Online Course

Philosophical Ethics, Herman Stark
Traditional Catholic ethics has based itself on the history and development of the natural law theory. This course traces the development of the human person as ethical subject. Various contemporary positions of ethics are also present. Special attention will be paid to the thought of Bernard Lonergan and his influence on ethical decision making.
https://ctu.edu/faculty/herman-stark/

June 3 - 7
9am - Noon

Augustine's City of God as a Pastoral and Spiritual Resource, Joseph T. Kelley
After situating Augustine's City of God in its 5th century political, religious and social context, this classic text will be probed for the challenges and questions it presents to the 21st century church and world. We will explore Augustine's rhetoric and argument from key selections across the 22 books of City of God in order to discover how the Bishop of Hippo understood the relationship between Christian faith and social responsibility. Augustine's insistence on divine grace as essential for a virtuous life will be explored for its pastoral applications to situations of conflict at local, regional and global levels. His eschatological vision will be examined with regard to implications for the spiritual life of Christian activists.
https://www.merrimack.edu/live/profiles/348-joseph-kelley/_p/f

WEEK ONE: June 10-14

The Wisdom of Ancient Israel, Dianne Bergant, CSA
Observing the regularity in creation, the ancient Israelites concluded that there was some kind of order inherent in nature itself. They believed that, if they could discern how this order operated and then harmonize their lives with it, they would be successful and at peace. The ability to perceive this order and to live in accord with it was known as wisdom. The Wisdom tradition of ancient Israel includes the books of Proverbs, Job, Qoheleth, Wisdom and Sirach, Song of Songs and Wisdom Psalms. They will be examined with an eye to their emphasis on human behavior. The perennial themes of creation, perennial themes of creation, suffering and death, retribution, and immortality will be discussed.
https://ctu.edu/faculty/dianne-bergant/
Race, Culture and Theology in Latin@ and Latin American Contexts, Nestor Medina
This course examines the complex interconnection between identity formation, cultural background, and faith tradition. It highlights how Latina/o and Latin American particular religious traditions and theological discourses are shaped by their unique historical contexts and developments of ethno-cultural traditions. Attention is given to central historical events, key authors and theological categories, and their implications for ministry.

Discerning Ministry: Integrating the Skills of Discernment in Your Life and Ministry, Marian Diaz
Are you discerning professional ministry or some larger life question? Do you work in formation with adults? Come, learn and practice the basic skills of discernment and decision making that will serve you well throughout the many stages of life. Explore how to use these skills in facilitating discernment in others as well.
https://ctu.edu/faculty/marian-diaz/

1 - 4 pm

Religious Life and the Pope Francis Effect, Maria Cimperman, RSCJ
Six years into his papacy Pope Francis has impacted the world greatly, and this impact extends very definitively to religious life. During our week together we will look at the Pope Francis effect on religious life. Topics include: 1) the mystical-prophetic call of religious life; 2) the vows; 3) community; 4) virtues; 5) calls to the peripheries.
https://ctu.edu/faculty/maria-cimperman/

Paul's Prison Letters and Experiences of Incarceration, Ferdinand Okorie, CMF
This course involves a close reading of Paul’s prison letters, Philippians and Philemon. It will discuss and analyze Paul’s experience of incarceration by the Roman Empire because of his religious beliefs. When necessary our discussion will engage the prison letters of Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Martin Luther King Jr., for a deeper understanding of religious beliefs and the experience of incarceration.
https://ctu.edu/faculty/ferdinand-okorie-cmf/

Workshoppping Presentations for Diverse Ministerial Settings, John Barker
Do you have stage fright when presenting? Do you struggle to develop effective audio-visual elements? Do you tend to go off script? Bring an idea or a project and this workshop will help you craft an effective, creative presentation for your particular audiences. Learn how to determine the purpose of your talk and structure it in an engaging way that will build your confidence. We will be presenting in class and utilizing peer evaluation in order to practice and improve our speaking skills.
https://ctu.edu/faculty/john-barker/
6 - 9 pm

**Pastoral Care in an African-American Context**, Kimberly Lymore  
This course explores the psychological and cultural elements that contributed to the formation of an African-American identity. The goal is a better understanding of the African-American experience and a greater sensitivity to the strength and needs of this cultural tradition. Students develop a better understanding/ability to minister in the African-American community.  
https://ctu.edu/support-ctu/lymore/

**WEEK TWO: June 17-21**

9am - Noon

**Pastoral Theology and Augustine of Hippo**, Joseph Farrell, OSA  
Pastoral Theology and Saint Augustine will focus on specific sermons, letters, *De Doctrina Cristiana* and *De Civitas Dei* as we explore Augustine of Hippo’s practice of pastoral care to the people entrusted to him. We will be concentrating on the Pastoral Ministry of Augustine and will, in a sense be using Augustine and his experience so as to enjoy a fuller understanding of the pastoral connection we have with this 5th century Bishop of Hippo. We shall examine in depth his experience of ministry during his five years of priesthood as it was upon the experience of those years which Augustine the Bishop built his habits of being a shepherd of the Church.  

