



Course Descriptions - Summer 2022

Asynchronous Courses

P2680S Philosophical Ethics

Herman Stark, PhD

June 1-30

A study of major philosophical theories of ethics and their application to concrete cases.

Multi-Modal Courses

(All times are listed in CST)

Week 1 June 6-10

B4412S JESUS THROUGH SYNOPTIC EYES

Donald Senior, C.P.

Bi-modal (On Campus and Zoom)

June 6-10, 9 am-Noon

From antiquity Christians have realized the enigma that the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke have strong similarities but also unique perspectives in their portrayals of Jesus and his mission. This course will savor the characteristic portrayals of Jesus found in each of these Gospels. In both their common notes and rich distinctiveness, the Synoptic Gospels reveal a Jesus and his mission that is fundamental for Christian prayer, teaching, preaching, and spirituality (3 credit option available).

DE4001S Synodality and Lay People in the Church

Steven Millies, PhD

Bi-modal (On Campus and Zoom)

June 6-10, 1:00 pm -4:00 pm

Pope Francis has called the whole Church to synodality, insisting that it is what "God expects of the Church in the third millennium." This course presents synodality in its theological and ecclesial context to imagine a synodal Church "in creative fidelity to Tradition." Because the Church mostly is comprised of lay women and men, this course will pay special attention to the role lay women and men play in a synodal Church. A synodal Church is an ecclesiological and social reality of encounter, listening, and discernment in which *all* members have a voice. A synodal Church must also be attentive to the wider context in which the Church exists. Thus, synodality takes special notice of the experiences of lay people, as well as the signs of the times that guide the Church over a new threshold in the wake of Vatican II with new missionary energy for Christianity's third millennium. The course is appropriate for degree-seeking students, but also for experienced ministers and others seeking a better understanding of synodality in the Church (3 credit option available).

B4418S Spirituality and Suffering in Paul's Prison Letters

Ferdinand Okorie, CMF

Bi-modal (On Campus and Zoom)

June 6-10, 1:00 pm -4:00 pm

This course involves a close reading and interpretation of Paul's Prison Letters. We shall pay close attention to the issues Paul addresses in these letters, and how he weaves his experience of imprisonment into his conviction about the presence of God and Jesus Christ in his life. Our discussion of these letters will reveal how Paul's growth in union with God and Jesus Christ provides strength in times of suffering. Students will gain insights into these letters; students will become familiar with the arguments of Paul in these letters; and students will be able to teach and proclaim these letters in the context of suffering and search for the presence of God (3 credit option available).

Week 2 June 13-17

B4406S The Book of Genesis

James Okoye, CSSp

Bi-modal (On Campus and Zoom)

June 13-17, 9:00 am-Noon

The Book of Genesis is a primary source of the foundational traditions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. The course will study this book by focusing on its theological perspectives against the background of its literary and cultural contexts and by considering various contemporary approaches to its interpretation.

BS4300S Considering Jesus Anew: The Biblical Roots of the Cosmic Christ

Laurie Brink, OP

Tri-modal (On Campus, Zoom and Asynchronous)

June 13-17, 9:00 am-Noon

The Letter to the Colossians acknowledges that Jesus “is the first-born of all creation; for him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible...He is before all things, and in him all things hold together” (Co 1:16-17). Through an evolutionary lens, Teilhard de Chardin argues that this Jesus is the Cosmic Christ, the dynamic presence of Christ in the universe. This course explores how Scripture, science, and theology can serve as a foundation for a contemporary integrative spirituality. (1.5 credits; 3-credit option for CTU students only; also available to auditors)

B4408S Parables in the Gospel of Luke

Barbara Reid, OP

Bi-modal (On Campus and Zoom)

June 13-17, 2022, 1:00 pm-4:00 pm

An exploration of the parables in the Gospel of Luke as stories that challenge the hearer to conversion. Attention will be given to the historical, literary, and cultural realities reflected in the Gospel, to its theological themes, and to insights for preaching and teaching parabolically. (3 credit option available).

W4406S Liturgy and Life: Creating Communities Using Digital Technology

Rev. Richard Fragomeni

Remote Synchronous (Zoom)

June 13-17, 2022, 1:00 pm-4:00 pm

The course will examine several online liturgical and communal platforms to analyze methodology for best practices and future use in their Church communities (3 credit option available).

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Additional Courses

E4011S Feminist & Womanist Ethics for Solidarity & Collective Liberation

Dannis Matteson, PhD Candidate

Bi-modal (On Campus and Zoom)

Meets Tuesdays and Thursdays, June 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 1:00-4:00 pm

In this course, we will engage with foundational texts from within womanist and feminist ethics and reflect on the ways in which structures of domination, intersecting oppressions, and cultures of heterosexism threaten the survival and flourishing of many groups and individuals. Together, we will grapple with the conflicting reality that Christianity both exacerbates violence and oppression and provides resources and inspiration for solidarity and liberation. And, we will construct visions of genuine solidarity and liberation that include feminist, womanist, and queer strategies for survival and flourishing. Focusing on their own ministry, social justice work, and theological study, students will consider what a feminist analysis reveals about the structures and relationships of domination present in their contexts. They will brainstorm ways to *recognize* domination and oppression at play, and *implement* strategies for solidarity and liberation in their ministerial and social justice initiatives.

