



## Course and Workshop Descriptions - Summer 2021

### Asynchronous Courses

#### **P2680 Philosophical Ethics**

Herman Stark, PhD

June 1-30

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

#### **E4010S Women and Catholic Social Teaching**

Leocadie Lushumbo, PhD

June 1-15

This course explores the inclusion/consideration of women in Catholic social teaching from Pope Leo XIII to Pope Francis. It will discuss several documents issued during the different papacies throughout history. The course will also bring up feminist critiques showing that despite its affirmation of equality of participation of both men and women in all spheres of life, Catholic social teaching after Vatican II, is still displayed with ambiguity in the matter of the equality of participation of men and women in Church and society, especially with regard to features like gender complementarity, mothering, and childbearing models.

#### **B4050S Women in Early Christianity**

Marian Diaz, DMin

June 1-30

This course will explore primary texts from the first three centuries of Christianity to understand the primary roles of women in the church. In addition, themes related to women's daily experiences and female imagery and theology will be explored in light of early Church practice.

**DMP4026S Theology and Practice of Nonviolence**

Jeffrey Meyers, PhD

June 7-25

Nonviolence is a method of struggle with a two-fold goal: to simultaneously resist injustice and oppression and construct a more peaceful and just world. Jesus practiced and proclaimed nonviolence in his opposition to the oppressive and exploitative social, economic, and political conditions of his day. In our own time, the church is called to preach and pursue the peace of God's kingdom, including through supporting or initiating nonviolent campaigns against injustice and oppression. This course explores the Christian call to nonviolence through an examination of the teachings of Jesus and the work of a wide range of theologians and nonviolence theorists. It is designed to provide students with a foundation in both the theology and the practice of nonviolence.

## Synchronous Courses

(All times are listed in CST)

### **MP4021S Pastoral Work with Youth and Young Adults: Exploring and Applying Recent Findings**

Marian Diaz, DMin

Wednesdays, 7-8:30 pm in June

Recent research exploring the experiences of 13-25 year olds can help us reconsider and focus pastoral practice with this age group. Participants will read the findings of Springtide Research Institute whose broad ranging studies cover a diverse population including young people who are not religiously affiliated. In addition, works that focus on Catholic youth and young adults, including the work of Hoffmann Ospino on Hispanic youth and young adults, will be covered. Participants will support each other in developing new and innovative pastoral practice plans based on the research.

### **B4048S Prophecy and Justice**

Ethan Schwartz, PhD

June 7-11, 9 am - noon

The biblical prophets are famous for their stirring calls for justice, which have continued to resound in modern-day religious social action. In fact, this aspect of prophecy is so influential that for many contemporary Christians and Jews, the word “prophetic” itself means primarily to stand courageously against the powerful on behalf of the powerless. In this course, we will explore the biblical roots of the connection between prophecy and justice, situating it within its ancient contexts and tracing its subsequent reception in both theology and action. We will ask questions such as: How do the prophets configure justice in relation to worship, and why does this matter? How do prophetic calls for justice change over the course of biblical history? How have Catholics, Protestants, and Jews interpreted these passages differently? Can the historical-critical study of biblical prophecy inform the role it plays in contemporary justice work?

### **B4060S Church and Leadership in the Pastoral Letters**

Ferdinand Okorie, CMF

June 7-11, 1-4 pm

This week-long course is based on a close reading and interpretation of the Pastoral Letters. Our reading and interpretation of the Pastoral Letters will pay close attention to the themes of church and leadership in the letters. Students will be familiar with the message of the letters in the context of the early church, and gain competency in proclaiming the letters in today’s church.

**SMW4030S All that Is Seen and Unseen: Art and Architecture in the Catholic Church**

Mickey McGrath, OSFS

June 14-18, 9 am - noon

The study of art and architecture throughout church history offers us an unique opportunity to come to a deeper understanding of the spirituality and theology of our ever changing times. This course will present the artists of each age as prophets and voices from the margins and look beneath the surface at details of the life within.

