

ATENEDE DE MANILA UNIVERSITY  
Loyola Schools  
Generic Course Syllabus for 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester, School Year 2012-2013

Department	THEOLOGY	School	SOH
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Course No.	TH 121
Course Title	AN INTRODUCTION TO DOING CATHOLIC THEOLOGY
No. of Units	3 units

Course Description:

Theology 121 is the foundational course of the Ateneo de Manila Theology Program. It introduces sophomore students to the basics for “doing theology” at a college level in the Philippines of today.

Theology is faith seeking understanding. Undertaken to arrive at answers to the fundamental questions of the meaning and purpose of human existence in the light of the rich sources of Catholic faith, this on-going search is carried on in the context of the local Christian community, the Church in the Philippines today.

The course aims at developing in the students the skills needed for “theologizing”: interpreting Scripture and Church Teaching in the unceasing interplay between the “Good News” of salvation and concrete human experience. These skills are focused on Jesus Christ, God’s definitive revelation, in whom the believing Christian’s faith-response finds life’s ultimate meaning and purpose.

Learning to “theologize” plays an essential role in developing basic human attitudes and values, by deepening the personal understanding and practice of the Christian faith indicative of disciples of Jesus Christ and active members of his Body, the Church.

Course Objectives:

1. To educate the sophomore students to theologize within the Catholic Tradition on a college level, by;
2. Exercising them in the skills of proper interpretation of Scripture and Church Teachings, focused on Jesus Christ in the Philippine Asian context;
3. Toward developing an authentic Filipino living faith response to basic human questions in terms of Catholic truths, moral ideals, and sacramental worship.

Course Outline:

A. Starting Point

Active Role of Christian Faith in Daily Life

1. Faith seeking understanding, relative to basic questions of human existence
2. Interplay between faith and reason
3. In our specific local temporal context

B. Sources/Mean for Theologizing: Christian Faith Responds to God's Revelation

1. In Sacred Scripture
  - a. nature of SS; inspiration
  - b. basic methods of interpretation
2. In Catholic Tradition: Church Teachings
3. Within the believing community, the Church, Asian context

C. Central Focus on Jesus Christ

1. Prefigured in OT prophecies; expressed in NT: Life and mission, in Mark-Matthew
2. In Church Tradition: the early Councils, Vatican II
3. Within the Church: role of Magisterium, e.g., PCP II

D. Faith Response

1. Three essential dimensions
2. Growing, maturing process
3. Personal/Ecclesial contexts, e.g., Baptismal promises

References (optional):

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Department	THEOLOGY	School	SOH
Course No.	TH 131		
Course Title	MARRIAGE, FAMILY LIFE, AND HUMAN SEXUALITY IN A CATHOLIC PERSPECTIVE		
No. of Units			

Course Description:

Theology 131 envisions an approach and understanding of marriage, family life, and human sexuality from a specifically Catholic perspective, and within our Filipino context.

The course is introduced with a theological anthropology as the broader scheme within which human sexuality is situated and should be understood. Building on an interdisciplinary understanding of the human person (philosophical, psychological, sociological), this part is enriched by the insight of contemporary theologians and seeks to provide junior students with a fuller view of man/woman in their identity, equality and complementarity as Filipinos.

The interdisciplinary approach is followed by a study of the sacramentality of marriage as a life commitment, and as a participation in the redemptive mission of Christ entrusted to and continued by the Church.

By including a discussion of specific moral questions related to marriage and sexuality in the light of Church Teaching, and the Philippine context, the course provides students with exercises in the process of critical moral reflection and discernment.

Finally, the ecclesial context of marriage is highlighted by a presentation of the laws of the Church governing marriage, more specifically the provisions on annulment.

Course Objectives:

1. To introduce junior students to a theological anthropology of the human person as the broader context of human sexuality, marriage and family life.
2. To lead them to a deeper understanding of marriage as a sacrament and of the family as the domestic Church within the local Church in the Philippines.
3. To exercise students in the use and interpretation of Sacred Scripture and Church Teaching towards a Catholic understanding of married/family life.
4. To develop the skills of critical moral reflection/discernment through the study of specific moral cases related to human sexuality, marriage, and family life.

