

**SALESIAN PONTIFICAL UNIVERSITY**  
FACULTY OF THEOLOGY  
JERUSALEM CAMPUS

**STATUTES**  
**REGULATIONS**  
**GUIDELINES**  
**BEST PRACTICES**

Jerusalem

STUDIUM THEOLOGICUM SALESIANUM, JERUSALEM

# CURRICULUM OF STUDIES DEGREE PROGRAMME COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

**RA0101.** Inspiration - The Canon – Hermeneutics 5 ECTS

## *General Objective:*

The purpose of this course is to provide a clear statement of the Catholic doctrine on the nature of biblical inspiration, by documenting this position with references to some significant documents of the Church, especially the Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation “*Dei Verbum*.” The second aim of this course is to describe the evolution of the biblical canon. Finally the course will confront one of the most challenging issues in contemporary biblical study i.e. hermeneutics, or the interpretation of the Bible.

## *Course Outline:*

- I. Inspiration
  - a. The key biblical passages on inspiration: 2 Tim 3:16-17 and 2 Pet 1:19-21 will be examined along with a summary of patristic views and different contemporary theories of inspiration.
  - b. Discussion on *Dei Verbum* (#11-26) and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (#101-141).

## II. Canon

- a. The process of the development of the canon will be examined, showing how decisions about canonicity brought an end to this creative process.
- b. Focus on the books considered divinely inspired and normative for Catholic Christians

## III. Hermeneutics

- a. Biblical hermeneutics in general
- b. Exercises and examples of methods and approaches for interpreting the Bible.

### ***Learning Outcomes:***

Upon completion of this course:

- Students will have acquired a basic knowledge of the Bible, its canonical development and the methods used in its interpretation which will be necessary for the further study of Sacred Scripture and of theology.
- They will be familiar with the content and language of the decree *Dei Verbum* and of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* on Scripture's place in theology and the life of the Church.
- They will be able to define, identify and distinguish between the various modern exegetical methodologies, both synchronic and diachronic.

***General Objective:***

The course of Biblical Archaeology introduces into the world of the human past giving notions of Archaeology in general and of Biblical Archaeology in particular. This course considers a chronology and a vision of the Stone and Metal Ages, studies archaeological methodology and shows in special manner the themes of human habitation, development, cities, monuments (both sacred and profane), the site of Qumran and Jewish and Christian Archaeology. For their importance, the Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem and the Holy Shroud of Turin will be also studied.

***Course Outline:***

1. Archaeology in general. Human Past.
2. Biblical Archaeology.
3. Stone and Metal Ages. Chronology and study.
4. Archaeological methodology. Archaeological basic notions
5. History of Archaeology in Holy Land.
6. Human habitation, Villages and cities, Walls and gates, Ancient water systems, Monuments.
7. Sacred sites: high places, temples, tombs, synagogues, mikvaoth.
8. Profane buildings: baths, theatre, amphitheatre, nymphaea, circus, odeon.
9. Qumran. History and importance. Documents.
10. Jewish Archaeology.
11. Christian Archaeology.
12. The Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem.
13. The Holy Shroud of Turin.

***Learning Outcomes:***

- Through this course the students will demonstrate in writing the strengthening of their understanding of the historicity of the Gospels.
- After the first month of lessons, there will be a mid-term examination about the already studied matter.

***New Testament History:***

***General Objective:***

This course of New Testament History introduces into the world the New Testament time, from 134 BC until 135 AD.

After an introduction about the meaning of the History of the New Testament and a presentation of the main Jewish historian Flavius Josephus, the course will deal with Chronology, the Hasmonean dynasty, the Roman Conquest of Judea, Herod the Great and his family, the political, social, religious and cultural situation of Palestine during the life of Jesus and the first generations of the Christian Church until the second revolt of the Jews against Rome (135 AD).

***Course Outline:***

Introduction. History of New Testament. Literary Sources: Jewish, Greco-Roman and Christian sources. Flavius Joseph: Life. Diplomatic Mission. War. Literary activity. Critical judgment.

Chronology of the history of the New Testament. Chronology of antiquity.

Hasmoneans. Government and expansion. Principal figures. Parties.

Roman conquest. Pompey the Great. Roman policy in Palestine: Pompey's decrees. Antipater.

Herod the Great: Life and personality. Policy. Economy. Works and buildings. Temple of Jerusalem: History. The building. Herod's family mentioned in the New Testament.

Roman government in Palestine. Roman Procurators.

Political, cultural and social situation of Palestine at the time of the New Testament:

Judaism. Hellenism. Roman Empire.

Jewish world in Palestine: privileges of the Jews.

Economic Situation of Palestine.

Life and expansion of the Church.

First Jewish revolt against Rome: 66-74 AD. Tragic end. Military campaign in Galilee. Fate of Jerusalem.

Second Jewish revolt against Rome: 132-135 AD. New Wars. Simon Bar Kochba. Hadrian's decrees.

***Learning Outcomes:***

Through this study and written examinations the students will demonstrate a suitable understanding of the time of Jesus with the knowledge of the most important events and people that will allow them to understand better the life of Christ and the Gospels. After the first month of lessons, there will be a partial or mid-term examination about the already studied matter.

***General Objective:***

The students will be introduced into a careful reading of the text, sensitive to historical-critical analysis (who wrote the text, for whom, when and why), but focused on a theological understanding of the text that is sensitive to its literary composition. This careful reading will not ignore that it must serve as a resource for the student when preparing homilies in their lives as priests and pastors.

***Course Outline:******First semester***

- I. Introduction to the Pentateuch
  - a. Reading the Pentateuch within the Bible
  - b. Who wrote the Pentateuch, for whom, when, why?
  - c. The literary genres in the Pentateuch
- II. A reading of the Pentateuch
  - a. A child is born: Reading Genesis 1-2
  - b. A child is lost: Reading Genesis 3-11
  - c. The child is promised: Reading Genesis 12-50
  - d. The child is born: Reading Exodus 1-18
  - e. At Sinai: Reading Exodus 19-Numbers 10
  - f. 11 days and another 40 years: Reading Numbers 10-21
  - g. At Moab: Reading Numbers 22-Deuteronomy 34

***Second semester***

- I. Introduction to the Historical Books
  - a. Reading the Historical Books within the Bible
  - b. Who wrote the Historical Books, for whom, when, why?
  - c. The literary genres in the Historical Books

- II. A reading of the Historical Books
  - a. From life to death: Reading Joshua to 2 Kings
  - b. Grace and new life: Reading 1Chronicles to Nehemiah
  - c. Heroes of the faith: Reading from Tobit to 2 Maccabees

***Learning Outcomes:***

A student who has completed the course will hopefully have a greater appreciation of how the Bible functions in the life of the Church. He will be able to read, analyse and derive the theological and spiritual sense of these Old Testament texts. At the same time the student will be able to perceive how the Gospels and entire New Testament are woven from the language of the Old.

**RA0104. OT Exegesis: Prophetic Books**

**5 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

The objective of the course is to read the Prophetic corpus in the Old Testament, understanding the figure of the prophet and his/her role in the history of the People of God. Each prophet will be encountered within his/her context and within the context of the literature they have left us in order to allow the students to perceive the ongoing relevance of this literature in our lives as Christians today. Literary links with the New Testament will also be explored.

***Course Outline:***

1. Prophetic Books - an introduction
  - a. The prophet – who is he in the Bible?
  - b. The prophet in the Bible and the prophet in the ancient world
  - c. The prophets in the history of Israel
  - d. The canon and the prophetic books
  - e. The prophets and the New Testament
  - f. The literary genres



2. Book of the Prophet Isaiah
3. Book of the Prophet Jeremiah, Lamentations and Barukh
4. Book of Ezekiel
5. Book of Daniel
6. Book of the Twelve Minor Prophets
7. Readings from the Prophets
  - a. Who is a prophet?
  - b. “Riv”: complaint, process and threat
  - c. God – True and false relations
  - d. Humanity – True and false relations
  - e. History of salvation
  - f. Critique of prophecy: Book of Jonah
  - g. Prophets in the New Testament
  - h. Conclusion: Prophets today

***Learning Outcomes:***

The student would be able to read the Prophetic literature within its historical context and within the Church as the living Word of God, constantly relevant for our lives.

## **RA0105. OT Exegesis: Wisdom Books and Psalms 5 ECTS**

### ***General Objective:***

- To familiarize the student with the structure, literary genre, purpose, contents, and theology of the Wisdom Books and Psalms.
- To help the student to acquire the skills and competence necessary for reading biblical poetry.
- To assist the student in drawing together the message of the Wisdom Books and Psalms, and their theological relationship to the rest of the Old Testament Canon and to the New Testament.
- To give the student a greater appreciation for the coherence of the Bible's literary and theological integrity.
- To enable the student to see how the Wisdom literature of the Old Testament and the Psalms proclaim a story and message that are of immense importance for the Church today.

### ***Course Outline:***

The course consists of two parts:

In the first one, the Wisdom literature will be analysed in its various ancient Near Eastern contexts: literary, historical, geographical, cultural, religious, and sociological as well as in its canonical and Christological perspective. The detailed exegesis of chosen passages from the books of: Job, Proverbs, Qoheleth, Song of Songs, Wisdom and Ben Sira will enable the students to apply the insights of biblical wisdom in their life and future pastoral ministry.

The second part of the course will focus on the various forms of the psalms and their function within the historical experience of Israel. The focus will be on the formulation and interpretation of the psalms, examination of the various types of psalms and their application in the liturgy and spirituality of today's Church.

***Learning Outcomes:***

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to do the following:

- Know the content and themes of the Poetic & Wisdom books of the Old Testament.
- Recognize characteristics of Hebrew poetry.
- Understand the historical, social, and literary contexts of the Poetic & Wisdom books of the Old Testament.
- Identify various forms (genres) and corresponding functions of biblical poetic material.
- Understand the purpose and function of wisdom literature in Ancient Israel.
- Know the theological messages reflected in the Poetic and Wisdom books of the Old Testament.
- Apply appropriate interpretations of passages from the Poetic & Wisdom books to Christian living.
- Appreciate the use of the Psalms in personal prayer and in liturgy.

**RA0106. Biblical Hebrew I**

**5 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

The Hebrew Bible is one of the world's greatest works of literature and refers to the common portions of the Jewish and Christian biblical canon. Although many modern translations of the Hebrew Bible exist today, there are also many reasons to learn Hebrew, for example, to help the student understand the original author's words and to enjoy the skill of the Bible's Hebrew poets. The *Biblical Hebrew I* course is designed to help the student acquire basic skills in reading biblical Hebrew through vocabulary building, the study of grammar and the reading of selected texts from the Hebrew Bible.

### ***Course Outline:***

This course begins with an introduction to the most basic elements of Hebrew grammar with the accent on the noun, the “qal stem” of the verb and Hebrew sentence structure. The study of grammar will be accompanied by selected readings from the Hebrew Bible. Moreover, instruction in the use of the Hebrew Lexicon and the Bible Works Computer Program will also be offered.

### ***Learning Outcomes:***

Upon completion of this course:

- Students will be able to read and translate simple sentences from the Hebrew Bible.
- They will also be capable of using standard aids such as Dictionaries, Lexicons and Bible Works Software in their future biblical and theological research.

## **RA0107. Biblical Hebrew 2**

**3 ECTS**

### ***General Objective:***

The goal of the course is to deepen the knowledge of the Biblical Hebrew acquired during the basic course (Biblical Hebrew 1). It is intended to lead students through the reading and comprehension of Biblical Hebrew narrative (e.g. Genesis 1). Through in-depth examination of the Hebrew verbal sentence, students will improve their proficiency in recognizing the new verb forms and stems that will be encountered in reading.

### ***Course Outline:***

- Grammar: The Word Order in Verbal Sentences, Interrogative Sentences, the Numerals, the remaining Stems and Perfects not covered in Biblical Hebrew 1.
- *Qal* Imperfect, Imperfects of the remaining stems, Imperfects with *Waw* Consecutive, Imperative, Infinitive Construct and Infinitive Absolute, Forms of Participles.

***Learning Outcomes:***

Students will be able to read more complicated sentences from the Hebrew Bible, to translate them, to offer a comment on the grammar forms included in them, as well as understand the basics of the syntactic rules.

Students will also demonstrate their ability of interpretation of various possibilities of translations of the texts at the base of the grammar forms and syntactic constructions.

**RA0108. Biblical Hebrew 3**

**3 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

The goal of the course is to deepen the knowledge of the Biblical Hebrew acquired during the basic courses of Biblical Hebrew 1 and 2. Study of syntax will be accompanied by selected readings from the Hebrew Bible.

***Course Outline:***

- Syntax of the Verb:
  - Structure of the sentence
  - The criterion of the position of the verb in the sentence
- Reading and translation of some selected biblical texts:

***Learning Outcomes:***

Students will be able to read and translate selected passages from the Hebrew Bible and to offer comments on the basic syntactic rules.

