THEO 2301/3311 – F: 
Teachings of the Catholic Church

TTh 2:10 pm – 3:25 pm, Strake Hall, Room 101
Instructor: Fr. David Bittner, CSB

Office: Hughes House, Room 204
Office Hours:
- Tuesday 10:00 am – 11:00 am
- Wednesday 10:00 am – 11:00 am
- Thursday 10:00 am – 11:00 am
...or by appointment.

(No office hours or appointments on Oct 7–15, Nov 25–26.)

COURSE CONTENT:
Introduction to the fundamentals of Catholic dogmatic theology, the science of sacred doctrine, as revealed in Scripture and Tradition and defined by the Magisterium of the Church.

REQUIRED TEXT:

RECOMMENDED TEXTS:
1. Catechism of the Catholic Church (with Modifications from the Editio Typica).

   (Low-cost paperback editions are available from a number of publishers, including:
   Catholic Book Publishing Company, St. Jerome’s Press, St. Mary’s Press,
   and World Bible Publishing.)

   Note: No matter what edition of the Bible you use,
it **MUST** be an edition which uses
The New American Bible Revised Edition translation (NABRE)
which was first published in 2011.
EVALUATION:
A. Written assignments: There will be two short papers. Each paper will be worth 20% of your final grade. Each paper will be 4 pages long for THEO 2301 students, 5-6 pages long for THEO 3311 students. The due dates are as follows:
   • Paper #1 due Thursday, September 24.
   • Paper #2 due Thursday, November 19.

B. Mid-term Test: The Mid-Term Test will be worth 20% of your final grade. It will take place on Thursday, October 29 and will test the material covered in class Aug. 25–Oct 22.
   
   **NOTE:** A Review Sheet will be distributed one week before the test (Thursday, October 22). The Review Sheet will include the structure of the test (including the directions for each part) and a list of the material to be reviewed in studying for the test. “If it’s not on the Review Sheet, it won’t be on the test.”

C. Final Exam: The final exam will be worth 35% of your final grade. While the exam will concentrate on the material covered in class Oct. 27–Dec. 3, it may also include some material from the first half of the course. At present, the precise date and time of the final exam have not been posted.
   
   **NOTE:** A Review Sheet for the Final Exam will be distributed at the end of the last class (Thursday, December 3). The Review Sheet will include the structure of the Exam (including the directions for each part) and a list of the material to be reviewed in studying for the Exam. “If it’s not on the Review Sheet, it won’t be on the Exam.”

D. Attendance: Attendance in class is expected; thus, it will be worth 5% of your final grade. Students who are frequently absent will have difficulty passing the test and exam. If you are going to be absent, notify me by e-mail either before or on the day of the absence. Unexcused absences (i.e., absences for which I do not have notification via email) will count negatively toward the participation/attendance grade.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
1. Mid-term Test and Final Exam:
   • Part 1: Definitions of Terms
     Students will be able to correctly define and apply terms used by theologians, as presented in this course.

   • Parts 2 and 3: Essays
     Students will be able to present a balanced summary of the important points on a topic as presented in this course. In addition, students will show evidence of deeper understanding of the topic by means of relevant additional material (extensions, connections, examples, contrasts, applications, etc.).

2. Written Assignments:
   • Students will understand a Catholic doctrine (or the connections between particular Catholic doctrines) at a genuinely theological level, and express their understanding in clear and effective analytical writing.
ACADEMIC REGULATIONS

1. Academic Integrity
Students should be acquainted with the University's "Policy on Academic Integrity" found in the Undergraduate Catalog. According to that catalog:

Every offense against academic honesty seriously undermines the teaching-learning process for which the University exists, and such offenses will be dealt with expeditiously according to the following criteria. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to:

1. Cheating on an examination or test; for example, by copying from another’s paper or using unauthorized materials before or during the test;
2. Plagiarism, which represents as one’s own the work of another, whether published or not, without acknowledging the precise source;
3. Participation in the academic dishonesty of another student, even though one’s own work is not directly affected;
4. Any conduct which would be recognized as dishonest in an academic setting.

