiritual life as a path to holiness. Presents various understandings and practices of prayer, meditation, contemplation, mysticism, discernment, and spiritual direction with the purpose of developing personal and communal applications to Christian life in the modern world. Prerequisite: TRS 121. Spring, even-numbered years.

**TRS 370                    MISSIOLOGY                    3 Credit Hours**

Discusses the concept of missiology and describes historical and contemporary trends in mission. Explores important dimensions concerning the missionary activity of the Christian Church, such as culture, religion, the poor, peace, justice, reconciliation, and the integrity of creation. Examines the paradigm of Prophetic Dialogue as a particularly SVD mode of missionary engagement that is situationally, rather than geographically, based. Prerequisite: TRS 121. Fall Semester.

**TRS 373                    PASTORAL COUNSELING                    3 Credit Hours**

This course is both a theoretical and practical-skills formation course for pastoral counseling with adolescents and adults. After presenting basic theoretical approaches to counseling most applicable in pastoral or religious settings, students develop practical active listening counseling skills (empathy, non-judgmental acceptance, establishment of appropriate boundaries, reflection, challenge, and integration of spirituality) through the viewing of counseling video demonstrations and engaging in classroom role-play. Both theological and psychological points of view will be examined. Students will work toward developing a personally relevant model of integrated pastoral counseling as a professional helper. Prerequisites: TRS 121 and TRS 273. As needed.

**TRS 375                    INTERMEDIATE TOPICS                    3 Credit Hours**

Explores various intermediate-level topics in the areas of theology and religious studies. Prerequisite: TRS 121. As needed.

**TRS 377                    INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE                    3 Credit Hours**

In a world that experiences daily tensions among adherents of different religious traditions, this course explores the issues and challenges related to interreligious dialogue, the fundamental principles of dialogue, different belief systems, and how Christians understand and dialogue with other religions in light of Christ, the Gospel, and the teachings of the Church from the perspective of one's own faith. Prerequisite: TRS 121. Fall Semester.

**TRS 441                    VATICAN II THEOLOGY                    3 Credit Hours**

Vatican II represents a new epoch in theology, ecclesiology, missiology, and liturgy—indeed, the great theologian Karl Rahner called it “the beginning of a beginning” out of which Roman Catholicism and the whole of Christianity embarked upon a renewed pilgrimage of faith. This course presents an overview of the seminal teachings of the Second Vatican Council and examines the profound effects that Vatican II theology has in guiding and informing the Catholic Christian worldview into the 21st century. Prerequisite: TRS 121. Spring Semester.

**TRS 475                    ADVANCED SPECIAL TOPICS                    3 Credit Hours**

Explores various advanced-level topics in the areas of theology and religious studies. Prerequisite: TRS 121. As needed.

**TRS 499                    SENIOR SYNTHESIS CAPSTONE                    1 Credit Hour**

The Senior Synthesis Capstone measures students' ability to apply appropriate methods of theological analysis to critical issues of contemporary relevance and to propose viable alternative solutions in the context of a major research paper and public presentation. Students develop and articulate a personal synthesis of their previous studies in areas such as: God, Christ, Church, Prayer & Spirituality, Sacramental & Liturgical Theology, Sacred Scripture, Catholic Social Teaching, Ecumenism & Interreligious Dialogue, and Missiology & SVD Prophetic Dialogue. Prerequisite: TRS 121, Seniors only. Spring Semester, and as needed.