

# **Christian Social Teaching I**

**THEOLOGY 5231A**

**ARTS: RELIGIOUS STUDIES 2234F**

**ST. PETER'S SEMINARY, LONDON, ONTARIO**

**Thursday 9:30 am to 11:20 am, Room 102**

## **Course Outline**

**September to December 2015**

**Professor: Fr. Frank O'Connor - [Phone 519-432-1824 ext. 235; email [tfoconno@uwo.ca](mailto:tfoconno@uwo.ca)]**

**Professor: Fr. Murray Kuemper - [Phone 519-432-1824 ext. 226; email [mkuemper@uwo.ca](mailto:mkuemper@uwo.ca)]**

[Office Hours by Appointment, so please contact the above number or address]

### **GOALS:**

1. To examine the meaning, content, methodologies and practical implications of Christian Social Teaching.
2. To focus our exploration principally on Catholic Social Teaching while also considering other faith based and secular approaches.
3. To give particular attention to the social, historical and methodological factors related to the development of these teachings.
4. To become aware of some of the social problems of our time and our milieu, to reflect on them in the light of the Church's teaching, to discuss these issues and to discover possible avenues of hope-filled, just action.

### **A. Knowledge**

1. To know the history of the Catholic Church's social justice tradition.
2. To study and have a familiarity with the principal magisterial documents of the Church's social teachings on the papal and universal level, on the regional and national level, and on the provincial and diocesan level.
3. To have a critical knowledge of the significant methodological changes and the underlying constants in the development of the social teaching of the Catholic Church.
4. To have a knowledge of the theories and methods needed to develop strategies for relating Christian Social Teaching to the social mission of the Church at the parish and local level.
5. To be able to understand and articulate specific social issues and problems that influence society and the Church today on the local, national and international level in order to be able to formulate possible Christian Catholic responses.

### **B. Skills**

1. To be able to understand and interpret the historical development of the Church's Christian Social teaching in the broader ecclesial and secular historical context.
2. To be able read and analyze the Church's Social documents.
3. To be able to understand and apply appropriately Christian and theological social principles in concrete social analysis.
4. To develop the practical skill of working with others in applying different methods of social analysis: for example ASee, Judge, Act@.

5. To develop the oral and writing skills needed to articulate clearly and faithfully the Christian Social Teaching and its practical application to specific issues and problems.

### **C. Values and Attitudes**

1. To appreciate the importance of the Church's Social Teaching as an integral and constitutive part of the total doctrine of the Catholic Church.
2. To develop a sense of solidarity with, and love for, the poor by making a preferential option for the poor and oppressed rooted in our faith in Jesus Christ.
3. To appreciate the need for justice and peace in our global and local world, and the urgency for those in the Church to work for these values with all people of good will.
4. To value the connection between spirituality and social justice in forming agents for social change with the heart and mind of Jesus Christ.

### **Methodology:**

The course includes reading, lectures, discussion, student presentations and papers.

### **Assignments:**

1. Read and study the required texts.
2. Read and be conversant with the supplementary material indicated in the class lectures, for example articles, videos, interviews, etc.
3. Enter into class discussions.
4. Complete the required papers, seminars and tests.

### **Required Texts**

**The Social Attitudes of a Catholic: Revised Edition** by Michael T. Ryan. Nelson Education: Toronto, 2014. (Available at UWO Bookstore)

**Catholic Social Thought: The Documentary Heritage. Expanded Edition** edited by David J. O'Brien and Thomas A. Shannon. Orbis Books: Maryknoll, New York, 2010. (Available at UWO Bookstore)

Francis, Pope. Encyclical Letter **Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home**. May 24, 2015 (CCCB Pub.: Ottawa, 2015 (Available at UWO Bookstore & on the Vatican Web site: vatican.ca)

### **Recommended Optional Text**

**Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church**, by Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace. Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops: Ottawa, Ontario, 2005. (Available at UWO Bookstore)