**MPS4005S Caste, Race and the Catholic Church: Implications for Spirituality and Ministry**

C. Vanessa White, DMin

June 14-18, 1-4 pm

Using the books *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* (Isabel Wilkerson) and *Racial Justice and the Catholic Church* (Bryan Massingale) as frameworks, this course will address the over 400 years of the system of caste and racism in the United States and specifically focusing on the Catholic Church. The hope is that this course will provide a place to have honest conversations and participants will gain insight for the anti-racist work that we are all called to be engaged.

**W4405S Death and Afterlife - Liturgy and the Promise of the Resurrection**

Rev. Richard Fragomeni

June 21-25, 1-4 pm

This course will present the varied ways in which we talk about the afterlife from narrative, liturgical and doctrinal perspectives. In addition, the course will explore the renewed Catholic doctrine on purgatory. Finally, students will also engage in funeral planning for themselves and others. This course is an elaboration on the series offered in November 2020 entitled, *Pondering Death in the Month of Holy Souls*.

**B4426S Paul: The Apostle's Theology for the Twenty-First Century**

Donald Senior, CP

June 21-25, 9 am - noon

In critical times, the church has repeatedly turned to Paul to renew its vision of Christian life. That is true today when the church and the world face profound challenges. This course will study Paul's theology from this vantage point: reflecting on his unflinching attention to the death and resurrection of Christ as the pattern for human destiny, on his view of the church as a harmony of gifts, on his spirit of radical equality and collaboration, and on his vision of a redeemed future for humanity and for creation.

**DS5102S God and the Mystery of Suffering**

Robin Ryan, CP

June 21-25, 1-4 pm

The stark reality of human suffering has challenged the minds of philosophers and religious thinkers through the ages. It also engages the minds and hearts of pastoral ministers. In this course, students explore the ways in which the mystery of human suffering has been addressed in the Bible, the theology of the early Church, medieval theology, and by modern thinkers such as Elie Wiesel, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Jürgen Moltmann, Edward Schillebeeckx, Gustavo Gutiérrez, and Elizabeth Johnson. Students are invited to enter into sustained reflection on the way in which they conceive of God's relation to suffering people.

**MP4045S Plagues, Pandemics and Pastoral Care**

Mark Bradley, DMin

June 21-25, 6-9 pm

*Plagues, Pandemics and Pastoral Care* is a class born from the experience of a pastoral care provider on the front lines as a hospital chaplain in the times of HIV/AIDS and Covid-19. The course material draws from art, literature, behavioral sciences, history and theology. Students will utilize presentations, group discussion and readings to increase their pastoral competency for times of global health crisis. The class will draw heavily on the history of pandemics around the world, especially the response of organized religion in order to enrich their theology and learn effective strategies for pastoral persons and faith communities in the present and future.

## **Workshops - Synchronous Sessions**

### **K2040S Beyond God: Images of the Holy One for an Evolving Humanity**

Elizabeth-Anne Stewart, DMin, PhD

June 7-11 - 1-2:30 pm

In a world ravaged by pandemic, global warming, social upheaval and the failure of our guiding institutions, the old names and images for God no longer resonate. As Creation groans, a new humanity is emerging from the blood and the tears – one that is socially conscious, aware of our connectedness, and protective of the Earth and her creatures. This “new humanity” will not settle for conventional piety, authoritarian religion or limiting images of Divinity. As human consciousness evolves, so does our capacity to understand biblical revelation regarding the nature of the Holy One. When we disregard the layers of social constructs that have obscured the Divine Image, we will discover the God of the Mysterium, that God Beyond God, the God of the Mystics, who is present in spite of VUCA (Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity and Ambiguity) and perhaps because of it. As we awaken to our human potential, actualizing the divinity within, so will we see as God sees, feel as God feels and be as God is. Our destiny is nothing less than to become that which we seek.