1. Course Description for Mariology

1.1 Catalog Description: An investigation of the Church’s Marian doctrine in an attempt at synthesis founded on the analysis of the elements furnished by the Sacred Scripture and Tradition regarding the Virgin Mary, the Mother of God and the Mother of the Church. A study of Mary’s cooperation in the establishment of the Covenant; the truth of her perpetual virginity as inseparable from her divine motherhood; her collaboration in Christ’s work of redemption; her Immaculate Conception and Assumption; her role in the development of the Church; her place in ecumenical dialogue; her role in popular religion with regard to private devotions; and Mary in the Church’s liturgical year.

1.2 Goals: Students will (1) become familiar with the biblical sources of Mariology in the Old and New Testament; (2) acquire a complete and exact understanding of what the Catholic Church teaches about the Virgin Mary which enables them to distinguish between true and false devotion, and to distinguish authentic doctrine from its deformations arising from excess or neglect; (3) to nourish an authentic love for the Mother of God, which expresses itself in genuine forms of devotion and leads to “imitation of her virtues,” (LG 67) and above all to a decisive commitment to live according to the commandments of God and to do his will (Mt. 7:21; Jn. 15:14); (4) to develop the capacity to communicate such love to the faithful through speech, writing and example, so that their Marian piety may be promoted and cultivated.

2. Topical Outline

2.1 Orientations for the Study of Mary in Contemporary Theology

2.2 Mary in the Mystery of the Covenant: the Inauguration of God’s Covenant with the Woman

2.3 Virgin and Mother: the Virginal Conception of Jesus in the Gospels of Luke, Matthew, and John

2.3.1 The Theological Meaning of the Virginal Conception in Scripture and Tradition

2.4 Mary as the Bride of the Messianic Nuptials in the Wedding Feast at Cana (John 1:19-2:12)
2.5 Mary as the Mother of the Messianic People of God (John 19:25-27)

2.6 Mary as the Archetype of the Church: Mother and Bride (Rev. 12)

2.7 The Cooperation of Mary in the Establishment of the Covenant: Faith and Consent

2.8 Mary’s Virginity and Her Divine Motherhood

2.9 The Holiness of Mary from the First Moment of Her Conception

2.10 Mary’s Association in Redemption: Co-redemption

2.11 Mary’s Assumption: Eschatological Image of the Church

2.12 Mary’s Place in the Ecumenical Dialogue

2.14 Mary and Popular Religiosity: Private Devotions and Marian Apparitions

2.15 Mary in the Church’s Liturgical Life

3. Format of Presentation
   This course will be a mixture of lecture, class discussion, and small group work.

4. Required Workload
   4.1 Students are expected to complete all the assigned reading.
   4.2 MA and STB Students will prepare a research paper of 15 pages in length with accompanying Outline and Bibliography on a topic chosen from the course and approved by the instructor. It should be well organized, properly documented, typed following the Modern Language Association (MLA) format and the “Guidelines for Nonsexist Use of Language in NCTE (National Council of Teachers in English) Publication.”
   4.3 MDiv Students will do a book report. Please choose one from the following 6 books:


For the book you choose, write a book report to include the following four essential elements:

1) Statement of the author’s basic theme - What was the author’s objective in writing this book?
2) A brief summary of each chapter or major section of the book
3) The summary of critical reviews of the book from theological journals and publications
4) Your own evaluation of the work – Did the author accomplish what he set out to do writing the book? How did this book assist your own reflections on Mariology? (This question could take the form of new insights the book provided, or ways in which it helped you clarify your own thought in disagreeing with something(s) the author wrote.)

5. Grading: Book report or a term paper 45%; Final Comprehensive Exam, 50%; Active participation & Quizzes 5%

6. Written assignments are due before class on **Wednesday, April 29, 2015**

**Course Description for Popular Piety**

Rev. Leon Strieder

The second part of Mary and Popular Piety is designed to study the principles and guidelines for the celebration and evaluation of the various devotions and rituals which make up the popular piety of the many peoples of the Church and how these ritual celebrations harmonize with the liturgy of the Church. Basing our study on the principles and guidelines found in the Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy from the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, we will critique the rituals and devotions commonly found today, especially Marian devotion and Eucharistic Devotion.

**Topical Outline**

Classes on Popular Piety will begin Wednesday March 18 and continue until the end of the semester.

March 18 & 25—Study of the Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy
April 8—Eucharistic devotion, in particular the rites of Eucharistic Exposition
April 15—Divine Mercy devotion
April 22—Theology and ritual of Marian Consecration, including the devotions promoted by St. Louis Marie de Montfort
April 29—A theological critique of Marian apparitions
All material to be read will be posted on Blackboard. The final exam will cover the material studied in this part of the class.