**[Note: These texts are used for both the first and second semester of this course]**

**CHRISTIAN SOCIAL TEACHING I**  
**FIRST SEMESTER**

**SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER 2015**

Sept.10      **Introduction**  
F.              Overview: Social Analysis; Social Documents, Christian Social Principles

*READ: Compendium, An Integral & Solidary Humanism, pp. 1-7.  
O'Brien & Shannon, pp. 1-8*

Sept.17      **Theology of Social Action & Social Analysis**  
M.              Discussion #1: Chapter 13 AWho are the Poor? **The Social Attitudes**

*READ: Solidarity, Ryan: A Theology of Christian Social Action, pp.15-23  
Social Attitudes of a Catholic, Ryan: Chapter 13 Who are the Poor? p. 41  
Compendium, The Human Person and Human Rights, pp. 49-70.*

Sept.24      **Seminar I: Pope Francis, Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home.2015**  
F.              Read and study: Introduction, Chapters 1, 2, 3 - Numbers 1 to 136  
**Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops [CCCB]: 2015 Federal Election: Making Our Voices Heard - Part I**

*READ: vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/ 2015  
Introduction, Chapters 1, 2, 3. Numbers 1 to 136  
Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops [CCCB]: 2015 Federal Election: Making Our Voices Heard - August 2015: [On Reserve]*

**PAPER #1**

***Due Sept. 24 at the end of class [15 Marks]***

Oct. 1         **Seminar II: Pope Francis, Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home.**  
M.              Read and study: Introduction, Chapters 4, 5, 6, - Numbers 137 to 246  
**[CCCB]: 2015 Federal Election: Making Our Voices Heard - Part II**

*READ: vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/ Chap.4, 5, 6. Numbers 137-246*

**PAPER #2**

***Due Oct. 1 at the end of class [15 Marks]***

Oct. 8         **Guest Lecturer - Fr. Michael Ryan**  
**On Pope Francis: Laudato Si [On Care for Our Common Home] 2015**

Oct. 15      **Christian Social Principles I: Human Person, Human Society, Rights & Law**  
F.              Discussion #2 Chapter 4 What do we mean by The dignity of the human person?  
in **Social Attitudes**, pp. 11-13

*READ: Solidarity, Ryan, A Basic Christian Social Principles, pp. 24-32.  
Compendium, A The Principle of Subsidiarity, Participation, Solidarity, Social Values, pp 81-92  
Social Attitudes, Ryan: Chap. 4 What do we mean by A the dignity of the human person? p 11-13*

Oct. 22 [First Hour] **TEST (35 Marks)**

Oct. 29 Study Day

Nov. 5 **Rerum Novarum: [The Condition of Labour]** Context, Themes, Text,  
Conclusions

F. **Overview of the Social Documents**  
**Property: Meaning and Use**

READ: O'Brien & Shannon, *Rerum Novarum [The Condition of Labour]*, pp. 12-40.  
*Solidarity*, Ryan, *Property: Meaning and Use*, pp.35-47.

Nov. 12 **Quadragesimo Anno: [After Forty Years]**, Context, Themes, Texts,  
Conclusions

M. **Mater et Magistra [Christianity and Social Progress]:** Context, Themes, Texts,  
Conclusions.

Agriculture: Land Use, the Family Farm and Agribusiness - Some Issues

READ: O'Brien & Shannon, *Quadragesimo Anno: [After Forty Years]*, pp.41-82.  
O'Brien & Shannon, *Mater Et Magistra [Christianity and Social Progress]*, pp.85-134.  
*Social Attitudes*, Ryan, *Farming* p. 80-82

Nov.19 **Pacem in Terris [Peace on Earth]**, Context, Themes, Texts, Conclusions.

F.

READ: O'Brien & Shannon, *Pacem in Terris [Peace on Earth]*, pp. 135-170.  
*Compendium*, *The Promotion of Peace*, pp.213-226.

Nov.26 **Christian Social Principles II - Human Person & Family & Common Good**  
M.

READ: *Compendium*, *Meaning, Common Good, Universal Destination of Goods*, pp. 71-80.  
*The Family, The Vital Cell of Society*, pp. 95-114  
*Social Attitudes*, Ryan, *What is the Common Good?*, pp. 17-19.

