

# Theology

The education of students in an atmosphere of individual concern and Christ-like teaching is the primary focus of the Theology Program. We believe that spiritual growth is central to the learning process. Christian Community unfolds in the simple, everyday moments of life, as individuals come together to share their gifts, time, talents and lived experience of faith in Jesus. We believe that each faculty member, Catholic or non-Catholic, Christian or non-Christian, is responsible for witnessing to Gospel values in both word and action. Our ultimate aim is to nurture the adolescent into a responsible, believing adult who recognizes the power of God's law and the Church's contribution to humanity and who will guide his/her life according to Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition.

## **THEOLOGY 9**

**Credit 1.00**

**Level 2**

### **THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST IN SCRIPTURE**

The purpose of this course is to give students a general knowledge and appreciation of the Sacred Scriptures. Through their study of the Bible they will come to encounter the living Word of God, Jesus Christ. In the course they will learn about the Bible, authored by God through Inspiration, and its value to people throughout the world. If they have not been taught this earlier, they will learn how to read the Bible and will become familiar with the major sections of the Bible and the books included in each section. The students will pay particular attention to the Gospels, where they may grow to know and love Jesus Christ more person

### **WHO IS JESUS CHRIST?**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the mystery of Jesus Christ, the living Word of God, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. In this course students will understand that Jesus Christ is the ultimate Revelation to us from God. In learning about who he is, the students will also learn who he calls them to be.

## **THEOLOGY 10**

**Credit 1.00**

**Level 2**

### **THE MISSION OF JESUS CHRIST (The Paschal Mystery)**

The purpose of this course is to help students understand all that God has done for us through his Son, Jesus Christ. Through this course of study, students will learn that for all eternity, God has planned for us to share eternal happiness with him, which is accomplished through the redemption Christ won for us. Students will learn that they share in this redemption only in and through Jesus Christ. They will also be introduced to what it means to be a disciple of Christ and what life as a disciple entails.

### **JESUS CHRIST'S MISSION CONTINUES IN THE CHURCH**

The purpose of this course is to help the students understand that in and through the Church they encounter the living Jesus Christ. They will be introduced to the fact that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by him through the Holy Spirit. The students will come to know that the Church is the living Body of Christ today. This Body has both divine and human elements. In this course, students will learn not so much about events in the life of the Church but about the sacred nature of the Church

## **HONORS THEOLOGY 10**

**Credit 1.00**

**Level 3**

In addition to the requirements of Theology 10, this course involves independent reading assignments, independent research and papers, class presentations on assigned topics that include use of technology and preparation of Sunday Liturgical Readings and Homilies. Students are also encouraged to exceed the 15 hours of service required for Theology 10. A service project of a minimum of 15 volunteer hours is required. Students are encouraged to focus on doing their service in the areas of Pro-Life, Healing, and Elder Care.

***Prerequisite:*** *This course is offered to the top 25% of students in Theology 9 (based on Final Average) and teacher approval.*

## **THEOLOGY 11**

**Credit 1.00**

**Level 2**

**THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD** - An overall view of the Church in a historical framework and perspective with special attention to the early Church and the formulation of Creeds. Emphasis is placed on those individuals and events which have had a definite influence in giving form to the Church as it is today.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE** - The purpose of this course is to provide the tools to work for peace and justice. In light of Gospel imperatives and Catholic social teachings, students will examine contemporary issues which will impact on the personal, spiritual and social/political levels of their lives.

A service project of a minimum of 20 hours is required. Students are encouraged to focus on doing their service in the area of social action or civic organizations.

## **HONORS THEOLOGY 11**

**Credit 1.00**

**Level 3**

In addition to the requirements of Theology 11, this course involves independent reading assignments as well as independent research and papers.

***Prerequisite:*** *This course is offered to the top 25% students in Theology 10 (based on final average) and teacher of course approval.*

## **THEOLOGY 12**

**Credit 1.00**

**Level 2**

**APOLOGETICS** - Given the teaching and practices of Roman Catholicism, this course is intended to challenge the student in the development toward a mature faith. Included in the course is a review of basic teachings and instruction on how to maintain and foster one's faith and to uphold one's belief system against those who would seek to undermine it. Also provided is an overview of selected significant ethical and justice issues. The meaning of human life can be discovered only by searching for answers to the ultimate questions that people in every age and of every culture have asked; by way of response, consideration will be given to the intellect and experience of faith as these reflect on a belief in God and the relationship we share with the members of the human community.

**THEOLOGY OF CHRISTIAN VOCATION** - This course is designed to present the different vocations in the Church with a special emphasis on Marriage and Family Life. It will offer a realistic and practical approach to the Catholic teachings relating to a broad area of relationships. Special emphasis will be placed upon the ability to live a virtuous life and address fundamental spiritual, emotional, sociological ideals, goals and problems

encountered in the effort to grow within a relationship with God, and fellow creatures. The areas of the celibate life and the marriage covenant will be specifically addressed.

A service project of a minimum 25 hours is required. Students are encouraged to focus on doing their service in the areas of children and youth.

## **HONORS THEOLOGY 12**

**Credit 1.00**

**Level 3**

### **THEOLOGY OF MARRIAGE & CHRISTIAN VOCATIONS**

Given the teachings and practices of Roman Catholicism, this course is intended to present and to relate those teachings to Christian vocations with a special emphasis on Sacramental Marriage and Family Life.

Serving as the foundation for the course is an understanding of what it means to be a human person who stands in relationships of interdependency with other persons; from this it intends to establish an appreciation for the dignity of the human person and the sanctity of all of human life.

Consideration will be given to Christian values and personal faith and the relationships that one shares with God, others and the created order. Appropriate issues, related questions and skills and strategies will be highlighted to assist the young man and woman in moving from one stage of life to the next.

### **CATHOLICISM -- ITS FAITH AND TEACHINGS**

Given the teachings and practices of Roman Catholicism, this course is intended to challenge the student in the development toward a mature faith. Included in the course is a review of essential teachings and instruction on how to maintain and foster one's faith and to uphold one's belief system in light of the challenges of contemporary secular society.

The meaning of human life can be discovered only by searching for answers to the ultimate questions that people in every age and of every culture have asked; by way of response, consideration will be given to the intellect and the experience of faith as these reflect on a belief in God and the relationships we share with and our responsibility toward members of the human community. In conjunction, an overview of selected significant ethical and justice issues will be provided. The meaning of human life can be discovered only by searching for answers to the ultimate questions that people in every age and of every culture have asked; by way of response, consideration will be given to the intellect and experience of faith as these reflect on a belief in God and the relationship we share with the members of the human community.

***Prerequisite:*** *This course is offered to the top 25% students in Honors Theology 11 (based on final average) with teacher of course approval. A summer reading assignment is a requirement for this course.*

## **HOLOCAUST/WORLD RELIGIONS**

**Credit 1.00**

**Level 2**

The objectives of this course will be to: 1) Lead students into a greater understanding, awareness, and appreciation of the nine principles of Catholic Social Justice and to be able to apply the principles to the Holocaust, the Pol Pot Regime (Khmer Rouge) in Cambodia during the 1960's, the genocide in the Balkans in the 1990's, and the current problems in the Sudan. Students will learn to live these principles for the betterment of society; 2) Lead students into a basic understanding, awareness, and appreciation for the non-Catholics of the world. The religions studied will be Judaism, Protestantism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Chinese religions, and Japanese religions.

**Seniors Only** (unless approved otherwise)

**\*\*This is an elective course and does NOT replace the requirement of Theology 12\*\***