

Scriptural Foundations for Teaching the Faith Today
CCP 213: Course Syllabus
University of Sacramento

Date and Times

Term: Spring 2008
Class Dates: Thursday, January 17-April 25
Class Time: 6:00-9:10

Instructor

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Course Notes: stjohnthebaptistchico.org (click the Catholic Hour)

Course Description

An examination of the content and structure of Sacred Scripture, including a review of its historical development and authentic interpretation that will provide the student with the foundational tools necessary to study, understand, pray and hand on the sacred text from a Catholic perspective.

Course Objectives

The course will provide an overview of Catholic principles: inspiration, inerrancy and the hermeneutics of faith. An introduction to reading Sacred Scripture with *Dei Verbum* and the *Catechism* will also be presented. An examination of both the Old Testament and New Testament as God's love story with man will be considered in detail. The message of Christ and the birth of the Church will highlight our study of Sacred Scripture. Our response to God's Revelation of Himself will also pervade each teaching.

Required Textbooks

Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2nd Edition.

Catholic Bible Suggested trans. Revised Standard Version, Catholic Edition

Second Vatican Council, Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation: Dei Verbum.
November, 1965.

Shea Mark. *Making Senses out of Scripture: Reading the Bible as the First Christians Did*. San Diego: Basilica Press, 1999.

Pontifical Biblical Commission, *Interpretation of the Bible in the Church*. Boston: Pauline Books & Media, 1993.

Baker, Kenneth. *Inside the Bible: An Introduction to Each Book of the Bible*. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2001.

Pope Benedict XVI. *The Apostles*. Huntington, IN: Our Sunday Visitor, Inc., 2007.

Recommended Textbooks

Kreeft, Peter. *You Can Understand The Bible: A Practical And Illuminating Guide To Each Book In The Bible*. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2005.

Reno, R.R.; O'keefe, John. *Sanctified Vision: An Introduction to Early Christian Interpretation of the Bible*. Baltimore, MD: John Hopkins University Press, 2005.

Hahn, Scott. *Letter and Spirit: From Written Text to Living Word in the Liturgy*. New York: Doubleday, 2005.

Minch, Curtis and Hahn, Scott. *Ignatius Catholic Study Bible: The Gospel of Matthew*, RSV, 2nd Edition. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2000.

--*Ignatius Catholic Study Bible: The Gospel of John*, RSV, 2nd Edition. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2003.

--*Ignatius Catholic Study Bible: The Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans*, RSV, 2nd Edition. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2003.

Grading Policy

Grade: Pass/Fail. To achieve a passing grade the student must achieve a 75% grade or higher on the required assignments. In each given assignment, the student will be made aware of their final grade for that assignment and/or a need to make changes to achieve the 75% necessary.

The following are required for passing grade:

2 papers, 6 journal entries (or paper), presentation, attendance (see policy below) and class participation

Required reading between classes

Approximately 4-5 hours per week will be required for the reading assignments and homework outside of class. The reading is essential in order to come to appreciate the beauty and scope of Sacred Scripture and will be necessary to enter into classroom discussion.

Assignments

Each student is responsible to turn in a reflection paper, a journal (or option for second paper) and a presentation.

For each reflection paper described below, write a cohesive essay of 2-3 pages. What is required of the writer is a critical and prayerful exercise of the mind and heart that should result in an intelligent, thoughtful, penetrating reflection into Scripture. Aside from that, you should observe the following.

- (1) Papers should be typed and stapled.
- (2) Observe proper grammar, syntax, spelling and proofread for typos.
- (3) Demonstrate critical thinking through analysis, synthesis and clear conclusion.

First Paper

Reflecting upon *Dei Verbum*, *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, *Making Senses out of Scripture: Reading the Bible as the First Christians Did*, and *Interpretation of the Bible in the Church*, write an essay that discusses the meaning and interrelation of the senses of Sacred Scripture. How does this meaning and interrelation provide for the foundation of reading Sacred Scripture?