## **RA0201. NT Exegesis: Synoptic Gospels and Acts**    8 ECTS

### ***General Objective:***

The objective of the course is to assist the students in a thorough study of Mark, Matthew, Luke and Acts of the Apostles. By historical-critical analysis of the texts the students will be introduced to the theological understanding of the Synoptic Gospels and Acts. The background of these NT works will be emphasized. This close reading of the text will help the students to answer the questions: who wrote the text, for whom, when and why.

### ***Course Outline:***

- I. Introduction
  - a) What is a Gospel; oral tradition; books and believers in early Christianity; the quest for sources; the Synoptic and the historical-critical analysis; the Synoptic Problem.
  - b) Authorship, date, features, community, purpose, theology of the Gospels of Mark and Matthew.
- II. Reading and commenting on Mark's and Matthew's Gospels.
- III. Introduction to Luke's authorship, purpose, theology of the Gospel and Acts.
- IV. Reading and commenting on Luke's Gospel.
- V. Reading and commenting on Acts.

### ***Learning Outcomes:***

The students by the end of the course are expected to achieve:

- Familiarity with the content of the Synoptic Gospels and Acts.
- Understanding of the background of the books and the process and the goal of their composition.
- Appreciation of the contribution of each of the evangelists to the gospel tradition and begin to sense their special literary, theological, thematic, spiritual and editorial input

- Ability to explain the Synoptic problem and characteristics of each of the Synoptic Gospels and Acts.
- Capacity to summarize the key theological themes.
- Sound knowledge of the Roman Catholic view of Scripture and methods for interpretation (synchronic, diachronic, existential).

## **RA0202. NT Exegesis: Pauline and Apostolic Letters**

**8 ECTS**

### *General Objective:*

Upon completion of this course, students will have acquired a base of knowledge concerning the literary, historical, and theological characteristics of the Pauline Letters, the Catholic Epistles and the Letter to the Hebrews. They will be capable of correct exegesis of these texts in order to employ them in academic, pastoral and liturgical contexts as well as for personal reading and meditation. This objective will be met by means of the following learning activities:

1. Attendance at all lessons, with your Bible always in hand.
2. Personal reading and analysis of the biblical text.
3. Group work: reading and analysis of passages, discussion of exegetical issues, etc.
4. Expositions by the teacher, with the active participation of the students.

### *Course Outline:*

- I. Introduction to the Epistles
  1. Introduction
  2. An epistle?

## **II. Saint Paul**

1. Who is Saint Paul?
2. Saint Paul and Christianity
3. Theology of Saint Paul

## **III. Epistles of Paul**

1. First Epistle to the Thessalonians
2. First Epistle to the Corinthians
3. Second Epistle to the Corinthians
4. Epistle to the Galatians
5. Epistle to the Philippians
6. Epistle to Philemon
7. Epistle to the Romans

## **IV. Epistles of the Pauline School**

### **Introduction**

1. Second Epistle to the Thessalonians
2. Epistle to the Colossians
3. Epistle to the Ephesians
4. Epistle to Titus
5. Second Epistle to Timothy
6. First Epistle to Timothy

## **V. Epistle to the Hebrews**

## **VI. Catholic Epistles**

1. Epistle of James
2. Epistles of Peter
3. Epistles of Judas



***Learning Outcomes:***

The student will be familiar with the figure of Saint Paul, his writings, his posterity and the other early epistles in the Church thus understanding the earliest theological formulations about faith in Jesus, the building up of the Christian community and the bearing of witness to the God who is Father and Creator. This will invigorate the process by which the student becomes a credible preacher and teacher in today's world and an authentic Christian witness.

**RA0203. NT Exegesis: Johannine Writings**

**8 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

This course seeks to familiarize students with the Gospel of John, the Letters of John, and the Book of Revelation in order to be able to employ them effectively in academic, pastoral and liturgical contexts as well as for personal reading and meditation.

***Course Outline:***

- I. The Gospel and Letters of John
  - A. Literary features: structure, unity and cohesiveness, vocabulary, style
  - B. Historical features: origin, composition, authorship
  - C. Theological features: ecclesiology, eschatology, Christology, discipleship
  - D. Exegesis: The Passion and Resurrection accounts (Jn 18:1-20:29)
- II. The Book of Revelation
  - A. Literary features: apocalyptic literature and apocalypticism, structure, symbolism
  - B. Historical features: origin, authorship
  - C. Theological features: liturgical imagery, interpretation
  - D. Exegesis: Rev 13:1-18; 20:1-10

***Learning Outcomes:***

1. Upon completion of the course, students will be capable of correct exegesis of passages from these NT books.
2. They will know how to identify and interpret their literary aspects such as form, structure, vocabulary, and stylistic features.
3. They will be aware of what modern scholarship has discovered about the historical context from which these writings came, and how this aids in their interpretation for the present time.
4. They will be capable of recognizing, analyzing and explaining major theological themes within the text.
5. They will be familiar with the most important secondary resources associated with these writings.

**RA0205. Biblical Greek I**

**5 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

The objective of the course is to offer students an introduction to the vocabulary and grammar of the Koine Greek language in order to enable them to correctly read and understand the New Testament and the Septuagint in Greek.

***Course Outline:***

The course will follow the progressive sequence of knowledge and skills presented by the textbook.

***Learning Outcomes:***

Upon completion of this course, students will have acquired the following knowledge and skills:

- Knowing a basic vocabulary of frequently occurring words
- Recognizing and interpreting common grammatical structures and patterns
- Reading and understanding biblical passages in the original Greek with the help of a dictionary or lexicon

- Translating words and sentences accurately for exegetical purposes.
- Using critical tools: dictionary, lexicon, concordance, grammatical aids

## **RA0206. Biblical Greek 2**

**3 ECTS**

### *General Objective:*

The course will enable the students to employ and further expand the knowledge and skills they acquired in Biblical Greek 1 (RA0205) in order to read and analyze the Greek text of the New Testament and of the Septuagint.

### *Course Outline:*

The course will examine selected passages from the New Testament and Septuagint for reading, grammatical analysis, and interpretation.

### *Learning Outcomes:*

Upon completion of this course, students will have achieved the following:

- An enhanced ability to read and pronounce Koine Greek accurately
- Greater facility in recognizing and interpreting common grammatical structures and patterns, particularly the use of the participle and of noun cases
- Practice and confidence in understanding and interpretation
- Expertise in the use of a variety of critical tools

**RA0207. Biblical Greek 3****3 ECTS*****General Objective:***

The objective of the course is to introduce the students to advanced morphology of New Testament Greek and to various basic syntactical constructions. Strong emphasis will be given to learning a good amount of vocabulary in order to read the Gospels of Mark and John.

***Course Outline:***

- Systematic and gradual mastering of verbal moods (indicative, infinitive, imperative, subjunctive, optative, participle) and voices (active, passive)
- Inflections of verbs, nouns, pronouns and adjectives
- Gradual application of grammatical structures and vocabulary to the reading of the Gospels

***Learning Outcomes:***

The students will gain a strong foundational understanding of the various complex elements of the language and build a vocabulary in order to proceed with personal studies on the biblical texts.

**RA0301. Fundamental Theology****8 ECTS*****General Objective:***

From Theodicy to Theology; from a Catechetical to a scientific level, getting acquainted with the basic vocabulary and tools of the “*sacra scientia*”.

**Introduction to Theology:*****Course Outline:***

From Biblical revelation, to Christian experience (believing, celebrating, living), to theology – The sources of theology – Subject and formal object – Relations between faith and reason

– An ecclesial vocation: theologians and the *Magisterium* – Theology as science – Methods in theology.

***Learning Outcomes:***

- The students will be able to pass from Theodicy to Theology; from an ecclesial experience and catechetical doctrine to a scientific reflection.
- They will become acquainted with both the basic tools of the “*sacra scientia*” and the specific procedures of theological method.

**Foundations of Catholic Theology:**

***Course Outline:***

*Part One: Historical-positive documentation:*

1. The Biblical evidence: history, contents and institutions of the divine revelation in the Old and New Testament. Man’s response: faith in the Old and New Testament.
2. The Patristic period: Eastern and Western Fathers of the Church on revelation and faith.
3. The Scholastic period: Bonaventure, Thomas, Duns Scotus
4. Doctrines of the Catholic *Magisterium* in context: Humanism, Protestant Reformation and Council of Trent; Rationalism, Fideism and Vatican I; the crisis of Modernism; from Vatican II to Benedict XVI.

*Part Two: Systematic:*

1. From Apologetics to Foundational Theology: “to give reason of the Christian Hope”.
2. Predestination of all human creatures in Christ: being, knowing, acting.
3. Objectivity of the Christian Way: a critical examination of the NT sources: Jesus of history and Christ of faith.
4. Credibility and coherence of the Christian message: Jesus as Mystery, Word, Sign.

***Learning Outcomes:***

- The students will be equipped with a foundational Christology and Ecclesiology.
- They will become competent to critically present the reasons of our Christian faith-life, both from the objective/ historical point of view and *vis-a-vis* today's subjective/ rational challenges of credibility/practicability.

**RA0303. Introduction to Judaism**

**3 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

The objective of the course is to give the students a basic knowledge of the Jewish religion and the Jews today. This is in the spirit of the Second Vatican Council that encourages all Catholics to develop a correct attitude towards the Jews and repent of centuries of a “teaching of contempt”. The course will also focus on the challenges that Jews face in the modern world and the issues at the heart of the ongoing Jewish-Christian dialogue.

***Course Outline:***

- Why study Judaism?
- Who are the Jews?
- The history of the Jewish people.
- Practice and faith in Jewish life.
- The Jewish calendar.
- The Jews today.
- Nature and evolution of the relationship between the Church and Synagogue.

***Learning Outcomes:***

- Students will acquire knowledge about Jews and Judaism – terminology, history, religion and the issues that face Jews today.

***General Objective:***

Upon completion of this course, students will have acquired a good knowledge of the basic elements of Islam, as religion (creeds, rituals, ethics, laws), society and history. They will be capable of understanding the varied presence of Islam in their respective countries and also ready to be involved in interreligious dialogue.

This objective will be met by means of the following learning activities:

1. Attendance at lessons.
2. Expositions by the lecturer.
3. Personal reading, following indications from the lecturer.
4. Writing a paper on a topic chosen in agreement with the lecturer.

***Course Outline:***

1. Islam in the world today. Unity and diversity.
2. Muhammad. Prophet and Statesman.
3. Understanding the Qur'an.
4. The basic beliefs and practices of Islam.
5. The development of Islam after the death of Muhammad.
6. The Shi'a. An alternative form of Islam.
7. Introduction to Islamic Law.
8. Islamic spirituality.
9. Islamic theology and philosophy.
10. Islamic movements today.
11. Dialogue between Christians and Muslims.

***General Objective:***

The course will give the student a good knowledge of Islam, its expansion and divisions, and its manifestations in the world today. It will also introduce the student to Christian-Muslim relations.

***Course Outline:***

- Background to Islam – socio-economic, political and religious forces.
- Muhammad: His early years; Life and achievements in Mecca and Medina; An assessment.
- Quran: its history and content.
- Expansion and Divisions of early Islam - including its penetration in Africa.
- Hadith Literature: The nature of the Hadith; criticism of Hadith and the influence of the Hadith. Sharia: What it is and how it is implemented with special reference to East Africa.
- Sufism: its development and role in the spread of Islam especially in Africa.
- Islam in the modern world - contemporary trends.
- Islam in Africa: Its spread, its influence - a threat or challenge to Christianity.
- Christian-Muslim relations: Catholic Church Teaching and Pastoral Application with special reference to Africa.

***Learning Outcomes:***

Upon completion of this course, the students will have acquired a good knowledge of Islam. They will be able to understand the varied presence of Islam particularly in Africa and be more interested in being involved in interreligious dialogue.



**RA0306 Theology for Africa: Themes and Readings (for M.Afr.) 3 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

Students will be initiated to the study of Theology in an African context; made aware of the influence of the social, cultural and religious African context on the theological task of the Christian believer. The course will introduce them to the works of African theologians and major themes of African Theology.

***Course Outline:***

1. The course will be introduced by a presentation of the evolution of theology in an African context following the three main lines: Inculturation, Liberation and Reconstruction. This will involve a reflection on the meeting between Christianity and African thought.
2. Each participant will present the work of an African theologian or a theme based on theological works emanating from Africa. These themes and theologians will be previously agreed upon with the lecturer. Each presentation will be followed by an open class discussion.

***Learning Outcomes:***

After completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Explain the evolution of theology in the African context and the contribution of the main African theologians.
2. Engage critically in the analysis of the encounter between Christianity and African thought and showing the implications of such analysis for the practice of mission in an African context.
3. Acknowledge the challenges facing theology done in an African context and the debate about the notion and doing of 'African theology'.

**RA0307. African Religions and Theology of Religions (for M.Afr.)** **5 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

To awaken the interest of the students in African Religion and Culture; To prepare and dispose them for interreligious dialogue, particularly with the African Religion; To help them appreciate the lasting values of African Religion; To help students appreciate the urgency of enculturation of the Christian faith in Africa.

