COURSE PROFILE

1.0 Course Description
This course will introduce students to the history and theological development of the Catholic Social Teaching. Students will be exposed to the various approaches to Catholic Social Teaching, its key themes and the application of these teachings to contemporary social situations. Central to the course will be the development of a familiarity with the principal texts of Catholic Social Teaching from Pope Leo XIII’s *Rerum Novarum* to Pope Francis’ *Evangelii Gaudium and Laudato Si*, and the *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*.

1.1 Course Goals

- Familiarity with the principal historical documents of Catholic Social Teaching;
- Knowledge to the principles and key themes of Catholic Social Teaching;
- Understanding of the historical and theological factors contributing to the development of Catholic Social teaching; and

2.0 Required Textbooks


Pope Francis, On the Care of Our Common Home (*Laudato Si*), USCCB Publications, 2015

*Optional

3.0 Other Resources


Evans, Bernard F., Lazarus at the Table: Catholics and Social Justice, Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 2006


Pham, Peter C., Social Thought, Message of the Fathers of the Church, No. 20, Wilmington, DE: Michael Glazier, Inc., 1984.


Thompson, J. Milburn, Introducing Catholic Social Thought, Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2010

4.0 Website Resources

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops: www.nccbuscc.org
Catholic Relief Services:  www.catholicrelief.org

Acton Institute for the Study of Religion and Liberty:  www.acton.org

Acton Institute - Pope Francis Resources:  www.acton.org/pope-environment

Poverty Cure:  www.povertycure.org  and  www.povertycure.org/voices

5.0 Format of Presentation

Classes will consist of lecture with classroom discussion. Reading will be a critical element of the course. While the course will be primarily lecture in format, class discussions will be utilized to determine the appreciation and understanding of materials covered. Promptness is expected of students for all regular class sessions and for all class assignments.

6.0 Course Requirements & Grading

c. Mid-term exam 40%
d. Final exam 60%

7.0 Exams: Exams will be take home and open book. The exams will be due on a specified date to be announced when the exams are distributed. Late delivery will result in the automatic loss of ten points every two days.

8.0 Course Schedule -

1.0 August 20, 2016: The Origin & Roots of Catholic Social Doctrine

A. Documentary Heritage: Introduction to the Principles of Catholic Social Doctrine and reading of *Rerum Novarum* & *Quadragesimo Anno* (1-82)

B. Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church (1-48)
2.0 September 17, 2016: Catholic Social Doctrine at the Global Level

A. Documentary Heritage: The international implications of Catholic Social Doctrine, reading Mater et Magistra (87-1134) and Populorum Progresso (251-277), and Justice in the World (304-318)

B. Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church (49-114)

3.0 October 15, 2016: Vatican II and Catholic Social Doctrine

A. Documentary Heritage: Pacem in Terris (137-170), The Second Vatican Council: Gaudium et Spes (171-250) and The Challenge of Peace (604-688)

B. Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church (163-196 & 213-228)

4.0 November 19, 2016: Pope John Paul II, the Champion

A. Documentary Heritage John Paul II and the renewal of Catholic Social Teaching, reading Laborem Exercens (369-421), Sollicitudo Rei Socialis (421-468) and Centesimus Annus (469-523)

B. Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church (115-162)

5.0 December 3, 2016: Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis

A. Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church: (pages 197-212, 229-256)

B. Documentary Heritage Caritas in veritatem, Pope Benedict XVI (524-603)

C. Evangelii Gaudium, Pope Francis - complete text (optional)

D. Laudato Si, Pope Francis - complete text