G4010S: Us versus Them: Conflict, Theology & the Human Brain

Scott Alexander, PhD

Remote Synchronous (Zoom)

Meets on Wednesdays, June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 6:30 pm-9:30 pm

In 1971, the great singer songwriter and lyricist John Lennon released his famous utopian hymn. His moving poetry and plaintive melody invite us to “imagine” a world in which there is no conflict—especially of the violent variety. At one point, the lyrics mention two of the systemic instigators of violent conflict which Lennon imagines will have to be eliminated in order for “all the people” to live “life in peace.” They are nation states and “religion.” In this sense, Lennon’s “Imagine” is a lyrical embodiment of the specious albeit understandable claim that ‘religion has been the cause of most of the wars in human history.’

As much as we might admire the spirit of Lennon’s motivation and vision in “Imagine,” those of us committed to faith-based ministries of restorative justice, reconciliation and peacebuilding are deeply invested in the idea that our religious beliefs and practices can be a source of tremendous healing and social change for greater justice. At the same time, however, many of us also find ourselves working with implicit theologies of conflict that are flawed or incomplete. We tend to be mystified by the way in which “religion” continues to fracture the human family, or we are content to participate in creating and enhancing sharp social battle lines based on our own deeply held religious convictions and values, or we do a bit of both.

This course is based on the premise that the long term efficacy of our various ministerial praxes as peacebuilders is at risk as long as we continue to ignore or under appreciate

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what science has to teach us about the evolutionarily ingrained, and largely unconscious dynamic of “Us/Them-ing.” It is designed to provide theologians and ministers with a foundation for constructing more robust theologies of conflict and conflict transformation by introducing and exploring what certain key discoveries in contemporary neuroscience, group identity formation theory, moral foundations theory, and relevant themes in social psychology teach us about the inevitability but also the plasticity and moral potential of the processes by which we divide ourselves into “Us”es and “”Them”s (3 credit option available).

MP4022S Ministry and Media (3 credit hours)

David Dault, PhD

HYB-C

Meets on Tuesdays, May 31, June 7, 14, 21, 28, 6:00-9:00 PM

For more than a hundred years, film, radio, and television have had a profound effect on the practice of ministry and pastoral care. Now in the 21st century, the explosion of new types of interactive and social media has revolutionized our interactions, our economy, and our world. Churches and social justice organizations, however, have often been slow to adopt or even explore these new technologies.

Participants will leave this course with an understanding of how to navigate the changing media landscape, think theologically about digital communications, and put media tools to work for ministry and mission. You will learn to plan strategic campaigns, create content, and measure results. Coursework will include engagement with various platforms, as well as an introduction to key concepts from media history and theory. This **3-credit hour** course will require additional asynchronous work throughout the month.

MP4033S Pastoral Leadership, Emotional Intelligence, and Trauma-Informed Care

Angela Swain, PhD

Remote Synchronous (Zoom)

Meets on Thursdays, June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Trauma is a lived reality for many of us largely due to the COVID pandemic. Many of us are experiencing burnout, exhaustion, and fatigue at exponential levels. How do we respond to this as pastoral leaders? This course will examine models of pastoral leadership through a Christian lens in light of the new norm.

S4030S: Christ of the Forest

Mary Frohlich, RSCJ

Remote Synchronous (Zoom)

June 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 3:00 pm-4:30 pm

When his disciples showed signs of faltering, Jesus took them to the forests of Mount Hermon to refresh and reframe. Both Pope Francis’s encyclical *Laudato Si’* and recent scientific research show how profoundly humans are meant to live in deep interconnection with the natural world. This course provides opportunities to explore spiritual practices

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that foster such interconnection, while also giving such practices a Christian theological foundation. Topics for the five days include: “Humans and Humus”; “Green Jesus”; “Everything is Interconnected”; Seeing Afresh”; and “All My Relatives.”

The course will be taught online. Before each live session, students will watch a 30-35 minute video and engage in suggested spiritual practices. The live sessions will take place 3 - 4:30 pm CT on June 6, 7, 8, 13, and 14. (The long break from Wednesday to Monday provides space for more extensive outdoor contemplative time.)

Workshops

K2019S Career Services Vocational Ministry Workshop

Gerald Doyle and Herbert Quinde, MA

Bi-modal (On Campus and Zoom)

June 20, 2022, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm and 5:00-8:00 pm

A practical hands-on session to explore the tools for discerning a vocational ministry. Starting with an understanding of charisms by reflecting on 1 Cor. 12, the session will offer the opportunity to conduct a self-assessment, create a ministry-focused resume, an updated LinkedIn profile, learn how to build a network and how to search for a paid vocational ministry placement.

This workshop will be offered with two time options with each session covering the same material. Participants can attend either session.