***Course Outline:***

1. Misconceptions about African Religion; the Debate around the nomenclature and terminology; Sources in African Religion.
2. Essential elements of African Religion: God and man, Good and Evil, Sacrifice, the life after and the life-end, Ancestor veneration.
3. Revelation and the salvific value of African Religion;
4. Vatican II and African Religion: African Synods and other Church Documents.
5. African Religion in the dialogue debate; Pastoral Orientations.

***Course Outline:***

After completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Acknowledge the existence and the main elements of AR, and its influence on the Africans and their way of life.
2. Appreciate how the Church has been dealing with AR, with particular reference to Vatican Council II and African Synods.
3. Engage critically with AR, participate actively in the current debate, and identify the avenues open for dialogue.
4. Acknowledge the importance of dialogue with AR for the mission of the Church.

**RA0309. Studies of Islam 2: Contemporary Movements in Islam** **3ECTS**

***General Objective:***

The course will enable the student to understand the official teaching of the Church on interreligious dialogue and the state of the official dialogue between the Catholic Church and Islam since *Nostra Aetate* (Vatican II). Consideration of certain themes including the Caliphate, Jihad and Sharia will lead to the understanding of some contemporary Islamic movements and the challenges they raise. The course will demonstrate the importance of dialogue and give some orientations on Dialogue thus encouraging the student to be involved, and do further research in interreligious dialogue.

***Course Outline:***

1. *Nostra Aetate*: A foundational document for dialogue with Muslims. The progress of official dialogue between the Catholic Church and Muslims.
2. Two documents on dialogue: *Dialogue and Mission* and *Dialogue and Proclamation*. Their relevance for the dialogue with Muslims.
3. Struggling with jihad: the Qur'anic basis; historical examples; the recrudescence of jihad.
4. The attraction of the Caliphate: its origins and early history; its decline; the search for unity in the Islamic world.
5. The call for the application of sharia: the Qur'anic basis; the sources of sharia and its development; present day problems with sharia.
6. Orientations and Challenges: Privileged areas of encounter (including the dialogue of life); Islam and Politics today; Perceptions of Islam among Christians and other non-Muslims.

### ***Learning Outcomes:***

After the completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Appreciate the importance of interreligious dialogue in the mission of the Church. Explain the official teaching of the Church regarding interreligious dialogue and the achievements and obstacles involved in the process of dialogue.
- Appreciate the issues underlying some of the contemporary Islamic movements and the challenges they present to interreligious dialogue.
- Identify the opportunities for interreligious dialogue, take interest in further research and be prepared to be involved in the effort for dialogue.

## **RA0401. Mystery of God**

**5 ECTS**

### ***General Objective:***

The course aims to help the student achieve a firm grasp of the Church's understanding of the Mystery of the Triune God. After exploring the Biblical foundations of the Mystery it will integrate these with key developments in Patristic, Medieval and Contemporary theological thought, particular attention being paid to Magisterial teaching, both ancient and modern.

While the course aims to ensure that the student is adequately informed on the topic, and competent in its regard, its ultimate objective is to deepen the personal relation with God. It will have achieved its purpose if the student comes to a more lively faith in the Trinitarian Mystery, leading to a life more consciously and deliberately lived out in communion with each of the three Divine Persons. As an apostolic worker, the student will then be able to articulate the Divine Life that is within, communicating it joyfully, and with ease, to others.

### ***Course Outline:***

Survey of the renewed interest in Trinitarian doctrine in recent decades on account of its perceived relevance to issues facing the Church today. Outline of the basic distinction between the Immanent and the Economic Trinity, and consideration of what we mean by the term 'Mystery'.

The Biblical section is foundational, and will be considerable. It will indicate the progressive revelation of God in the Old and the New Testaments. The One God of Israel is revealed as the Father by Jesus Christ, the Co-eternal and Incarnate Son, who carries out His mission in and with the Equally Eternal Spirit.

The development of Trinitarian dogma in the writings of the Fathers and the early Councils, noting complementary developments in the articulation of the Mystery in East and West, and considering the issue of the *Filioque*.

Overviews of Augustine's *De Trinitate* and some of the later medieval authors who wrote on the Trinity, for instance Richard of St. Victor, Thomas Aquinas, Duns Scotus, and Jan van Ruusbroec. The contribution of some more recent theologians will also be explored, for instance Rahner, von Balthasar, Congar, Galot, Durrwell, LaCugna.

The above will include reflection on the language we use when talking of God, and discussion of different ways of viewing its appropriateness, and limits. The processions, the relations, the mystery of God's self-giving and the communion God has established with man will all be treated. Just as each Divine Person will be considered individually so too will the essence and attributes of God as such. The missiological, ecumenical and inter-religious implications of Trinitarian Theology will be borne in mind throughout, as will the diversity of contemporary contexts.

***Learning Outcomes:***

More than ever before, God will become a living reality in the life of the student. He or she will have gained a deeper awareness of God's Absolute Oneness by entering more consciously and deeply into a lively relation with each of the three Divine Persons. The course should constitute a moment of both intellectual and spiritual growth for the student, who will become more consciously aware of the Divine Life within and around him. That growth should always continue.

**RA0402. Christology and Mariology**

**8 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

This course provides information regarding Jesus Christ in the scriptures, the Fathers of the Church, in the Creed and Councils throughout the history of the Church. The historical development of the place of Mary in relation to Christ is also developed.

***Course Outline:***

General Introduction:

- Christology and Scripture, diverse yet complementary Christological emphases in the NT.
- The development of Christology in the Fathers, the Creeds and the Councils;
- Ontological Christology;
- Medieval Christology and the Reformation: developments in the soteriological aspects of Christology;
- Christological reflection from the Enlightenment to Vatican II, and beyond;
- Contemporary issues, including the consciousness of Jesus and Christology in the context of diverse cultures, religions and situations;

- Mariology: its development in the history of the Church, in relation to Christology and to the rest of Christian doctrine;
- Mariology in Vatican II, in subsequent magisterial texts and in today's ecumenical context.

***Learning Outcomes:***

Students will be able to:

- Articulate an understanding of the mystery of Christ, in a capacity to articulate that mystery accurately and in an ability to communicate it with confidence and enthusiasm to others.
- Express how to situate the Church's Marian teachings in their proper context, placing them accurately within the hierarchy of truths, while still fully appreciating the unique role of Mary in salvation history and in the life and devotion of the faithful.

**RA0403. Theological Anthropology 1**

**5 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

The student will gain a deeper understanding of what it means to be a human being, in light of their own and all of humanity's relation to God. This will include our own and God's relation to the whole cosmos and, in particular, to the world in which we live.

***Course Outline:***

- The creation of man and the universe: *creatio ex nihilo*; sexual differentiation; Original justice, the Fall and humanity's ongoing history;
- Theology and anthropology of Genesis 1 and 2 and other biblical texts: man in relation to the cosmos, the animals, the angels and God; man as a relational, inter-personal being, whose 'pre-destiny' is Christ;
- Man the image of God (in Scripture and in Augustine), and Christ the centre of all;

- The theology of original sin in relation to the theology of creation; Creation-centered and Redemption-centered views of the Incarnation (Aquinas, Scotus et al.);
- Creation and evolution, Christian anthropology and modern science;
- John Paul II's "Theology of the Body."

***Learning Outcomes:***

The students will grow personally in their understanding of the relation of every individual person and of all humanity to God, in accordance with the Church's teaching. Besides encouraging them to deepen their own humanity, this will help them to engage more generously and effectively in their future ministries and commitments. That God is the Lover of Humanity will inspire them to live their lives for the benefit of others, both those who belong to the household of the faith and those who do not.

**RA0404. Theological Anthropology 2**

**5 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

The student will gain a deeper understanding of what it means to be a human being, in light of their own and all of humanity's relation to God. This will include our own and God's relation to the whole cosmos and, in particular, to the world in which we live.

***Course Outline:***

- Biblical texts for the theology of grace and redemption;
- Paul's letter to the Romans as a text of theological anthropology;
- A further look at the theology of original sin (its New Testament roots, its development in Augustine during the Pelagian controversy, its ongoing effect on the Western tradition);



- The theology of grace from Augustine to Aquinas; Various ways of describing or classifying grace; justification in Paul, in the Reformers, in Trent and in the context of today's ecumenical accords; grace, free will and predestination, from the Reformation to our day; faith, grace and works; nature, culture and grace; the operation of grace within and beyond the Church;
- The anthropological vision of Vatican II in reference to the contemporary world, and in the light of the Church's tradition.

***Learning Outcomes:***

The students will grow personally in their understanding of the relation of every individual person and of all humanity to God, in accordance with the Church's teaching. Besides encouraging them to deepen their own humanity, this will help them to engage more generously and effectively in their future ministries and commitments. That God is the Lover of Humanity will inspire them to live their lives for the benefit of others, both those who belong to the household of the faith and those who do not.

**RA0501. Ecclesiology**

**6 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

The course is designed to help students understand the doctrine and theology of the Church. The students will be presented with the self-understanding of the Church as originating from the Old Testament, foundational in Christ Jesus and continuing in the apostles and their successors. There will be focus on conciliar and papal documents which brings out the tension between the universal and local church and the why of the multiplicity of Churches.

***Course Outline:***

The eternal saving plan of God includes the formation of the church. Symbolism of the Church in the OT: preparation, figures, and

institutions. The Church in NT: words and deeds of Christ, the disciples and the apostles, Peter the rock; the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, words and deeds of the Apostles; the teaching of St Paul; the remnant writings of the NT. The main marks of the Church: unity (subsistence, wounds); holiness (sources, signs, just and sinners in the Church); catholicity (universality and particularity, missionary); apostolicity (succession, Petrine office, papal office). The people of God (laity, and the threefold ministry). The Ecumenical Dialogue on the Church. The Church as sacrament of salvation, relation to non-Christians. The Church and the World. The eschatological dimension of the Church.

### ***Learning Outcomes:***

By the end of the course, students are expected to:

1. Appreciate the need to develop a theology of the church.
2. Able to differentiate Ecclesiology from other related courses, such as Patrology and Church History.
3. Understand the distinctive marks of the Church as One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic.
4. Be capable of presenting the biblical foundation of the Church.
5. Appreciate the sense of Church as complementary of divine and human elements.
6. Develop skills for the process of Ecumenism, as appreciation of diversity and pluralism in Ecclesiology.

## **RA0502. Ecumenism**

**3 ECTS**

### ***General Objective:***

The commitment of the whole Church to ecumenism, as consistently set out in magisterial documents from Vatican II onwards, is irrevocable: the purpose of the course is to help each student to enter wholeheartedly into that commitment, making it his own. On the one hand, necessary and accurate knowledge will be imparted, so that the student learns to be at ease with ecumenism, discovering what it is, why it matters and

how to engage in it. On the other hand, the course also operates on a spiritual level, aiming to foster in the student the interior attitudes which are required for fruitful ecumenical activity, and which the Church expects of its future priests and pastoral agents. This will sometimes involve a change of heart, as the ecumenical imperative takes root and initial hesitations are overcome, and it will always require personal growth.

### ***Course Outline:***

#### **Introductory Section**

1. The meaning of ecumenism: the Church's irrevocable commitment to pray and work for Christian unity. Principles of ecumenical dialogue, and the attitudes required. The central importance of spiritual ecumenism.
2. An overview of the theological foundations for this commitment to Christian unity, with emphasis on such aspects as Christ's High-Priestly Prayer and our common baptism.
3. Diverse approaches to ecumenism: the dialogue of life, social ecumenism, common action and local initiatives, taking a positive pastoral approach to inter-church marriages etc.

#### **Historical Section**

4. The History of Division among Christians from the early centuries to the present day, indicating ways in which non-theological factors often affected theological issues.
5. Historical attempts at reunion, and the beginnings and growth of the modern ecumenical movement. Protestant and Orthodox initiatives and the Catholic Church's engagement.
6. The role of early pioneers and the emergence of ecumenical institutions: the WCC, National and Local Councils of Churches, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity etc. Emergence of ecumenical communities like Taizé, the Iona Community, the 'Groupe des Dombes', 'CheminNeuf' etc.

## Contemporary Ecumenism

Analysis of major Catholic documents on ecumenism: *Unitatis Redintegratio*, the Directory on Ecumenism, *Ut Unum Sint* etc. The role of the PCPCU in fostering Catholic ecumenism.

7. Bilateral Ecumenical Dialogues in which the Catholic Church is officially engaged: some examples, introduction to texts and themes, discussion of methodology.
8. Multilateral Dialogues. Two key texts: BEM and 'The Church: towards a Common Vision'.
9. Ecumenical education for the Church's pastoral agents, and for the laity, so as to foster authentic ecumenical attitudes among all the faithful at the local level. The urgent need to develop appropriate tools for this, and the primordial importance of spiritual ecumenism.
10. Ecumenical education for the Church's pastoral agents, and for the laity, so as to foster authentic ecumenical attitudes among all the faithful at the local level. The urgent need to develop appropriate tools for this, and the primordial importance of spiritual ecumenism.

