Course Profile

1. Catalog Description

“In continuation of the fall course, each Student will be trained in those areas which are needed for his ministry. We will continue with the theology of priesthood with a special emphasis on the role of the priest as reconciler and minister to the sick. This semester we will study and practice the sacraments of Penance and the Anointing of the Sick in both English and Spanish with ample time to practice hearing mock confessions and anointing of the sick with the help of various methods of critique.”

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The Sacraments of Healing (Penance and Anointing) have been a hallmark of the Church’s ministry of continuing Jesus’ desire “to seek and save the lost.” (Luke 19:10) Priests of Jesus Christ are ordained to exercise this ministry in particular and concrete ways in the day-to-day life of a presbyter: by hearing confessions and anointing the sick. This course is meant to be taken in conjunction with the course on the liturgical history and theology of Penance and Anointing. The focus of this course is on the praxis of hearing confessions in real life situations and providing excellent sacramental and pastoral care to the sick and dying.

2. Required Textbooks

A Confessors Handbook: Revised and Expanded Edition (Kurt Stasiak OSB)

Rite of Penance (revised edition)
http://www.amazon.com/Rite-Penance-Various/dp/081463348X/

Pastoral Care of the Sick (bilingual)

The Priest, Minister of Divine Mercy: An Aid for Confessors and Spiritual Directors
(2011: Congregation for Clergy)
3. Outline

1. The Rite of Penance
2. Discussion and role-playing about ordinary (daily, habitual, age-related) and special topics related to penance and confession (children, scrupulosity and mental illness, persons in irregular situations, priests and women religious).
3. Confession practica
5. Anointing practica

4. Calendar

The class meets every Thursday mornings from 9:00 – 9:50 a.m. during the Spring semester, according to the calendar.

5. Requirements

To receive a grade in this course, the student must accomplish the following requirements:
  • Complete attendance
  • Participation in the class discussions and practica
  • Preparation of the various rites for their celebration in class
  • Read “A Confessor’s Handbook” and demonstrate a working knowledge of its contents.

Students will also be required to attend a local parish, subsequently observing and discussing the various rites as celebrated and implemented in that parish.

**CLASS SCHEDULE**

Thursdays as scheduled (see above), except where noted.

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