**[November 26<sup>th</sup> : Only for those in Religious Studies 2234F] PAPER #3: Take home exam distributed today and is due at the end of the class: DECEMBER 3, 2015 [35 Marks]**

Dec. 3 **The Spirituality of Social Justice**

F. **Summary and Conclusions**

READ: *Social Attitudes*, Ryan. *AMorality, Spirituality, Culture*, pp 1-10. [Chapters 1, 2, 3]

**PAPER #3 [Only for those in Religious Studies 2234F]**

**Take home exam is due at the end of the class today: DECEMBER 3, 2015 [35 Marks]**

**NOTE:**

1. There will be no final exam in Christmas exam period for those in Religious Studies.
2. There will be an Oral Exam for those in Theology 5231A.

## **PART I: FIRST SEMESTER - TOPIC OUTLINE**

[Theology 5231 A; Religious Studies 2234 F]

**1. Introduction:** Social Analysis and Christian Catholic Social Teachings

### **2. Magisterial Documents**

- I. Rerum Novarum 1891 [The Condition of Labour] - Pope Leo XIII
- ii. Quadragesimo Anno 1931 [The Reconstruction of the Social Order] - Pope Pius XI
- iii. Mater et Magistra 1961 [Christianity and Social Progress] - Pope John XXIII
- iv. Pacem in Terris 1963 [Peace on Earth] - Pope John XXIII
- v. Laudato Si 2015 [On Care for our Common Home] - Pope Francis

### **3. Theological Doctrine and Principles**

#### **I. Theology of Social Action**

- a. The Dignity of the Human Person
- b. The Person as the Image of God
- c. The Person as Social Being
- d. The Reign of God and the Mission of the Church

#### **ii. The Spirituality of Social Justice**

#### **iii. Christian Social Principles**

- a. Human Person
- b. Human Society
- c. Common Good
- d. Human Rights and Law

#### **iv. Property: Meaning and Use**

### **4. Social Issues: Analysis and Practice: Seminar and Paper**

- I. Poverty in the World
- ii. Canadian Social Issues

### **5. Group Study and Work**

Involvement in group work and study with other members of the class.

### **6. Personal Research:**

Written Assignments

## **PART II: SECOND SEMESTER - TOPIC OUTLINE**

[Theology 5232 B; Religious Studies 2235 G]

### **1. Introduction**

### **2. Magisterial Documents**

- I. Gaudium et Spes 1965 [The Church in the Modern World]
- ii. Populorum Progressio 1967 [The Development of Peoples]
- iii. Octagesimo Adveniens 1971 [A Call to Action]
- iv. Justice in the World 1971
- v. Laborem Exercens 1981 [On Human Work]
- vi. Sollicitudo Rei Socialis 1987 [The Social Concerns of the Church]
- vii. Centesimus Annus 1991 [One Hundred Years]
- viii. Caritas in Veritate 2009 [On Integral Human Development in Charity and Truth]
- ix. Laudato Si 2015 [On the Care of Our Common Home]

### **3. Theological Teachings and Applications**

- I. Theology of Work
- ii. Leisure and the 'Sabbath Rest'
- iii. Taking Sides: The Preferential Option for the Poor
- iv. Consistent Ethic of Life
- v. The Spirituality of Social Involvement

### **4. Social Issues: Analysis and Praxis**

- I. The Economy
- ii. The Just Wage
- iii. Labour Unions
- iv. Transnational Corporations
- v. Worker Sharing in Management, Ownership, Profits
- vi. Ecology and Responsibility for the Environment
- vii. Aboriginal Peoples and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission
- viii. Other Designated Issues

### **5. Social Change**

In Society and in the Church

### **6. Group Study and Work**

Involvement with other members of the class in joint study and research.

### **7. Personal Research**

Essay assignments

## ASSIGNMENTS AND MARKING: FIRST SEMESTER

### A. MARKING AND WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

A purely theoretical instruction in humankind's social and economic obligations is inadequate. Practical training must also be given in the proper fulfilment of these obligations.