### *Learning Outcomes:*

After this course the student will have grown in his knowledge of and commitment to ecumenism, as understood and practiced in the Catholic Church. It is hoped that he will be able to explain and communicate this commitment convincingly and effectively to others, in a balanced and correct manner, and that he will indeed desire to do so. The course will have equipped him to become an active participant in and promoter of ecumenism, in accordance with Catholic principles. He will therefore be able to encourage others to become likewise involved, in ways appropriate to their circumstances. Insofar as further growth on the part of the student will still be required if the ecumenical seed that has been sown in him is to bear fruit, he will at least have acquired the right basis - and appropriate tools - from which to cultivate his interest in this vital aspect of the Church's life.

***General Objective:***

Upon completion of this course, students will have acquired a good knowledge of the Christian everlasting Hope in all its aspects, i.e. the so called “four last things”: death and resurrection, judgment, hell, heaven. They will be capable of a biblical and theological view of these truths in order to meditate upon them first in their own life and then to propose them in academic, pastoral and liturgical contexts as an on-going horizon of the Christian existence.

This objective will be met by means of the following learning activities:

1. Attendance at lessons.
2. Expositions by the teacher.
3. Interaction of the students, principally by reading and analysing the biblical references.
4. Reading some suggested bibliographical references.

***Course Outline:***

1. The current state of the Catholic Eschatology: exegetical data and theological problems.
2. A Christian vision of death: historical roots of the question, biblical thought (OT and NT), ethos of death, the particular judgment.
3. The immortality of the soul: biblical data, Church Magisterium, theological developments.
4. The return of Christ and the Last Judgment: signs of Christ’s return, the risen body, the Last Judgment: biblical data, Church’s teaching, and ecumenical stance.
5. Hell: biblical data, tradition, theological reflections, pastoral dimensions.
6. Purgatory: biblical foundations, catholic tradition, ecumenical stances, pastoral dimensions.

7. Heaven/Paradise: bible, tradition, theological reflection, pastoral dimensions.

***Learning Outcomes:***

Upon completion of this course, *students will have acquired a good knowledge of the Christian everlasting Hope* in all its aspects, i.e. the so called “four last things”: death and resurrection, judgment, hell, heaven. They will be capable of a biblical and theological view of these truths, in order to meditate upon them first in their own life and then to propose them in academic, pastoral and liturgical contexts, as an ongoing horizon of the Christian existence.

**RA0504. Sacraments I**

**6 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

A study of the Sacraments in general and the three Initiation Sacraments in particular.

***Course Outline:***

- 1: Common Elements to all the Sacraments.
- 2: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist: biblical data; history of the practice; magisterial teaching; theological reflection; *Praenotanda* of the post-Conciliar Rituals; systematic vision.
- 3: Eucharist: biblical data; history of the praxis; magisterial teaching; theological reflection; the post-Conciliar *Ordo Missae*; systematic vision.

***Learning Outcomes:***

- The students, following the genetic-progressive methodology, will be qualified to understand the “sacraments-of-faith” from the biblical and dogmatic perspectives
- They will acquire a clearer awareness of the interplay between speculative study, spiritual life and pastoral ministry.

## **RA0505. Sacraments 2**

6 ECTS

### ***General Objective:***

A study of each Sacrament, moving from a Catechetical approach to a Dogmatic Systematic reflection.

### ***Course Outline:***

- a) Sacraments: each of the four Sacraments will be studied from these complementary points of view: biblical data; history of the praxis; magisterial teaching; theological reflection, the post-Conciliar *Ordines*; systematic vision.
- b) Ministries: Institution of Lectors and Acolytes [very short presentation].

### ***Learning Outcomes:***

The students, following the genetic-progressive methodology, will be qualified to understand the “sacraments-of-faith” from the biblical and dogmatic point of view - They will acquire a clearer awareness of the interplay between speculative study, spiritual life and pastoral ministry.

## **RA0506. Specialized Topics in Ecumenism (for M.Afr.)**

5 ECTS

### ***General Objective:***

The student will learn how to research a specific ecumenical topic, and/or engage with a community or individuals belonging to another Christian tradition, in a way that accords with the directives of the Catholic Church. Besides arriving at a deeper knowledge of his or her chosen topic, the student will see how the Church’s commitment to ecumenism actually operates in practice, in a given instance.

### ***Course Outline:***

This course gives the student a chance to deepen his personal interest in a specific aspect of the Church’s commitment to and engagement

with ecumenism. Each student will be able to choose a topic that is of particular interest to him personally, under the guidance of a qualified personal tutor. He will normally

- a) pick a particular main-line Protestant, Orthodox or Oriental (pre-Chalcedonian) church or denomination, which he will then study both in itself and in its ecumenical relations to the Catholic and/or to other churches or ecclesial communities. Alternatively, with the accord of his tutor, he may
- b) choose a specific theme to analyse in greater depth (for instance baptism, or justification or ministry ... there are many possibilities). He will have to be well versed in the Catholic understanding of his chosen topic, after which he will then proceed to study his theme from the angle of the way it has been treated in a variety of official ecumenical texts.

Besides the study of relevant documents, however, every student will also be required to do some field work. In the first case

- a) this will require him to make sustained personal contact with an actual community of the denomination he has chosen to study. Jerusalem offers plenty of opportunities for this. In the second case
- b) the student will have to visit various communities in order to understand better their concrete practice of, and belief concerning, the specific topic he has chosen.

Each student will be expected to produce a substantial paper of at least ten pages outlining the results of his research. Towards the end of the semester, he will present this paper orally to the other students, who will be able to question him about it.

The students will also meet at various moments throughout the course in order to explain the topics they have chosen, indicating to each other – and to their tutors - the progress and/or obstacles they are meeting in the course of their research.



As they collect and analyse their material, the students will learn to 'do ecumenism' not just theoretically but concretely, by entering into actual relation with Christians of another, or several other denominations.

***Learning Outcomes:***

The course concentrates on 'learning by doing', so that by actually 'doing' some ecumenism the students will acquire a real taste for it. They will grow in their ability to undertake ecumenical research, and become more confident about engaging with other Christians. Undertaking one specific ecumenical task, and/or researching one ecumenical topic, will make them better equipped to research and undertake other such tasks and topics in the future.

**RA0601. Fundamental Moral Theology**

**6 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

The course aims to introduce students of theology to the foundations, concepts and methods of Catholic moral theology so as to equip them to critically involve themselves in discussions of moral issues and to keep growing in their aspiration for truth and goodness in the warm light of the gospel.

***Course Outline:***

The Nature of Moral Theology and the Task of the Moralist. The Context of Contemporary Moral Theology. The Bible and Christian Ethics - Jesus and Discipleship. Faith and Morality. The Human Person: Freedom and Knowledge. Sin and Reconciliation. Conscience and its Formation. The Church and Moral Life. The Law and Morality. The Morality of Human Action. Contemporary Moral Theories. Moral Decision Making and Pastoral-Moral Guidance.

***Learning Outcomes:***

By the end of the Class the students are expected to:

- Recall and outline the history of the development of the discipline of moral theology;
- Describe the nature of moral theology and identify the sources of Catholic moral theology (scripture and tradition);
- Present a coherent understanding of sin and reconciliation;
- Explain the role of conscience and its formation;
- Analyse human action and the essential conditions for evaluating moral action;
- Summarize the latest magisterial teaching on the foundations of catholic moral theology;
- Recognize and apply foundational principles and criteria for judgment used in moral discernment

**RA0602. Bioethics**

**5 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

The course will examine significant issues in the area of medical and health care ethics. After establishing the governing principles based on an adequate understanding of the human person, it will apply these to bioethical areas such as human reproduction and genetics, the human embryo and to health care and end-of-life issues.

***Course Outline:***

- **Human Person** - Fundamental Principles of Bioethics;
- **Human Reproduction:** Human Sexuality, Natural Reproduction, Assisted Reproduction, Natural Regulation of Birth and Artificial Contraception, Sterilization;
- **Human Genetics:** Human Genome, Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering, Human Cloning and Stem-cell research;

- **Human Embryo:** Abortion, Prenatal Diagnosis, Interventions on the Human Embryo;
- **End of Life issues:** Euthanasia, Aggressive Medical Treatment, Palliative Care, Brain Death and Organ Transplants.

***Learning Outcomes:***

At the end of the course the students will have adequate knowledge of the Catholic bioethical Magisterium. They will also be able to make a pastoral application of authentic moral principles when facing difficult bioethical issues.

**RA0603. Moral Theology of Virtues**

**3 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

The course aims to facilitate knowledge of the concept of virtue and thereby reinforce the conviction that virtues enable a person to freely practice the good. It aims also to facilitate the knowledge of the complementary role of human virtues and grace through the study of the Cardinal and Theological virtues which form the basis of Christian moral life.

***Course Outline:***

The meaning of virtues; Theological and moral virtues; The virtue of religion at the core of moral life; History of the Christian concept of virtues; Philosophical and Biblical approach to virtues; The Cardinal virtues; Prudence, Justice, Fortitude, and Temperance; The Theological virtues: Faith, Hope, and Charity.

***Learning Outcomes:***

By the end of the course the students are expected to:

- Explain the meaning of virtues in the context of Christian moral life.
- Describe and distinguish the Philosophical and Biblical approaches to virtues.

- Analyse the process and effect of formation of habits.
- Explain the Cardinal virtues and their pervasive influence.
- Delineate the role of the Theological virtues on Christian life.
- Describe the role of virtues in living a good life/moral life.

## **RA0604. Sexual and Family Moral Theology**

**5 ECTS**

### ***General Objective:***

The goal of the course is to understand key issues in sexual and family morality. Starting with the Bible and examining the tradition as it confronted issues in sexuality we arrive at the present teaching of the Church and examine their implications for issues in the pastoral care of the young and families in society today.

### ***Course Outline:***

- Introduction
- Sexuality in the Bible
- Early and Medieval Catholic Teaching on Sexuality
- Catholic Sexual Teaching before Vatican II
- Current challenges to Traditional Sexual Morality
- The Catholic Church's approach to sexuality today
- Chastity and Sexual Ethics
- Ethical issues in marriage and family life
- Sexuality outside marital relationships (Personal Sexual Issues, Premarital Sexuality, Homosexuality, Sexual Perversions)
- Sexual fulfillment through renunciation – Celibate chastity

### ***Learning Outcomes:***

The course will guide the students to understand contemporary issues in sexual and family morality in the light of the Catholic vision of sexuality enabling them to arrive at a pastoral approach that is respectful of persons and in harmony with the teachings of the Catholic.

***General Objective:***

The course aims to introduce students of theology to the foundations, concepts, principles and values of Catholic Social Doctrine so as to equip them to critically evaluate events in contemporary society and to use the rich resources of the Church's social doctrine in their ministry in the world.

***Course Outline:***

God's plan of love for humanity. The Church's Mission and Social Doctrine. History of the Social Doctrine of the Church. Foundational Principles and Values of the Church's Social Doctrine. Social reality: the family, work, economic life, political community, international community, safeguarding the environment. Promotion of peace. Social Doctrine and Pastoral Activity.

***Learning Outcomes:***

By the end of the Class the students are expected to:

- Identify and explain the intrinsic link between God's liberating intervention and the social mission of the Church.
- Recall and outline the history of the development of the social doctrine of the Church.
- Explain in depth the principles of: the dignity of the human person, the common good, subsidiarity, and solidarity.
- Describe the essential values of: truth, freedom, justice and love.
- Critically evaluate the contemporary events (social, economic, political, and ecological) in the light of the foundational principles and values of the Church's social doctrine.
- Identify ways to apply and teach the social doctrine of the Church in their pastoral ministry.

**RA0701. Introduction to Liturgy & Liturgical-Sacramental  
Theology**

**5 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

To introduce students in a systematic and comprehensive way to the basic knowledge of Liturgy in relationship to the history of salvation throughout the centuries and according to the reform of the Second Vatican Council; To familiarize them with contemporary models of perceiving the ritual life of Christian worship as a commemoration, celebration and life of the Paschal Mystery; To lead the students to the understanding of the liturgy as a sacramental experience of God's saving events accomplished in Christ and now effective in the Church today; To enable students deepen a personal and communitarian liturgical spirituality that enables them to properly live out and animate liturgical celebrations within their own religious communities and parishes.

***Course Outline:***

Etymology and derivation of the term 'Liturgy'; Liturgy in the ancient, Old and New Testament world; Practice of Liturgy in the Apostolic Church; Development of Liturgy from the early Church to Modern times; Pre-Vatican II developments; Liturgical Movement; Liturgical Vision of Vatican II; *Sacrosanctum Concilium*; Liturgical Books; Various elements of Liturgy; *Lex Orandi Lex Credendi*, Encounter with God; Rite: Purpose and Value; *Mysterion – Sacramentum*; Liturgical Signs, Symbols and Laws; Liturgical Inculturation; Theology of Liturgy; *Ars Celebrandi*.