The policy clearly states that the penalty for an incident of academic dishonesty is at the discretion of the faculty member, “either a mark of zero for the work in question or the grade of ‘F’ for the course.”

2. Students with Disabilities
Any student with a disability requiring accommodations in this course is encouraged to contact Counseling and Disability Services in Crooker Center. Their offices can be reached at:

(713) 525-6953 or 2169.

3. Audio or video recording of lectures, labs, seminars, or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Recorded material is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the instructor.

4. The Theology Department is no longer able to provide Blue Books. Thus, students are responsible for providing Blue Books for the Mid-term Test and the Final Exam. We will use the 11” x 8.5” 8 sheet/16 page Blue Books. By Thursday, September 17, each student must hand in three such Blue Books to class (one for the for the Mid-Term Test and two for the Final Exam). These may be purchased from the UST Bookstore.

5. Normally there are no make-up tests or exams. In the case of hospitalization or some other personal emergency the student may request a make-up test at least twenty-four hours before the date of the scheduled test/exam. In order to request a make-up test/exam, please note the following instructions:

1) Request for a make-up test/exam must be made well in advance of the examination (i.e., not on the day of the exam); such a request must include reasons in writing (email or hard copy), along with appropriate accompanying documents (e.g., a doctor’s note).

2) After I approve the request, you must call the Testing Center (713-525-3160) to schedule an appointment.
3) After you schedule an appointment with the Testing Center, send me your testing
schedule via email (so that I can send the make-up test/exam over to the Testing Center).

Failure to follow these instructions explicitly could result in a zero for the test or exam.

6. The written assignments are to be submitted via turnitin.com, and are due by 11:59 pm on the
dates indicated. An assignment handed in after that time will be assessed a penalty of one grade
level per day late. (For example, a “B-” paper handed in one day late will become a “C+” paper;
the same paper, handed in two days late will become a “C” paper; etc.)
In determining the number of days an assignment is late, any fraction of a day will be rounded up
to a full day.

7. Please note that student athletes and those eligible to travel with a team are responsible for all
materials on the day(s) missed. If a trip occurs when the test or exam is scheduled, then it is the
student’s responsibility to schedule a time to take the test/exam preferably before s/he leaves on
the trip.

NOTES ON MARKING AND FINAL GRADES

1. Mid-term Test and the Final Exam:
   • The formats for the mid-term test and the final exam are basically the same:
     Part 1 involves definitions of terms; Parts 2 and 3 involve essay-style questions.
   • Roughly 2/3 of the possible marks for each essay-style question will be assigned based on
     how well the student’s answer works as a solid, adequate, and balanced answer to the
     question, i.e., mastery of the main points as presented in class and in the text book.
   • The remaining 1/3 of the possible marks will be assigned based on how well the answer
     reveals knowledge that goes beyond mastery of the main points. These marks will be
     assigned for relevant additional material, extensions, connections, examples, contrasts,
     applications, etc.

2. Any written assignment, test, or exam not completed will be given a mark of 0.

3. The marks given for Paper #1, Mid-term Test, Paper #2, the Final Exam, and Attendance are
   raw scores. Each of these raw scores will be converted into percentages. The WEIGHTED
   AVERAGE (i.e., Paper #1 worth 20% ; Mid-term Test worth 20%; Paper #2 worth 20%  Final
   Exam worth 35%, Attendance worth 5%) of these percentages will be converted into the final
   grade. In determining the final grade, both the individual’s raw scores and the total work of the
class will be taken into account. Thus, there is no automatic, pre-set conversion scale from raw
scores or percentages into final marks.