(Pope John XXIII, Mater et Magistra, # 230)

#### 1. PAPER #1: (15 Marks)

Analysis of an assigned text from Pope Francis Laudato Si [On Care for Our Common Home] Introduction, Chapters 1, 2, 3

DUE: SEPTEMBER 24, 2015 (15 Marks) [Paper Due at the end of Class]

This paper is based on an assigned section of the encyclical letter of **Pope Francis, Laudato Si [On Care for Our Common Home] 2015, taken from the Introduction, Chapters 1, 2, 3.**

It is 2-3 pages in length. [1000-1500 words using font 12]

The paper is to have **Three** parts:

**Part One** is an accurate summary of **two teachings** contained in the assigned section. {**JUDGE**}

**Part Two** is **one concrete application** of the teachings to an important social issue in Canada or beyond. {**SEE and ACT**}

**Part Three** is to formulate **one question** that arises out of your study.

#### 2. PAPER #2 (15 Marks)

Analysis of an assigned text from Pope Francis Laudato Si [On Care for Our Common Home] Chapters 4, 5, 6,

DUE: OCTOBER 1, 2015 (15 Marks) [Paper Due at the end of Class]

This paper is based on an assigned section of the encyclical letter of **Pope Francis, Laudato Si [On Care for Our Common Home] Chapters 4, 5, 6**

It is 2-3 pages in length. [1000 - 1500 words using font 12]

The paper is to have **THREE** parts:

**Part One** is an accurate summary of **two teachings** contained in the assigned section. {**JUDGE**}

**Part Two** is **one concrete application** of the teachings to an important social issue in Canada or beyond. {**SEE and ACT**}

**Part Three** is to formulate **one question** that arises out of your study.

#### 3. MID-TERM TEST - (One Hour, in class) - OCTOBER 22, 2015 (35 Marks)

4. **FINAL EXAM**

A. **PAPER #3 [Only for those in Religious Studies 2234F]**

**Take home exam will be distributed on Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015 and is due at the end of the class: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2015 [35 Marks]**

OR

B. **ORAL EXAM [Only for those in Theology 5231A]**

**This oral exam will be during the exam period and will follow the outline distributed at the end of the course. [35 Marks]**

5. **MARKING**

**Theology 5231A**

Paper # 1.....	15 Marks
Paper # 2.....	15 Marks
Mid-term test.....	35 Marks
Oral Exam.....	35 Marks
	<b><u>100 Marks</u></b>

**Religious Studies 2234F**

Paper # 1.....	15 Marks
Paper # 2.....	15 Marks
Mid-term test.....	35 Marks
Paper # 3 [Take-home exam].....	35 Marks
	<b><u>100 Marks</u></b>

**B. WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS: REQUIREMENTS**

**1. The Three Papers**

- Paper #1 is **2 to 3 pages in length**. [1000-1500 words using font 12] [For everyone]  
Paper #2 is **2 to 3 pages in length**. [1000-1500 words using font 12] [For everyone]  
Paper #3 is **Take-Home Exam [Only for those in RS 2234F]**

**2. Policies regarding Submission of Assignments and Tests**

- It is the responsibility of the student to organize his or her work so that the assignments can be completed on time.
- Assignments are to be handed in at the class on the due date. Assignments may not be dropped off at King's or submitted electronically.
- For a serious reason, a student may be granted an extension. On the form provided, the student is to write a brief explanation of the reason for the extension. This is to be signed by the



teacher, with the extended date noted. A copy of the extension notice is given to the Dean.

d. Any medical reasons will be confirmed by proper documentation as approved by the Dean=s Office.

e. A penalty of 10% of the value of the assignment will be deducted for each day it is overdue without permission.

f. No electronic devices will be allowed during tests or the examination, unless approved in advance by Student Services at the University or King=s. (This refers to students with disabilities who have permission to use a word processor to write their exams/tests.)

g. Students who miss tests will negotiate a Amake-up@ date with the professor. Any medical reasons will be confirmed by proper documentation as approved by the Dean=s Office.