***Learning Outcomes:***

At the end of the lessons the students will be able to:

- Understand Liturgy as a '*locus theologicus*';
- Understand the basic historical development of Liturgy;
- Explain the role of liturgy in the context of Salvation History and the Reforms of Vatican II;

- Acquire familiarity with the skills required to animate liturgical celebrations;
- Explain the meaning of signs, symbols and ritual used in Catholic Liturgical and Sacramental domain.

**RA0702. Liturgical Year – Liturgy of the Hours – Liturgical Music** **5 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

The students will be led to a deeper awareness and experience of the Mystery of Christ as it unfolds through the liturgical seasons and the celebration of the liturgy of the Hours with the help of Liturgical Music.

***Specific Goals:***

1. To cover all the components of a basic undergraduate course of theology in the Catholic tradition
2. To help the student to understand and develop a deep awareness of God's saving events accomplished in Christ and now effective in the Church as they unfold through the liturgical seasons and the Celebration of the Liturgy of the Hours.
3. To equip the student with the necessary tools needed in living and celebrating liturgy as an essential area of Church's life.
4. To enable students to celebrate the liturgical year and the liturgy of the hours with the help of liturgical music.

***Course Outline:***

- The Meaning, Origin and Significance of *the Liturgical Year*; The Celebration of the Paschal Mystery as the Heart of the Liturgical Year; Christ as acting in History, Time and Space; The Past, Present and Future Dimensions of the Paschal Mystery; The Universal Liturgical Year and other Liturgical Calendars; The Structure of Liturgical Year: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter and Ordinary

Time; The Centrality of the Easter Celebration in the Liturgical Year.

- ***The Liturgy of the Hours:*** Theology of the Liturgy of the Hours, Forms of the Liturgy of the Hours, The Structure of the Liturgy of the Hours, Various Liturgical Gestures. Rhythms and times of prayer in the Scriptures. Christ as the model of prayer. Reform of the Vat II. Spirituality of the Liturgy of the Hours.
- ***Liturgical Music:*** anthropological foundation, brief history, evaluation of musical forms and styles, principles and criteria governing music ministries according to current liturgical books, the Magisterium, and recent liturgical musicology.

***Learning Outcomes:***

After completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Comprehend the theological and spiritual substance of the liturgical year against the background of its historical development.
- Acquire knowledge and understanding of the Liturgical Year and how the Paschal Mystery is made present in different seasons within the Liturgical Year.
- Understand how the Celebration of the Paschal Mystery is related to Cosmic Time and Space, hence the liturgy of the hours.
- Learn to appreciate the celebration of Liturgy and Sacraments within designated time and seasons as central to the Church's life and Mission.
- To enjoy the liturgical year and the liturgy of the hours with the aid of liturgical music.



***General Objective***

*For Liturgical Ministry:* This first part of the entire course aims at bringing the students to a qualified *celebration of the sacred mysteries and Christian rites*, by combining *sacramental principles and liturgical practice*. In view of their future pastoral work as Church leaders and spiritual educators, this course wishes to help them to perform a celebration not merely as prescribed rituals, but as actions that *illuminate fundamental relationships among human persons and between them and God*. The general concern is then to *enhance the quality of the liturgical celebrations*.

*For Homiletics:* With the *objective* of training the participants to *write, personalize and deliver effective homilies*, this second part of the course, besides some theoretical inputs, basically focuses on PRACTICUM, bearing in mind the various contexts in which the homily is delivered.

***Course Outline:***

*For Liturgical Ministry:* Preparation and celebration of Sacraments and Sacramentals, with a particular focus on the role of the Minister, especially in the context of Baptism, Eucharist, Marriage, Funeral Rites, Liturgy of the Hours, Adoration and Blessings; Principles, Practice and Spirituality of Liturgical Ministers: Lay, Ministries, Orders especially the Diaconate Order.

*For Homiletics:* Meaning and Understanding of Homily; Obstacles in Preaching; Guidelines for preaching during Tragedy; Homilies on Ordinary days, Solemnities and Saints' Days; Review of the new Homiletic Directory 2014; PRACTICUM and Homily delivery.

***Learning Outcomes:***

After completion of this entire course, the student will be able to:

- Celebrate Christ's Mysteries through the Sacraments and Sacramentals and minister to the faithful in a more practical, natural and effective manner.

- Know, appreciate, preach and live out God's Word with the aid of a biblical worldview, a faith-lived interpretive Christian community experience.
- Broadly, objectively, critically, precisely and clearly understand, personalize or articulate the Word of God from the various theological disciplines: biblical, historical, liturgical, anthropological, pastoral and cultural, with details and frameworks that consider the nature and context of the assembly.
- Deepen one's communication skills (through listening, speaking, writing, media, and other means) so as to offer a lively, effective and appropriate measure of the Word of God to the flock entrusted to him as a shepherd, as well as engaging the Church with the world.

## **RA0801. Patrology I: Ante-Nicene Fathers**

**3 ECTS**

### ***General Objective:***

Introduce students to the literature of the Fathers of the Church and Early Christian Writers from the first century to the council of Nicea, presenting them with a broad overview within their specific contexts.

### ***Course Outline:***

1. Examine these texts in order to understand the issues and challenges of early church leaders.
2. Study different genres of Early Christian literature (letters, sermons, apologies, martyrologies).
3. Consider the different ways that these writers dealt with issues such as biblical interpretation, Church leadership, worship, Christology, the relationship between Christianity and Judaism, and Greek and Roman policies and culture.
4. Texts include the letters of Ignatius and Barnabas, Didache, writings of Justin Martyr, Melito of Sardis, Irenaeus of Lyons and Tertullian.

***Learning Outcomes:***

- Students will be familiar with the ancient texts and how they are used today to give a clearer understanding of issues encountered by the early Church leaders.
- They will be able to identify and state the different approaches used by those writers to explain issues encountered in the early Church.
- They will express familiarity with the content and language of the texts using and explaining the differences of approaches in expressing the problems encountered by early Church Fathers.

**RA0802. Patrology 2: Ante-Nicene Fathers**

**3 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

To introduce the Church Fathers in the period between the Council of Nicaea and the 7<sup>th</sup> century. The aim is to obtain a broad overview of them within their specific contexts (Greek, Egyptian, Syrian and Latin) and to indicate the main features of their teaching. Their significance for the history of theology and the development of dogma will receive special attention. In addition to the usual topics commonly treated in courses on Patrology (Trinity, Christology etc.), we will also consider the Fathers' contribution to the development of the Church's spiritual life (mystical theology, monasticism and liturgical mystagogy). The ultimate aim is to foster a love for the Fathers as spiritual guides and models of theological activity and to encourage students to acquire their "mind", so that theology may be a contemplative encounter with the Lord in his mysteries.

***Course Outline:***

General introduction to patristic literature in the period:

1. The 4<sup>th</sup> century transformations in the Church, the first two Ecumenical Councils and Trinitarian theology/pneumatology.

2. The major figures in the eastern Christological disputes (Athanasius to Maximus the Confessor via Cyril of Alexandria) and the later Councils.
3. Augustine and his various controversies (Donatism and Pelagianism).
4. The monastic movement in Egypt, Syria, Palestine and the west.
5. Patristic liturgical theology.
6. Patristic mystical theology and teaching on prayer.

***Learning Outcomes:***

- Students will, through intensive introductions to figures and themes, engage in detailed discussion of controversial topics (e.g. Augustine on predestination).
- They will read excerpts from patristic literature in class and discuss them together.
- They will show how the teaching of the Fathers entered the mainstream of Christian theology and assisted the definition of orthodoxy.
- They will reference their inclusions in the Church's Liturgy of the Hours, so as to encourage a more fruitful praying of the Breviary.

**RA0803. Church History I: Early Period**

**3 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

This course is a study of the Church foundation from 6 BC until 694 AD. Within this period the course will deal with the rise of Christianity and the foundation of the primitive Church, the Imperial Church (between the years 313-395 AD) and later. The course will deal with the scattered of the Church after 395 until 694. The course will focus on the main events and the main personalities that affected the religious, cultural and political life of the Mediterranean of the Greco-Roman world.

### ***Course Outline:***

1. To highlight the birth of the Church in the pagan empire: Constantine's policies and his attitude towards Christianity between the years 313-337 AD; The organization and the expansion of the Imperial Church; The impact of the ecumenical councils on the Christian faith; The "golden age" in the 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> century of the patristic learning; The rise of Constantinople and the Christological controversies.
2. The Church under the imperial rule and the scattered religious institutions between the years 395-488 AD. The condition and the organization of the Eastern Church, the rise of Constantinople and the Christological controversies.
3. The course will also treat the state of Empire and Church, controversies and the main intellectual personalities during the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> until the end of the 7<sup>th</sup> centuries AD. The Papacy and the age of western monasticism and their influence on the history of the Church.

### ***Learning Outcomes:***

Students will be able:

- to acquire knowledge about the historical context of Christianity from the birth of the Church and the encounter with the Jewish religion and paganism.
- to understand the currents of thought that challenged the faith and unity of the Church.
- to know, by the end of this course, the structure of the Church and the different doctrines which developed during the history of Christianity.
- to understand the different traditions and to evaluate the developing eastern and western Church.
- to know the role of the main personalities of the Church during this period (6BC-694 AD) and the intellectual dialogue with paganism.

- to write a scientific essay and improve their research skills
- to improve their presentation skills during the course so as to summarise one chapter of the course within fifteen minutes.
- to deal with different historical resources concerning the history of the Church in order to create critical thinking of these resources.

## **RA0804. Church History 2: Medieval Period**

**5 ECTS**

### ***General Objective:***

The students will study the crisis that faced the Church in Europe during the end of the 7<sup>th</sup> century until the mid-8<sup>th</sup> century (692-750), such as the barbarian kingdoms in different places in Europe. We will evaluate this situation in comparison with the Church in the eastern Empire. Then, the “Dark ages” and the birth of the new situation of the history life of the Church. We will treat, also, three main issues: Iconoclast controversies, the missionary activity of the byzantine Church and the separation of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Church.

In this semester we will focus our study on the role of the Church in the western society from the end of the 11<sup>th</sup> century until the end of the 12<sup>th</sup> century.

The course will analyse the situation of the Church after 1153-1294. Here the following issues will be discussed: The Papacy and the life of Christendom during the middle of the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> century, the Byzantine Church and the crises in the epoch of the Crusades.

Finally the course will shed light on the life of the Church and its rule in western society during the 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> century. Also the fall of Byzantium and the effect on the Church will be discussed.

### ***Course Outline:***

Besides getting to know the facts, personalities of this eventful period, students will discover the successes and shortcomings of the evangelization of Europe, evaluate the different movements of reform in the Latin Church, appraise the achievements of the 13<sup>th</sup> century, analyse from different points of view the impact of the Crusades, explain the different development of the Eastern Churches, explain the different forces at work in the 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> centuries. They will be able to value the long term movements within the life of the Churches.

### ***Learning Outcomes:***

The students will be able:

- to acquire knowledge about the historical context and the main events, personalities of the Christianity from the end of the 7<sup>th</sup> century until the 15<sup>th</sup> century as a following.
- to know the continuity and the changes of the Christian thoughts in the western and eastern Church.
- to collect knowledge about the Church during the Charlemagne era in Europe and the relationship with the Church of Constantinople during this period.
- to acquire knowledge of the Church during the crusader's period in Europe and in East.
- to realise the situation of the Church and the effects of the fall of Constantinople on Christianity.
- to write a scientific essay and to improve their research skills.
- to improve their presentation skills during the course, so as to summarise one chapter of the required course within fifteen minutes.
- to deal with different historical resources concerning the history of the Church in order to create critical thinking of these resources.

***General Objective:***

This course is designed to help the students to acquire a basic knowledge of the facts, events and personalities in Church History from 1453 through the late 1789. Within this period the course is going to deal with: Luther's Reformation, John Calvin, the Catholic Reformation, the elements of the Catholic Reform, the Reformed Catholicism and also the situation in the other Churches. The Students will discover a new Europe with the triumph of civil absolutism and the growing revolt against spiritual authority.

**Course Outline:****I. *Reformation and Confessionalism (1453-1563)***

The breaking in of diversity. Historical context. Renaissance and Humanism. Luther's reformation. The Lutheran churches. John Calvin and Calvinism. The reformation in England. The Catholic reformation. The council of Trent. Conclusion.

**II. *The post-reformation (1563-1648)***

Elements of Catholicreform. Elements of counter-reformation. What kind of reformed Catholicism? The other Churches.

**III. *Divided and contested Christianity (1648 – 1789)***

Introduction: a new Europe of a divided and contested Christianity. The triumph of civil absolutism. Growing revolt against spiritual authority. Christian life in a mundane Church. The other Churches.