4. It usually takes me two or three weeks to finish marking written assignments and mid-term
tests. When a paper or test is returned to you, it will indicate the raw score achieved, as well as a
letter grade indicating how well you did on that paper or test. In addition, the Mid-term Test and
the New Testament paper will also include an indication of how well you have done in the
course up to that point.
## COURSE OUTLINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>RELATED READING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues, Aug 25</td>
<td>1. Introduction to the Course</td>
<td>USCCA, Ch. 1 &amp; 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs, Aug 27</td>
<td>2. Revelation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fri, Aug 28</strong></td>
<td><em>Last Day to add courses</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues, Sept 1</td>
<td>3. Transmission of Revelation</td>
<td>USCCA, Ch. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs, Sept 3</td>
<td>4. Directions for the Papers; Footnotes &amp; Bibliography</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues, Sept 8</td>
<td>5. Response to Revelation</td>
<td>USCCA, Ch. 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wed, Sept 9</strong></td>
<td><em>Last day to drop courses</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs, Sept 10</td>
<td>6. God/Trinity</td>
<td>USCCA, Ch. 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues, Sept 15</td>
<td>7. Human Nature &amp; The Fall</td>
<td>USCCA, Ch. 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs, Sept 17</td>
<td>8. Jesus</td>
<td>USCCA, Ch. 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues, Sept 22</td>
<td>9. Christ</td>
<td>USCCA, Ch. 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thurs, Sept 24</strong></td>
<td><em>Paper #1 due</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tues, Sept 29</strong></td>
<td>10. Resurrection</td>
<td>USCCA, Ch. 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs, Oct 1</td>
<td>11. Holy Spirit</td>
<td>USCCA, Ch. 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs, Oct 6</td>
<td>12. The Church 1</td>
<td>USCCA, Ch. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs, Oct 8</td>
<td>13. The Church 2</td>
<td>USCCA, Ch. 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues, Oct 13</td>
<td><strong>FALL BREAK</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs, Oct 15</td>
<td><strong>NO CLASS TODAY</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues, Oct 20</td>
<td>14. Mary</td>
<td>USCCA, Ch. 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs, Oct 22</td>
<td>15. Last Things</td>
<td>USCCA, Ch. 13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Review Sheet for Mid-Term Test*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues, Oct 27</td>
<td>16. Liturgy &amp; Sacraments</td>
<td>USCCA, Ch. 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs, Oct 29</td>
<td>Mid-Term Test</td>
<td>material covered in class Aug 25–Oct 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues, Nov 3</td>
<td>17. Baptism &amp; Confirmation</td>
<td>USCCA, Ch. 15 &amp; 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs, Nov 5</td>
<td>18. Eucharist</td>
<td>USCCA, Ch. 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues, Nov 10</td>
<td>19. Reconciliation</td>
<td>USCCA, Ch. 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed, Nov 11</td>
<td>Last day to Withdraw (“W”)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs, Nov 12</td>
<td>20. Anointing &amp; Holy Orders</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues, Nov 17</td>
<td>21. Marriage; Sacraments &amp; Devotions</td>
<td>USCCA, Ch. 21 &amp; 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs, Nov 19</td>
<td>Paper #2 due</td>
<td>22. Christian Morality 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues, Nov 24</td>
<td>23. Christian Morality 2</td>
<td>USCCA, Ch. 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs, Nov 26</td>
<td>THANKSGIVING BREAK</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues, Dec 1</td>
<td>24. The 10 Commandments</td>
<td>USCCA, Ch. 25–34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs, Dec 3</td>
<td>25. Prayer</td>
<td>USCCA, Ch. 35 &amp; 36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Review Sheet for Final Exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon, Dec 7</td>
<td>Last Day of Classes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 9–10, 12, 14–17</td>
<td>Final Exams</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEO 2301/3311 FINAL EXAM</td>
<td>Date, Time, &amp; Location: (not yet determined)</td>
<td>material covered in class Oct 27–Dec 3 (along with any material from the first half of the course that is included on the Review Sheet)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>