THEO 60894-01: Introduction to Catechetical Theology

July 10-28, 2017

MTWHF 12:30-3:00 PM

Instructor:

Timothy P. O’Malley, Ph.D.
368 Geddes Hall
631-0571
tomalley@nd.edu

Course Description:

This course provides an introduction to the theological principles undergirding the ministry of catechesis. The course begins with an analysis of the General Directory for Catechesis, discerning the major theological and pastoral principles of this ministry. Students will then be introduced to the history of catechesis as a discipline both historically and systematically. In the final part of the course, students will develop a theology of teaching drawn from catechesis, in addition to discerning the unity of the tasks of catechesis in theory and practice.

Course Objectives:

1. Become familiar with the fundamental vocabulary and grammar of the Church’s ministry of catechesis through attention to documents and core theological texts.

2. Develop a facility in assessing the philosophical and theological assumptions of catechetical pedagogy in the twentieth century.

3. Cultivate an awareness of the sociological and cultural situation of “traditioning” faith within an American context.

4. Ground a personally appropriated catechetical pedagogy in the way of beauty (an aesthetic, sacramental pedagogy of faith).

5. Develop dispositions for intellectual leadership in the areas of catechesis and theological education.
Required Texts:


Course Requirements:

1. A one page essay due every class available on Sakai (50%).
2. A final, take home exam due by Saturday morning after the last day of class (50%). The exam will have one of three options.
   a. Based upon our reading over the course of the semester, describe the vocation of the catechist/theological educator in the Church today. What should the catechist/theological educator teach? How should he/she teach it? To whom should it be directed? The exam should be no more than seven pages.
   b. In a seven page essay, describe how catechesis/theological education is a liturgical-sacramental activity of the Church.

Course Schedule:

Monday, July 10: The General Directory for Catechesis — Part 1

- GDC nos. 1-91

Tuesday, July 11: The General Directory for Catechesis — Part 2

- GDC nos. 92-162.

Wednesday, July 12: A Kerygmatic-Sacramental Approach to Catechesis — Part 1

- James K.A. Smith, Selections from James K.A. Smith, Desiring the Kingdom: Worship, Worldview, and Cultural Formation || Selections from Imagining the Kingdom: How Worship Works
Thursday, July 13: A Kerygmatic-Sacramental Approach to Catechesis—Part 2


Friday, July 14: A Kerygmatic-Sacramental Approach to Catechesis—Part 3

- Timothy P. O’Malley, *Liturgy and the New Evangelization*, 51-75

Monday, July 17: A Kerygmatic-Sacramental Approach to Catechesis—Part 4


Tuesday, July 18: The Practice of Kerygmatic-Liturgical Catechesis—Part 1


Wednesday, July 19: The Practice of Kerygmatic-Liturgical Catechesis—Part 2


Thursday, July 20: The Practice of Kerygmatic-Liturgical Catechesis—Part 3


Friday, July 21: The Practice of Kerygmatic-Liturgical Catechesis—Part 4


Monday, July 24: Practicing Evangelizing Catechesis through Narrative—Part 1


Tuesday, July 25: Practicing Evangelizing Catechesis through Narrative—Part 2


Wednesday, July 26: Practicing Evangelizing Catechesis through Narrative—Part 3

Thursday, July 27: The Risk of Theological Education — Part 1

- Luigi Giussani, *The Risk of Education*, 7-49

Friday, July 22: The Risk of Theological Education — Part 2