General conclusion: Evaluation of the period *1453-1789*.

***Learning Outcomes:***

- Students will be able to identify and evaluate elements carried by popular memory and appreciate the positive and negative developments within the different confessions.



- They will appraise the complex development of the relations between Church and States and examine the origins of long term movements of ideas and practices still present in today's world and Church.
- They will evaluate the advances and setbacks of the evangelisation movement during these centuries.

## **RA0806. Church History 4: Contemporary Period 5 ECTS**

### *General Objective:*

This course is designed to assist Students, through the studies of several themes, to acquire a worthy knowledge of the evolution of the past two hundred years of Church History.

### *Course Outline:*

- I. *Birth of a New Age. Church and State Relationships*
  - a. Political evolution and its effects: *1789-1914*. Age of revolutions (1789-1801), the divorce; Napoleonic Empire (1801-1815), enforced marriage; Restoration (1815-1848) Is good-old-time marriage still possible?  
  
Pius IX and the European States (1848-1878), the Church forced into freedom; Struggle of the Church (1878-1914) Is separation 'the' solution?  
  
The "Roman Question": from temporal power to spiritual freedom. Separatism, a solution to Church and State relationships?
  - b. Political evolution, its effects: *1914-Present Day*. Papacy, a 'voice in the desert' (1914-1939); The Church, 'Leaven in the dough?' (1939-today).
- II. *The Church in New Relations with Society*. The Social Question
- III. *Church and the Modern World*: The Syllabus; Modernism

*Gaudium et Spes*

- IV. *The Life of the Church in the World*. Vatican I. The Missions: From foreign missions to Local Churches: Mission and Colonialism; Birth of the ‘Third Church’. Rebirth in England. Church and Churches: The Ecumenical movement
- V. *A Renewed Church in and for the World*. Vatican II. The “changing” reality of the Church: Laity; Clergy. Some “structural” changes: Curia; Canon Law; New forms of presence
- VI. Conclusion: Evaluation of the period 1789-2014

***Learning Outcomes:***

- Students will gain a good sense of the challenges the Church had to face during this period.
- They will identify the different elements of the new awareness the Church acquired about her mission: *One Church, in and for the world*.
- They will discover the origins and development of several questions still very much part of today’s Church.
- They will better evaluate the role of Vatican II and its continuing enlightening role in the life of the Church.

**RA0901. Canon Law I: Introduction**

**3 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

To acquire a basic and synthetic general knowledge about origin and development of Canon Law from the Early Church until the current codifications: Codex Iuris Canonici of 1983 (CIC – CCL) and Codex Canonum Ecclesiarum Orientalium of 1990 (CCEO). The systematic study of Book I of CIC will introduce in the canonical basics of the Church.

***Course Outline:***

- 1) General introduction: Categories and Theology of Canon Law
- 2) History and development of Canon Law
- 3) Structure of the two current codifications of Canon Law
- 4) General norms of Book I CIC (in comparison with CCEO)

***Learning Outcomes:***

- Students will be able to recognize and distinguish the common grounds and the differences of theology and (canon) law.
- Students will be able to identify the different periods of history of Canon Law.
- Students will be able to use their comprehension of the basics and general norms of the current Code of Canon Law in order to interpret special cases.
- Students will be able to categorize the different publications, declarations and statements of the universal and particular Church and of their offices.
- This objective will be fulfilled by: attendance and active participation in the class; personal reading of the canons of CIC and CCEO and related documents; personal reading especially of the indicated bibliography; related class activities and case studies will be indicated from time to time.

**RA0902. Canon Law 2: Book II -The People of God 3 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

To acquire a comprehensive knowledge of the canonical norms that governs various bodies of the people of God in the Church (CIC – CCL, Book II; related canons of CCEO).

***Course Outline:***

- 1) General introduction: history and structure of CIC – Book II.

- 2) The Christian faithful: obligations and rights of all faithful; obligations and rights of the lay faithful; sacred ministers or clerics; formation of clerics; enrolment of clerics or incardination; obligations and rights of clerics; loss of clerical state; personal prelatures; associations of Christian faithful; public association of the faithful; common norms; public and private associations; special norms for lay associations.
- 3) The hierarchical constitution of the Church: supreme authority of the Church: Roman Pontiff and College of Bishops, Synod of Bishops, Cardinals, Roman Curia, Papal Legates; particular Churches, their structure, groupings and internal ordering.
- 4) The Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life: common norms; the religious; the secular institutes; the societies of apostolic life; departures – a summary of processes.

***Learning Outcomes:***

- Students will be able to identify and distinguish the structures and institutions in the Church: the Christian Faithful, the hierarchical structure and organization, the Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life.
- Students will be able to use their comprehension of the structures, offices and ministries in the Church in order to apply it to practical cases in practical cases of the universal and the particular Church structure.
- Students will be capable of employing the knowledge acquired in this course in order to prepare and animate a presentation or further education in a parish or other pastoral contexts.
- This objective will be fulfilled by: attendance and active participation in the class; personal reading of the canons of CIC and CCEO and related documents; personal reading especially of the indicated bibliography; related class activities and case studies will be indicated from time to time.

Completely revised description, incorporating Canon Law 4

***General Objective:***

To acquire a basic knowledge of the canonical norms and practice on the Teaching Office of the Church, the Sanctifying Office, the Temporal Goods of the Church, Sanctions and Processes in the Church as it is presented in the Code of Canon Law for the Latin Church (CIC – CCL) with a view to the Eastern Churches (CCEO).

***Course Outline:***

- 1) Teaching Office of the Church (Book III): ministry of the Divine Word, missionary activity of the Church, Catholic education, means of social communication, profession of faith.
- 2) Sanctifying Office of the Church (Book IV): sacraments, other acts of Divine Worship, sacred places and times.
- 3) Temporal Goods of the Church (Book V): acquisition and administration of goods, contracts, alienation, pious dispositions and foundations.
- 4) Sanctions in the Church (Book VI) with overview on the following chapters: offences and punishments in general, penalties for particular offence.
- 5) Processes in the Church (Book VII) with overview on the following chapters: trials in general, the contentious trial, certain special processes, the penal process, the manner of procedure in administrative recourse and in the removal or transfer of parish priests.

***Learning Outcomes:***

At the end of the course the students will be able

- to know the structure and order of Books III – VII of the Code of Canon Law and the comparable norms of the Eastern Catholic Churches,

- to apply the canonical norms of the Teaching and Sanctifying Office of the Church in their prospective practicing in the service of the Church,
- to know the general and special norms of the administrative and judicial services of the Church.
- The objective will be fulfilled by: attendance and active participation in the class; personal reading of sources of the doctrine of the Church and of the norms of Canon Law, exercising with case studies; related class activities will be indicated from time to time.

## **RA0904. CANON LAW 4: Matrimony**

### ***General Objective:***

To acquire a basic knowledge of the theological doctrine and canonical praxis about marriage (CIC/1983, Book IV: sacraments – sacrament of marriage; Book VII: processes; related canons in CCEO/1990).

### ***Course Outline:***

- 1) Marriage Law in the history of the Church
- 2) Sacrament of marriage in Canon Law: pastoral care before marriage; impediments and their dispensation; form of marriage; interritual celebrations of marriage: mixed marriage and secret marriage; matrimonial consent; effects of marriage
- 3) Dissolution of marriage; privilege of faith
- 4) Convalidation: simple convalidation, sanatio in radice
- 5) Annulments an procedural law

### ***Learning Outcomes:***

- Students will be able to define and explain the history, the theological doctrines and the juridical norms of matrimony in the Church.

- Students will be able to interpret basic ecclesiastical doctrine and norms of matrimony and apply them in pastoral service for spouses in parishes.
- Students will be able to distinguish between different cases of catholic spouses, mixed marriages and interritual marriage and to deal with the canonical consequences for a valid marriage in Church.
- Students will be able to recognize impediments, lacks of form and lacks of consent in different cases.
- Students will be able to identify the pre-conditions for annulment cases.
- This objective will be fulfilled by: attendance and active participation in the class; case studies and personal reading especially of the indicated bibliography; related class activities will be indicated from time to time.

### **RA0905. Canon Law 3: Books III-VII**

**5 ECTS**

#### ***General Objective:***

To acquire a basic knowledge of the canonical norms and practice on the Teaching Office of the Church (Book III), the Sanctifying Office (Book IV), the Temporal Goods of the Church (Book V), the Sanctions (Book VI) and Processes in the Church (Book VII) as it is presented in the Code of Canon Law for the Latin Church (CIC – CCL) with a view to the Eastern Churches (CCEO).

#### ***Course Outline:***

- 1) Teaching Office of the Church (Book III): ministry of the Divine Word, missionary activity of the Church, Catholic education, means of social communication, profession of faith.
- 2) Sanctifying Office of the Church (Book IV): sacraments, other acts of Divine Worship, sacred places and times.

- 3) Temporal Goods of the Church (Book V): acquisition and administration of goods, contracts, alienation, pious dispositions and foundations.
- 4) Sanctions in the Church (Book VI) with overview on the following chapters: offences and punishments in general, penalties for particular offence.
- 5) Processes in the Church (Book VII) with overview on the following chapters: trials in general, the contentious trial, certain special processes, the penal process, the manner of procedure in administrative recourse and in the removal or transfer of parish priests.

***Learning Outcomes:***

- Students will be able to recognize and distinguish the different sections and matters of the teaching and sanctifying office in the Church. They will be able to recognize the necessity of processes and sanctions in the Church.
- Students will be able to identify pastoral cases and problems of those pastoral services of the Church.
- Students will be able to engage in their current and future pastoral ministry guided by the dispositions and the spirit of the Codes.
- This objective will be fulfilled by: attendance and active participation in the class; personal reading of the canons of CIC and CCEO and related documents; personal reading especially of the indicated bibliography; related class activities and case studies will be indicated from time to time.



***General Objective:***

The course aims to help the students to combine theology and spirituality, Christian doctrine and practice, contemplation and action. In this framework the course offers the doctrinal foundations and the progressive stages of growing in Christian life towards perfection. Given that Christian life consists essentially in loving God, ourselves and the neighbour, the present course plans to help to analyse the tenets of this goal and to strive for it. The real purpose of the study of the spiritual life is not to produce scholars but to form holy Christians. As the majority of the students are called to be Christian leaders, shepherds and spiritual guides, they must know the ways of God and the ways of men, to lead them to the stature of Christ.

This objective will be met by means of the following learning activities:

- Attendance at lessons.
- Expositions by the professor and an interaction of the students.
- Reading at least one classic spiritual Christian masterpiece.

***Course Outline:***

Nature and Scope of Spiritual Theology: Terminology, Method, Sources, Types, Schools

Spirituality, Bible and Theology: biblical images and Christian spirituality - theological foundations of spirituality.

The Goal of Our Striving: The Glory of God, Salvation, Sanctification.

Our Life in the Trinity: the Father, Christ, the Spirit: The Father, goal of all the creatures – Christ the Way, the Truth, the Life – the Holy Spirit Sanctifier.

The Supernatural Organism: Grace (Sanctifying, actual, effects), Indwelling of the Trinity, Infused Virtues, Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit, Beatitudes.

Perfection of the Christian Life: The Nature of Christian Perfection, The Mystical State.

Growth in holiness: Conversion from Sin, means of Spiritual Growth (The Sacraments, Meritorious Good Works, and Prayer of Petition).

The Theological Virtues (Faith, Hope, Charity) and the Moral Virtues (Prudence, Counsel, Justice, Piety, Temperance, Fear, Fortitude).

Vocal Prayer, Meditation, *Lectio Divina*, Affective Prayer, Prayer of Simplicity, Contemplative Prayer, Prayer of Quiet, Prayer of Union, Prayer of Conforming, Union Prayer, Transforming Union.

Aids to Spiritual Growth: The Presence of God, Examination of Conscience, The Desire for Perfection, Conformity to God's Will, Fidelity to Grace, Plan of Life, Spiritual Reading, Holy Friendships, Spiritual Direction.

Discernment of Spirits: Types of Spirits, Psychosomatic Phenomena, Extraordinary Mystical Phenomena.

***Learning Outcomes:***

- Students will be able to identify the differences between Christian doctrine and practice; contemplation and action in the progressive stages of growing in Christian life towards perfection.
- Students will explain in discussion the tenets of the goal of Christian life which consists essentially in loving God, ourselves and neighbour, expounding on how to analyse and to strive for it in forming holy Christians.

**RA1002. States of Christian Life**

**3 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

For the students to acquire the knowledge and understanding of the States of Christian Life: Laity, Priest, and Religious.

***Course Outline:***

1. A Christian understanding of call and vocation in the context of the Universal Call to Holiness.
2. The state of Christian life of the Laity.
3. The state of Christian life of the Priest.
4. The state of Christian life of the Religious.