Course Outline:

- A. Towards a Theological Anthropology
  - 1. The Universal Call to Holiness in the Church
  - 2. A Contemporary and Interdisciplinary Understanding of the Human Person
  - 3. Freedom and Fundamental Option
  - 4. Within Philippine context
  
- B. Towards a Theology of Marriage
  - 1. Human Reality of Marriage
  - 2. Sacramentality of Marriage
    - a. Sacred Scripture Texts
    - b. Christian Tradition Texts
    - c. Contemporary Church Teachings on Marriage
  
- C. Specific Moral Questions on Human Sexuality, Marriage, and Family Life
  - a. Sexuality: masturbation, pre-marital sex, homosexuality, adultery, and concubinage, fornication and promiscuity, prostitution, rape
  - b. Family Planning: natural family planning, artificial birth control, sterilization, abortion, infertility and sterility, adoption
  - c. Special Issues: violence within the family, rape among spouses, incest
  
- D. Church Law on Marriage

References (optional):

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Department	THEOLOGY	School	SOH
Course No.	TH 141		
Course Title	A THEOLOGY OF THE CATHOLIC SOCIAL VISION		
No. of Units	3 units		

Course Description:

Theology 141 is a systematic study of social commitment from a theological perspective. The course begins with an exposition of the Church as the Church of the poor and the pastoral cycle as a method of theologizing. It then focuses on a social and cultural analysis of the Philippine situation in the light of PCP II. The main content of the course is the theology of the Catholic social vision in its doctrinal basis, sacramental celebration, and biblical foundations, declared in the papal social teachings and the pastoral letters of the Catholic Bishops of the Philippines (CBCP).

In view of the various emphases in treating the Catholic social vision, responses to Philippine problems are related to business, science and technology, ecology and gender, politics and governance—in accordance with the students’ areas of concern and interest. The whole course is envisioned to deepen a “spirituality of social transformation” founded on a faith committed to social justice and liberation in the Philippines today.

Course Objectives:

1. To educate senior students towards a more mature social awareness of the Philippine situation in the light of the Christian faith.
2. To develop a more responsible social involvement and participation in the promotion of social justice and the option for the poor.
3. To form students towards deepening a critically formed, authentic “spirituality of social transformation.”

Course Outline:

- A. Introduction
  - 1. The Church of the Poor and the Pastoral Cycle as a Method of Theologizing
  - 2. Social and Cultural Analysis of Philippine Society
  
- B. Theological Basis of the Christian Social Vision
  - 1. Doctrinal Basis
    - a. Creation
    - b. Sin: Original/Personal/Social
    - c. Redemption in Christ
  
  - 2. Sacramental Celebration
    - a. Sacrament of Reconciliation
    - b. Sacrament of the Eucharist
  
  - 3. Biblical Perspectives on Justice
    - a. OT: Exodus, Laws, and Prophets
    - b. NT: Gospel of Luke, Kingdom of God, Paschal Mystery
  
  - 4. Catholic Social Teaching
    - a. Papal Social Teaching
    - b. Pastorals of the CBCP
  
- C. Immersion/Group Projects: Responses to Philippine Development Problems in the Light of the Catholic Social Vision
  
- D. Spirituality of Social Transformation

References (optional):

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Department	THEOLOGY	School	SOH
Course No.	TH 151		
Course Title	THE CATHOLIC COMMITMENT OF TODAY'S FILIPINO: A SYSTHESIS		
No. of Units	3 units		

Course Description:

Theology 151 is the synthesis of the Ateneo four-course Theology Program. Major elements of the three previous courses are integrated and renewed in the critical study and understanding of commitment from a theological perspective: its subjective factors, objective factors, elements for growth, process and goal, in our Philippine context.

Through guided study and research activity, the course leads college seniors toward a personal interior assimilation of Christian faith in their lives. This is done through the exercise of developing a personal integral faith synthesis, centered around a core theme, and selected from a plurality of suggested doctrinal, moral, or liturgical prayer topics or themes.

The course envisions to develop in the seniors a mature personal understanding and interior integration of Christian faith and daily life in our Philippine context, which constitutes the challenge.

Course Objectives:

1. A deeper inculturated integration of their Christian faith as they respond to the opportunities and challenges of daily life in our Philippine context.
2. Through guided exercises in personal/ecclesial synthesis and critical theological reflection.
3. Towards an on-going process of fuller creative spiritual growth and maturity in their fundamental commitment to a life of Christian faith, hope, and love in the service of their neighbor.

Course Outline:

- A. Theological Study of Filipino Graced Commitment
  - 1. Basic Elements of the Study
    - a. Tools for Theological Study
    - b. Subjective Factors of Commitment: Freedom, Conscience, Law, Sin
    - c. Objective Factors: Revelation/Faith, Theology  
Within local Ecclesial Condition and Philippine Context; South East Asia
  - 2. Elements for Growth/Maturity in Christian Commitment
    - a. Sources: Scripture (John), Church Teaching (Creed), and Filipino Human Experience
    - b. Inner Source: Grace, Christian community, the Church
  - 3. Graced Commitment as Process and Goal
    - a. Christian Vocations Rooted in Baptismal Consecration
    - b. Fidelity (Eucharist)
- B. Personal Christian Synthesis Centralizing Core: Selected from (examples)
  - a. Doctrine: Christ, Paschal Mystery, Church
  - b. Morals: Love Commandment, Following of Christ
  - c. Worship: Lord's Prayer, Sacramental principle, Eucharist

References (optional):