Second Paper or Journal

Paper

Find at least two examples of “transformation” (as discussed in class) from any one of the synoptic Gospels. Be sure to draw evidence of transformation directly from the biblical text. How does transformation lead to holiness?

Or Journal

Each student will be responsible for six journal entries to subject matter discussed each class period. These journals are intended for critical thinking and analysis.

Second (Third) Paper/Presentation

The second (third) paper is a development of the first paper. I will have a handout for this assignment at the midway point of the semester course.

Grading Policy (adapted from university catalog)

Regular class attendance will be taken for each period of educational training. To successfully complete a course and to receive credit, students must attend at minimum 90% of lectures, classes, and any required activities. Special exceptions to this policy may be made. The student is solely responsible for making up all work misses due to absence.

Course Outline

Week 1-January 17 (Ordinary Time): Dei Verbum; Shea: Pgs. 33-45

- Course Overview
- Divine Revelation Itself
 - Faith and Reason
 - Relationality
- Economy of Revelation
- Man's response to God

Week 2-January 24 (Ordinary Time): PBC; Shea: 46-123; CCC: 50-141

- Transmission of Divine Revelation: Sacred Scripture, Sacred Tradition and the Magisterium...the Sacred Deposit
 - Senses of Sacred Scripture
 - Reading Sacred Scripture with Pope Benedict XVI in the Heart of the Church
 - Memory of the Church, Spiritual Exegesis and the Hermeneutic of faith

Week 3-January 31 (Ordinary Time): Baker: 9-56; Shea 124-147

- Covenant and the unity of Scripture and Liturgy
 - Understanding the meaning and role of Genesis: Family, Sacrifice and Obedience at the core
 - Scriptures Liturgical sense
 - Other key Patriarchs

Week 4-February 7 (Lent): RSV: Exodus; Shea: 161-245

- Week 3 cont'd

Week 5-February 14 (Lent): Shea: 147-157; Baker 235-246; RSV: Mt.3:1-25:46 (focus on kingdom language)

- Direction for Paper 2/Transformation in Scripture
- Exodus: the Mosaic covenant/Todah Passover meal
 - Departure and spirituality of the Exodus
 - Present Eucharistic typology in Cathedral

Week 6-February 21 (Lent): Baker: 248-251, 259-263; RSV: Lk.15; Benedict XVI

- Mark: Jesus' authority as the Son of God/ The suffering Messiah
- Matthew: The Catholic Church as the Kingdom of David and the Primacy of Peter
- Paper 1 due**

Week 7-February 28 (Lent); Baker 253-258; RSV Jn.1:1-10:39

- Luke: The Prodigal Son and Kingdom table fellowship

The Biblical vision to the Sacrament of Confession
Acts: The early Church and the 12 Apostles

Week 8-March 6 (Lent): RSV: Jn.5:1-8:59; 18:1-19:42

Drama: St. John in Exile

John: The early signs of Jesus Ministry and a thematic look at John's Paschal Sense

The Hour

"I Am" titles of Christ

Week 9-March 13 (Lent): Baker 193-196; CCC 638-655

John: The paschal theologian cont'd...Eucharistic discourse in the Greek and the Passion narrative

Week 10-March 20—no school

Week 11-March 27 (Easter): Baker 266-270; RSV: 1 and 2 Peter

Biblical Vision to Resurrection

Biblical Vision to the Sacrament of Confession (a more composite treatment)

Begin Student Presentations

-Paper 2/Journals due

Week 12-April 3 (Easter):

Romans/1 Peter...Central themes to Paul and Peter: Baptism and Divine Sonship...the universal call to holiness and becoming a new creation in Christ

Continue student Presentations

Week 13-April 10 (Easter)

Student Presentations

Week 14: April 17 (Easter)

Student Presentations

Week 15-April 24 (Easter)

Student Presentations/closing remarks on outpouring of the Holy Spirit