***Learning outcomes:***

- The students have a clear understanding of the common elements that are found in the different states of Christian life, viz. Laity, priest and religious.
- The students have a clear understanding of the specific identity, spirituality and mission of the Laity, Priest and Religious in the Church and in the World.
- The students are able to reflect on and confirm their own specific state of Christian life vis-à-vis their understanding of the various states presented in the course.

**RA1003. Don Bosco – Founder**

**3 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

In this course, the confreres-students will reflect on the meaning of founding Charisms in the Church. They will deepen their understanding of Don Bosco's founding charism. They will gain a detailed historical knowledge of the sequence of events leading to the foundations of the three branches of the Salesian Family, viz. the Society of St. Francis of Sales, the Association of Salesian Cooperators, and the Institute of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians.

***Course Outline:***

1. Founding charisms in the church
2. Don Bosco's founding charism
3. Don Bosco and the founding of the Association of Salesian Cooperators

4. Don Bosco's role in the founding of the Institute of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians
5. The role of Mary in the founding of the three branches of the Salesian Family

***Learning Outcomes:***

- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the meaning of founding Charisms in the Church
- Students will be able to explain the founding charism of Don Bosco.
- Students will be able to explain Don Bosco's role in the foundation of the three branches of the Salesian Family.

**RA1004. Salesian Spirituality**

**3 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

To provide the students with a deeper understanding and appreciation of the Salesian Spirituality, i.e. the spirituality of St Francis de Sales and of St John Bosco.

“We must have a deep knowledge of *Don Bosco's Spirituality* and also live it. A knowledge of the external aspects of Don Bosco's life and activities and of his method of education is not enough. At the foundation of everything, as the source of the fruitful results of his actions and activities, there is something we may often overlook: his deep spiritual experience, what we might call his familiarity with God.”  
[CHAVEZ P., ACG N. 394]

***Course Outline:***

1. Guidelines from the Congregation
  - a. General Chapter 26
  - b. General Chapter 27
  - c. Constitutions & General Regulations

2. Definitions of Spirituality
  - a. Universal definition
  - b. Christian definition
3. Spirituality of St. Francis de Sales
  - a. Biography of St. Francis de Sales
  - b. Some of the main themes of the saint's spirituality
4. Influence of St. Francis de Sales and his spirituality on the life and spirituality of St. John Bosco
  - a. St. Francis de Sales and Don Bosco's pastoral spirit
  - b. Historical and spiritual Salesian connection
  - c. Optimism and Joy (C17)
5. Spirituality of St. John Bosco
  - a. Principal sources and models of the saint's spirituality
  - b. Biographies of Dominic Savio, Michael Magone, & Francis Besucco as special sources of the saint's spirituality for young people
  - c. Some of the main themes of the saint's spirituality and his concerns in his ministry as spiritual director of the young
6. Concluding comments
  - a. Don Bosco's motto (C 4)
  - b. Salesian Spirituality & Salesian Youth Ministry (C 2, C 3, C 21)
7. Knowledge of Don Bosco as a person (C 21) Guidelines from the Congregation
  - a. General Chapter 26
  - b. General Chapter 27
  - c. Constitutions & General Regulations
8. Definitions of Spirituality
  - a. Universal definition
  - b. Christian definition

9. Spirituality of St. Francis de Sales
  - a. Biography of St. Francis de Sales
  - b. Some of the main themes of the saint's spirituality
10. Influence of St. Francis de Sales and his spirituality on the life and spirituality of St. John Bosco
  - a. St. Francis de Sales and Don Bosco's pastoral spirit
  - b. Historical and spiritual Salesian connection
  - c. Optimism and Joy (C17)
11. Spirituality of St. John Bosco
  - a. Principal sources and models of the saint's spirituality
  - b. Biographies of Dominic Savio, Michael Magone, & Francis Besucco as special sources of the saint's spirituality for young people
  - c. Some of the main themes of the saint's spirituality and his concerns in his ministry as spiritual director of the young
12. Concluding comments
  - a. Don Bosco's motto (C 4)
  - b. Salesian Spirituality & Salesian Youth Ministry (C 2, C 3, C 21)
13. Knowledge of Don Bosco as a person (C 21)

***Learning Outcomes:***

- Students will demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the sources and points of reference of the spirituality of Don Bosco, viz. the models of holiness that influenced him, particularly that of St. Francis of Sales, and the principal elements of Don Bosco's spirituality.
- Students will express familiarity with the mission and identity of a Salesian Priest, Lay/Salesian Brother (to be added), Sister, or Lay Volunteer.

***General Objectives:***

1. To familiarize the students with the concepts of Youth Ministry in the Congregation from the Second Vatican Council to the present times.
2. To exercise with them a rethinking of a Salesian Educative Pastoral Project (SEPP) for Youth Ministry.

***Specific Objectives:***

1. To consider some significant texts of the Salesian magisterium in the post-Vatican II on strategic issues of Youth Ministry.
2. To study some chapters of the new *Frame of reference* 2014 for Salesian Youth Ministry.
3. To explain some 'processual' virtues in order to formulate an integral SEPP for Youth Ministry.
4. To analyze some local experiences.

***Course Outline:***

- *A brief history.* Fr. E. Viganò (1978): "Salesian Educative Project;" (1980): "In the ever-growing splendor of the Gospel;" (1989): "The new evangelization;" 23<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter (1990): "Educating young people to the faith;" Fr. E. Viganò (1990): "Salesian spirituality for the new evangelization;" (1991): "New education"; 24<sup>th</sup> General Chapter (1996): "Salesians and lay people;" Fr. E. Vecchi (1998): "Experts, witnesses and craftsmen of communion. The Salesian community – Animating nucleus;" 25<sup>th</sup> General Chapter (2002): *The Salesian community today*; Fr. P. Chávez (2002): "My dear Salesians, be saints!;" 26<sup>th</sup> General Chapter (2008): "Da mihi animas, caeteratolle."
- *A common "Frame of reference" for a Salesian Youth Ministry.* Inhabiting the life and culture of today's young people. From Christ the evangelizer to the evangelizing Church. Evangelizing and educating: Our apostolic identity. The Preventive System: A spiritual and educational experience.

Educative and pastoral community: Make the house a family for the young. Salesian Educative Pastoral Project: Operational tools. Activities and works of Salesian Youth Ministry.

- *Elements for a SEPP*. “Personal” processual virtues for an integral project (creative fidelity, personal discernment, operational coherence). “Prosocial” processual virtues for an integral Educative Pastoral Project (systemic generosity, generative dialogue, synergistic integration).

***Learning Outcomes:***

After this session, the students should be able to:

- Describe the post-conciliar reflection about Salesian Youth Ministry (remembering and understanding).
- Summarize the most significant contributions of the Congregation’s Magisterium on this issue (critical thinking).
- Value the validity of the experiences presented during the course, in the light of the *Frame of Reference 2014* (practical thinking).
- Acquire inputs for providing the best Pastoral Ministry to the youth (pastoral competence).

**RA1006. Forms of the Salesian Vocation**

**3 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

This course is designed to provide the students with an overview of the vocation, criterion and membership of the three branches of the Salesian Family.

***Course Outline:***

1. The specific identity and characteristics of the Salesian Family with particular reference to The Common Mission Statement and The Common Identity Card of the Salesian Family of Don Bosco. The criterion for and the current membership of the Salesian Family.



2. The vocation of the Salesian Priest and the Salesian Brother: originality, reciprocity and complementarity.
3. The Daughters of Mary Help of Christians: the feminine expression of the Salesian Charism.
4. The Volunteers of Don Bosco and the Volunteers with Don Bosco: the charism of Don Bosco as expressed in the lives and mission of two Secular Institutes.
5. The vocation of the Salesian Co-operator with particular reference to the Project of Apostolic Life [2007].

***Learning Outcomes:***

- Students will express familiarity with the mission and identity of a Salesian Priest, Lay/Salesian Brother (to be added), Sister, or Lay Volunteer.

**RA1007. M.Afr. Studies 1: Charism and identity of the Missionaries of Africa 2 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

To help students become more deeply aware of the specificity of the Society of the Missionaries of Africa by studying some of its key foundational texts not only in their own right, but also in light of a more general theology of charism and in comparison with other forms of consecrated life. The comparative and theological aspects of the course will help M. Afr. students to situate their own Society within the wider life of the Church, leading them to a greater appreciation of both their own and others' gift and calling.

***Course Outline:***

- i) The Theology of Charism in general: meaning in the NT and later theological development; the theological notion of 'Founder', and of 'charism of the Founder'; Lavignerie as 'Founder'.

- ii) A historical survey of major Founders and a typology of different 'kinds' of foundation, from earliest times through to today; the different Missionary Congregations founded in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries as a sub-category within this typology – the specificity of each and the influence of the context in which they were founded; the distinction between Religious Orders and Societies of Apostolic Life; situating the Society of the Missionaries of Africa within this general typology / framework, and bringing out its identity by comparing it with other similar or dissimilar institutes.
- iii) Foundational texts and events at the beginning of the Society: the provisional Constitutions of 1869 and the more definitive Constitutions of 1872; the first three novice masters, the early controversy over vows and the option for 'mission-centredness'; subsequent editions of the Constitutions during the Founder's lifetime, especially those of 1878, with its resolution of the controversy over accepting St Anne's in Jerusalem; the Directory of 1881; the 'spirit' of the Society, and its 'spirituality'; the name(s) of the Society and their implications; the Founder for today, and tomorrow.

***Learning Outcomes:***

After completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Explain the meaning of charism and articulate the charism of the Missionaries of Africa.
2. Appreciate how charism is influenced by the context and how that applies to the way missionary life is lived in the present context.
3. Make a link between the Founder's charism and missionary spirituality today.

**RA1008. M.Afr. Studies 2: Charism through decisions of  
Chapters** **3 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

The aim of the course is to help the students to be familiar with the texts of the different Chapters of the Society of the Missionaries of Africa; assist them in an aware of the influence of the historical and ecclesial context in which they have been written; support them in realising that developments have occurred in the way the original charism has been lived.

***Course Outline:***

The missionary charism of the Missionaries of Africa as lived throughout the decisions of the different Chapters (27 so far) held by the Society. Help the students to appreciate the evolution and adaptation of the basic charism as it has been lived and expressed in the decisions of the different Chapters of the Society throughout its history. The relevant texts will be studied in relation to their context.

***Learning Outcomes:***

The students will have a better knowledge of the charism of the Missionaries of Africa and how it has been shaped by the various Chapters. They will be motivated to engage themselves in living out the Charism of the Society in their life and mission.

**RA1009. M.Afr. Studies 3: Outstanding Missionary  
Personalities** **3 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

Students will get to know and appreciate different personalities of Missionaries of Africa, who have been trail blazers and have set landmarks in the history of the Missionaries of Africa, through their actions and writings. The students will discover how working for

continuity, these personalities adopted certain principles that continue to inspire the Society of the Missionaries of Africa today.

***Course Outline:***

Studies of outstanding Missionaries of Africa personalities, who have marked the apostolic action of our Society throughout its history.

***Learning Outcomes:***

After completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Outline the contribution made by each of the missionary personalities considered in the course.
- Point out the inspiration received from these key figures for the Missionary Society and for mission today.

**RA1101. Introduction to Pastoral Theology**

**3 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

The course will offer general foundations for specific “pastoral” disciplines (Youth Ministry; Catechetics; Homiletics; Counseling etc.), as well as for higher studies of specialisation.

***Course Outline:***

1. *Part I Historical:* Beginning and development of PPT in Protestant and Catholic areas: Successive perspectives: clerical and pragmatic; biblical and theological; ecclesial and “organic”; religious and humanistic.
2. *Part II Magisterial:* Continuity and novelty at Vatican II.
  - a. Guidelines of John XXIII and Paul VI.
  - b. Unifying role of the 4 Constitutions (SC; LG; DV; GS).
  - c. *Gaudium et Spes* in context.
  - d. From Vat. II Until Today: *Christifideles Laici; Pastores dabo vobis; Synods for Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, Holy Land; Evangelii Gaudium.*

3. *Part III, Systematic: Scientific nature of Pastoral Theology as “Practical” Theology.*
  - a. Material and formal objects; areas of action and dimensions; methods.
  - b. Formation of Pastoral Agents: theology and “human sciences”.

***Learning Outcomes:***

- The students, who have already been involved in “pastoral activities”, will acquire a critical awareness of both the historical legacy and today’s pastoral challenges.
- They will be competent in drafting a “Pastoral Plan” in a Particular Church adapted to its real situation and aiming at a viable change, in the footsteps of *EvangeliiGaudium*.

**RA1102. Catechetics**

**3 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

The purpose of this course is to provide students with training in Catechetics and its use in evangelization.

***Course Outline:***

- 1 General Introduction: Chief Aim, Catechetical Training in Seminaries.
- 2 Short History
- 3 The General Catechetical Directory 1997
  - a. Introduction
  - b. Catechesis in the Church’s mission of evangelization
  - c. The Gospel message
  - d. The pedagogy of faith
  - e. Those to be catechized. Catechesis in the particular Church
  - f. Conclusion
- 4 Methodology – Making a sample lesson.

