University Mission Statement: Educating Leaders of Faith and Character.

We are the University of St. Thomas, the Catholic university in the Heart of Houston. We are committed to the Catholic intellectual tradition and the dialogue between faith and reason. By pursuing excellence in teaching, scholarship and service, we embody and instill in our students the core values of our founders, the Basilian Fathers: goodness, discipline, and knowledge. We foster engagement in a diverse, collaborative community. As a comprehensive university grounded in the liberal arts, we educate student to think critically, communicate effectively, succeed professionally and lead ethically.
Social Justice Tenets

Subsidiarity: “Educational institutions should be organized and governed as much as possible by the community being served; education should only be controlled at higher levels of society when it cannot be done effectively locally”.

Dignity and rights of children: “Children possess full human dignity and are bearers of rights which should be recognized and upheld in the educational process”.

People have a right to an education: “All people have a responsibility, for the good of society, to contribute to and foster education”.

**GRACE Mission Statement:**

GRACE is a program to train educators for Catholic schools by seeking graduates from around the country who have a spirit of service and a desire to grow and learn through the three components of the program:

- Professional Development;
- Spiritual Growth; and,
- Community Living.

Course Introduction

This three (3) week hybrid-seminar course is a journey into the Catholic school system within the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. The main focus is the development and formation of the Catholic school teacher professionally and spiritually.

Course Description: Five Learning Modules that will address:

- An overview of the Catholic school system and how teachers function in its organizational structure;
- Importance of Catholic Identity in the curriculum, lesson plans and lesson deliveries;
- An integration of the teaching professional development, communal and spiritual dimensions of the GRACE program.
Course Materials


Text: The Holy See’s Teaching on Catholic Schools; Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB; Solidarity Association, Atlanta, GA; 2006; Supplied by the Instructor;

Supplement: Not required to purchase.


Course Objectives

Intended Learning Outcomes

- Comprehend the importance of leadership within the Catholic school organization.
- Understand the strategic importance of Catholic school teachers in the formation of their spiritual and moral growth as they teach their students, live in community and work with cohorts;
- Demonstrate professional, personal and spiritual development within the GRACE community and the Catholic school community they serve;
- Become familiar with the organization structure of governance for Catholic education within the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston; and,
- Understand expectations and responsibilities of teachers with emphasis on teaching in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston Catholic school system.
Course Policies and Learner Expectations

- This course will encompass **Eleven (11) class sessions** for three (3) weeks: July 6-10; **July 16**: July 20 – 27;

- Participation – Classes will be participative; students will be expected to come to class prepared to engage in discussions, group work and other activities.

- **Use of Electronic Devices is NOT ALLOWED without Professor’s approval.** Students using electronic devices for other purposes than class-course topics will be dropped from the course.

- Students are required to have the ability to access online the UST Black Board program for course information and assignments

- Attendance – Students will be expected to come to each class, arrive on time and respect timelines for breaks. Absences and being tardy to class will negatively impact the course grade at the discretion of the instructor. **Two or more** unexcused absences will required a drop from the course with a failing grade. If student will not be in attendance for a reasonable reason, student must notify the professor as soon as possible before the class.

- Student work – Literacy is expected at all times. Assignments will be due in class on the days designated. All assignments submitted will be the original work of the student. Proper citations (APA) will be used whenever appropriate. Plagiarized work will result in either a failing grade for the assignment or failing grade for the course at the discretion of the instructor.

- Student disability – If you have a documented disability that may impact your performance in this class, please contact your instructor to discuss your needs. Additionally, you will need to register with the Counseling and Disability Services Office in Crooker Center. This office can be reached at 713 525 – 6953 or 713 525 – 3162.

- **Academic Integrity** – The university system is based on a respect of intellectual property. Citing sources of information used in one’s work and total reliance on personal ability in individual assessments are fundamentals in scholarly behavior. Any instance of breach in academic integrity will be documented and reported to the Dean of the School of Education. Students will be informed of this action and must submit a written response to the charge. The instructor has the right to fail the student for the specific project or the entire course.
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<td>Class Participation</td>
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**Readings / Discussion:**

You will be assigned readings in Blackboard to give a presentation by analyzing the content based on assigned questions;

**Power Point Presentations**

Each student will be assigned chapter readings in text *Building Community* to give a power point presentation to the class on selected dates. This assignment is a demonstration of the student’s ability and classroom skills to present a summary lesson of the assigned readings. A copy of the presentation will be sent to the professor via Blackboard Course Content link as an attachment.

**Research Paper Submission**

Each student will submit an APA style paper that will analyze the text *The Holy See’s Teaching on Catholic Schools*. The Abstract will summarize Part I and II of the text. The main components of this paper will address and analyze the five (5) Essential Marks of Catholic Schools. Besides the text, the student will need to cite two other outside sources.

**Research submission via Blackboard link is Due on/before July 24, 2015:**
**Course Schedule**

**Learning Module #1  July 6**

- Class Prayer / Reflection
- Introductions and Advance Notices
- Orientation: Review of Syllabus and Course Assignments
- Lecture & Group Activities

**Learning Module #1  July 7**

- Student Prayer / Reflection
- Lecture & Group Activities
- Student Power Pt Presentation: *Building Community*
- Reading / Discussion

**Learning Module #2  July 8**

- Student Prayer / Reflection
- Lecture & Group Activities
- Student Power Pt Presentation: *Building Community*
- Reading / Discussion

**Learning Module #2  July 9**

- Student Prayer / Reflection
- Lecture & Group Activities
- Power Pt Pres.: *Building Community* Text Chps 10 – 12; Katherine Neumeier
- Group Reading Discussion: *Educational Opportunity*
Learning Module #3  July 10

- Student Prayer .................................................................
- Lecture & Group Activities
- Student Power Pt. Pres. *Building Community*
- Reading / Discussion

Learning Module #3  July 16 (Thursday)

- Student Prayer
- Lecture & Group Activities
- Student Power Pt. Presentation: *Building Community*
- Reading / Discussion

Learning Module #4  July 20

- Student Prayer / Reflection
- Lecture & Group Activities
- Student Power Pt. Presentation: *Building Community*
- Reading / Discussion

Learning Module #4  July 21

- Student Prayer / Reflection
- Lecture & Group Activities
- Student Power Pt. Presentation: *Building Community*
- Reading / Discussion

Learning Module #5  July 22

- Student Prayer / Reflection
- Lecture & Group Activities
- Student Power Pt. Presentation: *Building Community*
- Reading / Discussion
Learning Module #5  July 23

- Student Prayer / Reflection
- Lecture & Group Activities
- Student Power Pt. Presentation: Building Community
- Reading / Discussion

Learning Module #5  July 24

- Student Prayer / Reflection
- Lecture & Group Activities
- Student Power Pt. Presentation: Building Community
- Reading / Discussion
- Online Submission in Blackboard Content Link Analysis Research Paper

The Holy See’s Teaching on Catholic Schools

Final Exam  July 25 - 27;

- Online Submission in Blackboard Content Link;
- Lecture Notes
- Student power point presentations: Building Community
- Reflection on the GRACE Program