**Survey of Systematic Theology**, Robin Ryan, CP (This course will run for two consecutive weeks in the mornings for 3.0 credits.)  
This course consists of an overview of topics and themes in systematic theology. Among the areas that will be treated are: revelation and faith, Trinitarian theology, Christology, creation, sin and grace, ecclesiology, Mary and the saints, sacramental theology, and eschatology. The course is designed to give students a broad exposure to the ways in which these central themes are treated in the Judeo-Christian tradition and in contemporary theology.  
https://ctu.edu/faculty/robin-ryan/

**God of the People**, Peter Casarella  
The course will explore a theology of God through the lens of Latino/a experiences and theologies as well as selected Latin American sources. We will look at Biblical exegesis and theology, the philosophical questions of identity, language, and the breadth of reason, new *mestizaje* and its critics, translation theory, intercultural thought, the names of God tradition in Christian mysticism, Latino/a theological aesthetics, and the theology of the people in Latin America and in Pope Francis.
Islam, Muslims & Islamophobia: A Catholic Response, Scott Alexander
This course will cover the epidemic of Islamophobia in contemporary U.S. American society. Its aim is: to assess the extent of the problem, including statistics regarding anti-Muslim hate crimes and an analysis of the so-called “Islamophobia industry”; to explore and deconstruct negative and harmful anti-Muslim stereotypes, particularly as key elements of dominant mainstream media, “alt-right” media, and social media narratives; and to articulate a ‘Catholic response’ based on Catholic social teaching, theology of interreligious dialogue, and the longstanding praxis of Catholic-Muslim dialogue in the U.S. in which Catholic Theological Union has played a significant role.
https://ctu.edu/faculty/scott-alexander/

Land, Law, Love: The Book of Deuteronomy, Ethan Schwartz
This course is an intensive introduction to the biblical book of Deuteronomy in English translation. We will approach the book through the framework of three of its core themes: (1) the land that is promised as part of God's covenant with Israel, (2) the law in which that covenant is realized, and (3) the love between God and Israel that undergirds that covenant. However, this threefold schema is heuristic, and we will quickly discover that it is not at all clear whether Deuteronomy believes that land, law, and love can be so neatly separated. By the end of the course, students will achieve familiarity with the overall content and structure of the book of Deuteronomy; important primary texts from the book; the place of the book in the Pentateuch and the Hebrew Bible; and the significance of the book in Judaism, Christianity, and academic biblical studies.
https://harvard.academia.edu/EthanSchwartz

Religion and the Law, David Dault
This course will provide students with the context and history of the recent debates surrounding questions of religious liberty. Beginning with an exploration of the Supreme Court’s landmark cases involving the Establishment and Free Exercise clauses of the First Amendment, we will build an understanding of how the legacy of these decisions shape our present-day political landscape. We will examine the rationale for (and failure of) the Federal Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA), and subsequent passage of the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA). Forming a backdrop to these discussions, we will examine position papers promulgated by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops on various religious liberty issues.
http://www.thingsnotseenradio.com/staff/

Worship with Children, Anne McGowan
Christians who are children because of their chronological age (birth to approximately 12 years old) claim their role as children of God in worship in unique ways. This course will
explore theological foundations, catechetical principles, and pastoral strategies for engaging children in the worship of the entire assembly and for preparing and celebrating liturgies in contexts where the majority of the worshipers are children. 
https://ctu.edu/faculty/anne-mcgowan/

**Religious Writing for a Popular Audience - Workshop**, Meghan Murphy-Gill
Are you interested in getting published in a popular religious magazine? This workshop will examine the differences between writing for audiences familiar with religion and writing for secular or non-academic readers. We will workshop how to turn academic essays and papers into opinion articles, personal essays, and news analysis for a variety of readers as well as discuss how to pitch publications.
http://www.meghanmurphygill.com/work

6 - 9 pm

**Understanding by Design - Pedagogy Workshop**, Loyola University Chicago Education Faculty
Are you a DRE, catechist or a religion teacher who wants to learn a new approach to support your students’ learning? This workshop will explore the principles and practice of Understanding by Design, which works from the desired outcomes to develop curriculum in pursuit of understanding. This form of backward design promotes an integration of knowledge and transferable skills.