***Learning Outcomes:***

- At the end of the course the student would have the ability to:
- Define and understand the role of Catechetics in the life of every Christian;
- Analyse and interpret the practical application of the Catechetics in terms of evangelization;
- Suggest newer ways in the adaptation of Catechesis;
- Adapt to the ecumenical demands of both time and place;
- Know simple ways and means to catechise, and be aware of the catechetical requirements (at least theoretically) in the mission.

**RA1103. Social Communication**

**3 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

The course aims to introduce students of theology to the pastoral importance of social communication, which is becoming the chief means of information and education, of guidance and inspiration for individuals, families and society today.

***Course Outline:***

- 1 *Human Communication, a gift of God.* From “*Communication*” to “*Communion*”. Revelation in human communication and the context of social communication today.
- 2 Current challenges in social communication. *The instruments of social communication and the ministerial priesthood.* Correct use of the instruments of social communication
- 3 Formation of Christian communicators. Formulation of pastoral plans for social communication.

## **RA1104. Pastoral Ministry of the Sacrament of Penance**

**3 ECTS**

### ***General Objective:***

The objective of the course is to help prepare candidates for Priesthood to exercise the pastoral ministry of the Sacrament of Penance with diligence and effectiveness.

### ***Course Outline:***

The need for reconciliation; the Church's ministry of reconciliation; ways of exercising the Pastoral Ministry of Penance and Reconciliation; the sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation; forms of celebrating the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation; juridical and pastoral aspects pertaining to the minister of the sacrament; practical considerations and practical lessons.

### ***Learning Outcomes:***

By the end of the Class the students are expected to:

- Recall and outline/describe/summarize the Origins and importance of the Sacrament.
- Identify the legal and pastoral aspects of the exercise of the Sacrament.
- Exercise/officiate the Sacrament.
- Identify the Magisterial teaching that guides the exercise of the Sacrament.
- Listen, analyse, question, differentiate, classify the sins confessed and propose solutions for spiritual growth.
- Recognize the reverential fear that should accompany the exercise of the Sacrament.

**RA1105. Pastoral Studies 1: Workshop on non-violent communication (for M.Afr.) 3 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

The aim of this workshop is to help the students reflect on violence and discover their own complicity in it.

***Course Outline:***

Familiarise the students with the concept of non-violence; to verify in the Scriptures the roots of this kind of ethic; get to know the main “witnesses” of active nonviolence.

***Learning Outcomes:***

Upon completion of this workshop the students will be aware of the various forms of violent communication in society and their own complicity in it. They will be motivated to actively practice and encourage others to be more involved in non-violent communication.

**RA1106. Pastoral Studies 2: Workshop on Pastoral counselling(for M.Afr.) 3 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

For the students to be aware of their own preconceptions and prejudices hindering their approach to, and their perception of and reception of, those they meet in their ministry. This would include awareness of their own personal history as well as an open attitude to the other’s personal and cultural differences. In addition, the importance of recognising boundaries and limits, particularly when a pastoral problem needs professional intervention, will be highlighted. This will include recognising various sorts of abuse and how one might react as a pastoral agent.



### ***Course Outline:***

- Listening and Communication Skills.
- Understandings of Human Development (some major theories).
- Human Sexuality and Celibacy.
- Emotions – particularly Fear and Anger (physical/psychological origins, recognising them in self and others.)
- Stress (cause and coping strategies).
- Recognising and accepting when it is necessary to refer the other elsewhere.
- The course will be conducted in a collaborative and interactive way. Input from the participants (ideas and experience) will be actively encouraged.

### ***Learning Outcomes:***

- Students should be able to approach or be approached without fear.
- Students should be aware of and accept their own limitations.
- Students should be able to recognise and hold boundaries.
- Students should recognise that they are Pastoral Agents.
- Students should be confident that they are “good enough” agents, but who can always improve.
- Students should concentrate on their relationship with the other and not on providing a service to the other from a position of superior knowledge.

**RA1107. Pastoral Studies 3: Conscientisation and Decision Making (for M.Afr.)** **2 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

To help the pastoral agents in their task of conscientisation of small groups to either social questions or religious animation.

The workshop has a theoretical part and a practical one: the participants are invited to prepare a conscientisation session on a theme chosen by themselves.

***Course Outline:***

1. The different Church models. With the help of posters the session of conscientisation is meant to help people understand the evolution of the pastoral plans in the churches in Africa after the Vatican II Council. The stress is put on the importance of the Small Christian Communities (SCC), one of the major choices found after 1985.
2. The different steps of conscientisation to social problems. Stress here on the methodology used by Cardinal Cardjin (See, Judge, Act) and Paulo Freire as it has been developed by the Lumko Pastoral Institute in South Africa for the Churches in Africa.

***Learning Outcomes:***

Upon completion of this course the students will have acquired the necessary techniques and be ready for the conscientisation of small groups particularly on social and religious questions.

***General Objective:***

1. To acquire the skill to present and understand the nature of a scientific written work in the realm of Theology.
2. To acquire the ability to differentiate the theological methodology from the other scientific methodology.
3. To learn how to go about researching and composing a written work at bachelor's level..

***Course Outline:***

1. Introduction to study methods;
2. Acquaintance with sources and tools of study in various theological fields;
3. Introduction to theological methods;
4. Seminars;
5. Book notes and reviews;
6. Report and thematic elaboration;
7. The use of technology (in methodology) and practical guidelines.

***Learning Outcomes:***

Upon completing the course:

- The students will have a panoramic view of drafting/ writing a scientific paper to the level required by the STS.
- Students will have gained sufficient knowledge of theoretical (the choice of the theme/title; its development; interpretation and elaboration of the materials given to read, sufficient acquaintance of the theological sources, etc.) and practical approach (using concretely the methodology in the written work, practical guidelines to study etc.) in order to draft a scientific written work.

**RA1203. Seminar in Biblical Studies (2<sup>nd</sup> year)**  
**Methodologies for Biblical Exegesis**

**5 ECTS**

***General Objective:***

In the course of the seminar, the students will be exposed to the plurality of methods available today to help them to better understand the various aspects of a biblical text which often go beyond the range of one particular methodological perspective

***Course Outline:***

The introduction to the Seminar will register the main methodological assumption of the following approaches:

- Historical-critical method
- Narrative criticism
- Reader-oriented criticism
- Reception history

Afterwards, the students will discuss and defend the outcomes of their own research during the series of presentations in the class.

***Learning Outcomes:***

Upon completion of the seminar:

- The students will be familiar with some basic assumptions of the exegetical methods.
- They will be capable of developing an appropriate strategy for their own research which will be requested during the Seminar.
- They will be able to discuss and defend the outcomes of their own research.

## **RA1205. Seminar for Theological Synthesis (4<sup>th</sup> year) 4ECTS**

### ***General Objective:***

Accompanying the 4<sup>th</sup> year students in their *Synthesis adBaccalaureatum*.

For 4<sup>th</sup> year students to correctly draft written and oral exams.

### ***Course Outline:***

1. Theology: a permanent ecclesial vocation -The Mystery of the Trinity as source, centre and goal of all.
2. Jesus of Nazareth, Son of God and Messiah.
3. Jesus Christ makes the unity of both Revelation and Christian Life.
4. The Church: mystery, constitution, mission.
5. Constitutive elements of Mariology.
6. Constitutive principles of Sacramental-Liturgical Theology
7. Constitutive principles of Moral Synthesis.
8. The search for unity among the different Christian Churches.
9. Evangelization and inter-religious dialogue. Jesus Christ as the Universal Saviour.
10. Theology as symbolic communication.

### ***Learning Outcomes:***

- Accompanying the 4<sup>th</sup> year students in their *Synthesis adBaccalaureatum*, enabling them to correctly draft their final written and oral exams from both the contents and the methodology points of view
- After summarizing the main cross-field themes of the Biblical-Theological curriculum, and focusing on their intrinsic connections, the students will be competent to bring them into a harmonious unity

**RA1208. Topographical Visits****3 ECTS**

SEPTEMBER	Holy Sepulchre
SEPTEMBER	Mount of Olives, Dominus Flevit, Gethsemane, Tomb of Mary
OCTOBER	Israeli Museum, Model of Herodian Jerusalem, Shrine of the Book
NOVEMBER	Old City, Western Wall, Western Wall Tunnel
DECEMBER	Jerusalem Citadel
FEBRUARY	Mount Zion, Cenacle, Dormition Abbey, David's Tomb, Saint Peter 'in Gallicantu'
MARCH	Southern Wall, Temple Mount
APRIL	City of David

**RA1209. Archaeological Excursions****5 ECTS**

OCTOBER	Caesarea Mediterranean Acre	Ashkelon Lachish Gat	Maktesh Ramon Avdat Ain Avdat
NOVEMBER	Ein Gedi Chalcolithic Temple HarIshai Qumran Dead Sea	Bet Guvrin Maresha Tel Goded (Morasti)	Tel Beersheva Maktesh Gadol Mamshit
DECEMBER	Wadi Murabb'aat Jericho Tel Es-Sultan Hasmonean- Herodian city Wadi Quelt	Jaffa Emmaus Nikopolis Kiriath Yearim	Gamla Dan Sussita Korazin

FEBRUARY	Tel Arad Masada	Bet Shemesh Soreq Latrun	Arava – South- ern Dead Sea Ma'ale Akrabim
MARCH	Mambre Hebron Herodian	Valley of Tere- binth Azeca	Bethel Shilo Taybe
APRIL	STUDY TRIP ONLY		
MAY	Monasteries of: St Saba St Theodosius Kathisma	Neot Kedumim Lidda	Samaria Jacob's Well Mount Gerizim Sebastia

## **RA1206. Italian Language 1**

**6ECTS**

### *Course Objective:*

The purpose of the course is to lead the students to read, to understand, to hold simple conversations, to say basic prayers, and to write a short letter in Italian.

### *Course Outline:*

The aim of the course is to help students to acquire basic grammar (morphology, syntax) and vocabulary needed to interact with people in situations of daily life. Classes are gradually conducted in Italian.

### *Learning Outcomes:*

Students will master basic social conversations, understand simple Italian texts and be able to write a letter in Italian.

***Course Objective:***

The objective of the course is to create the conditions for students to begin, maintain and conclude short conversations, to easily understand simple routine exchanges, to make themselves understood and to exchange ideas and information on familiar topics, to describe experiences, to give reasons and to express opinions, projects and intentions.

***Course Outline***

The course will be based on different Italian texts and dialogues from the textbook, which will allow the students to develop their grammar and vocabulary skills. The lessons will be conducted in Italian. Frequent quizzes and conversations will be based on the studied texts.

***Learning Outcomes:***

The students will refresh the previous knowledge of regular and irregular verbs in the present tense and will master the past and future tenses. The students will be able to have a basic conversation based on daily routine activities. They will be able to say or express their ideas with a full command of adjectives, adverbs and prepositional phrases.

***Course Objective:***

The purpose of the course is to lead the students in the shortest possible time and with maximum efficiency to read the ancient, medieval, renaissance and modern Latin classics with simplicity, naturalness, and full understanding. The active use of the language, which the method foresees, is therefore a very effective means, but not the end that is proposed. The student will not have to decipher spelling individual words, nor will be called on to solve puzzles clinging to dictionary and grammar, but should be able to read, listen to and understand the message that the elders have left behind.



### ***Course Outline:***

The course “LINGVA LATINA PER SE ILLUSTRATA” follows an inductive method. It starts from texts and contexts because they take the learner back to forms and constructions and learn words and phraseology. The morpho syntax, first inductively assimilated by the understanding of recurrent structures and reflection on them, is then presented systematically in an organized manner. Theory and practice proceed hand in hand for a more effective learning of the language. The method presupposes a strong active involvement of the student through reading, exercises of comprehension as well as oral and written presentation. The continuous narration, besides providing mnemonic support to learn words and construction clearly narrates the ancient Roman life. In the second part of the course the learner is introduced to the direct reading of Latin authors in their original texts.

The basic text of the first part (FAMILIA ROMANA) is a real ‘novel’ in Latin. The children follow the story of a Roman family of the second century AD: parents and children, masters and slaves, the Greek culture, school, army, medicine, commerce, agriculture, the games, etc. The language, initially very simple, paratactic structure, gradually goes on and gives way to an increasingly complex Latin. The text from the first page is self- explanatory, thanks to the context, notes in the margin, and images. Already in the first volume one reads excerpts from the gospels, from Catullus, Ovid, Martial, Donato.

### ***Learning Outcomes:***

At the end of the course:

- Students will be able to read and understand the meaning of texts written in Latin.
- Students will be able to construct sentences using the vocabulary and syntax learned in class.
- Students will, orally and in writing, demonstrate fluency in reading and understanding Latin classics.
- Students will be able to read and understand the Latin text of the Ordinary of the Mass and the Second Eucharistic Prayer of the *Missale Romanum*.