**WEEK THREE: June 24-28**

9am - Noon

**Augustine the Philosopher**, Paul Comacho
In this course we will explore the philosophical thought of Augustine of Hippo (354-430), a figure who exemplifies the Late Antique ideal of philosophy as a way of life. Using the *Confessions* as a central text, we will examine how Augustine’s intellectual, moral, and religious conversions were influenced by—and in turn transformed—the philosophical culture of his day. We will also consider Augustine’s enduring philosophical legacy by reading texts from his corpus which explore: the possibility of knowing God; the relationship between faith and reason; the possibility and limits of language; the meaning of freedom; the role of subjectivity in time; and the centrality of love for the moral life.
https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/artsci/acsp/facstaff/biodetail.html?mail=paul.camacho@villanova.edu&xsl=bio_long

**Survey of Systematic Theology**, Robin Ryan, CP
See above.
Black Preaching and Storytelling, Maurice Nutt, CSsR
In the Black preaching tradition the ability to “tell the story” is essential. There is something about stories that capture the imagination of the hearer in ways that no other method can. In this course, Black rhetorical traditions will be delineated and identified through the study of African American preachers and analysis of sermons from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Unique characteristics such as call and response, celebration in preaching, and Black hermeneutics will be explored. Each student will be required to preach one homily using both Black and storytelling preaching traditions as a model.
https://ibcsxula.com/reverend-maurice-j-nutt-c-ss-r-d-min/

Lay Leadership of Prayer, Richard McCarron
Lay ministers can preside at more than a dozen liturgies in the Roman Catholic Church. This course will explore the dynamics of lay leadership of prayer: the knowing and the knowing-how to preside through consideration of ritual expressions, vocal skills, prayer genres, bodily enactment, and collaborative evaluation of various lay-led liturgies. Both new and experienced lay presiders will find a space for developing and refining the ministry of leadership of prayer. Must be taken with Lay Preaching to complete the W4205 requirement for MAPS and MDiv.
https://ctu.edu/faculty/richard-mccarron/

1 - 4 pm

Lay Preaching, Richard McCarron
Preaching the Good News of the Gospel is a vocation of all the baptized. In this course, we will look at more formal situations for lay ministers to engage in preaching. Through the lens of liturgical preaching—reading the signs of the times, the scripture, and the context of those gathered—students will explore a basic method for crafting, composing, delivering, and evaluating preaching in pastoral settings. Must be taken with Lay Leadership of Prayer to complete the W4205 requirement for MAPS and MDiv.
https://ctu.edu/faculty/richard-mccarron/

Critical Skills for Pastoral Leadership II, Facilitated by Marian Diaz, various professional speakers
This course expands upon the work of Critical Skills for Pastoral Leadership course. The workshop will cover the following topics:
Day One: Collaborative Leadership - Teambuilding
Day Two: Transforming Conflict
Day Three: Recruiting Volunteers and Hiring Team Members
Day Four: Supervision and Team-centered Evaluations
Day Five: Strategic Planning for Mission and Vision
The Mountains of Matthew: Lectures on the Five Great Discourses in Matthew, Benedict Viviano, OP
This course will cover the five discourses in the Gospel of Matthew.
1. Sermon on the Mount chaps. 5-7;  
2. Apostolic Discourse chap. 10; Discourse on the Parables of the Kingdom, chap. 13. 
3. Peter commissioned and Discourse on the Community, chaps. 16, and 18; 
4. Woes and Judgment, chaps. 23-25; 
http://www.saintalbertthegreat.org/blog/Viviano

6 - 9 pm

Encountering Christ in Harmony: An Asian-American Theology, Maurice Nutt, CSsR
The first pastoral response written and endorsed by the USCCB addressing the Asian and Pacific Island American Catholic communities will be the main focus of this class. The response Encountering Christ in Harmony: A Pastoral Response to Our Asian and Pacific Island Brothers and Sisters addresses the themes of identity, generation, leadership, and culture of encounter. These themes will be the foundation for further study and development of an Asian American theology in the Church. 
https://www.siena.edu/faculty-and-staff/person/linh-hoang/

August 12-16, 2019

Critical Skills for Pastoral Leadership, Marian Diaz, various professional speakers
In consultation with the National Leadership Roundtable on Church Management, this wide-ranging weeklong seminar explores topics including leadership, management, mission integration, planning/visioning, finances, fundraising, and human resources management, among others. Open to all men and women, ordained, professed, and lay, who serve in a leadership capacity in church or congregational ministry.