### **3. Internet References**

If references are given from internet sites the exact designation of the site must be given **along with** a hard copy of the page from which the quote is taken or to which the reference is made.

### **4. MLA Style**

The MLA Style (Modern Language Association) is to be used in writing your papers: in the Bibliography/Works Cited and in the quotations in the text.

### **5. University Regulations and Support Services**

**Scholastic offences** are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

**All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review** to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com <http://www.turnitin.com>.

**Students are responsible for knowing the University=s academic policies and regulations** and any particularities of their own course of study. Ignorance of these policies is not an excuse for any violation thereof. The following policies are particularly important to note:

**Submission of Assignments:** It is the responsibility of the student to organize his or her work so that the assignments are completed on time. A penalty of 10% of the value of the assignment will be deducted for each day it is overdue without permission.

**Plagiarism:** Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt by quotation marks and/or footnotes. Plagiarism is a major academic offense. Students may be required to submit their work in electronic form for plagiarism checking.

**Selection and Registration of Courses:** Students are responsible for ensuring that their selection of courses is appropriate and accurately recorded, that all prerequisite course(s) have been successfully completed, and that they are aware of any anti-requisite course(s) that they have taken.

**Support Services:** Students who are in emotional/mental health distress should refer to Mental Health@Western: <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

**University Students Council** provides many valuable support services for students (including the health insurance plan) <http://westernusc.ca/services/>.

**Information about Counselling and Student Development, including Services for Students with Disabilities at King's is available at**

<http://www.kings.uwo.ca/about-kings/who-we-are/administrative-departments/dean-of-students/>

**For emotional/mental health assistance see specifically:**

<http://www.kings.uwo.ca/currentstudents/campus-services/student-support-services/personal-counselling/>

**The web site for Academic Services at King's University College is:**

<http://www.kings.uwo.ca/currentstudents/academic-support/>

These services are not meant to replace those offered at the Seminary, but may be beneficial to our students after consultation with the appropriate instructors, administrators, and formators.

## **SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES**

### **1. Official Church Documents: Vatican, Canadian Bishops, Ontario Bishops**

**Documents of the Popes.** See <http://www.vatican.va/holyfather>

**Francis, Pope. Encyclical Letter Laudato Si=: On Care for Our Common Home.** May 24, 2015

CCCB Pub.: Ottawa, 2015 (Available at UWO Bookstore & at <http://www.vatican.va/holyfather>

**Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace: Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church.**

Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops: Ottawa, Ontario, 2005. (Available at UWO Bookstore)

**Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace: The Social Agenda: A Collection of Magisterial Texts.** Vatican: Libreria Editrice Vatican, 2000 [This whole document is found at

[www.thesocialagenda.org](http://www.thesocialagenda.org) and [www.thesocialagenda.com](http://www.thesocialagenda.com)].

**Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops [CCCB]: 2015 Federal Election: Making Our Voices Heard - August 2015:**

[Http://www.cccb.ca/site/images/stories/pdf/2015\\_Federal\\_Election\\_Guide\\_EN.pdf](http://www.cccb.ca/site/images/stories/pdf/2015_Federal_Election_Guide_EN.pdf)

**Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops [CCCB]: The Word of God and Social Action: Insights from Verbum Domini**. 2014. See [www.cccb.ca](http://www.cccb.ca)

\* **Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops [CCCB]: [Permanent Council] Pastoral Letter on Freedom of Conscience and Religion**. [April 2012] [On Reserve] See [www.cccb.ca](http://www.cccb.ca)

**Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops [CCCB]: Responsibility and Discernment: Election [2004]**. Origins, April 29, 2004 Vol. 33: No. 46, p. 785. [On Reserve] See [www.cccb.ca](http://www.cccb.ca)

**Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario [ACBO] (Previously Ontario Conference of Catholic Bishops - OCCB): Taking Stock: an Examination of Conscience (2007)**.  
See <http://www.acbo.on.ca/englishweb/publications.htm>

**Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario [ACBO] (Previously Ontario Conference of Catholic Bishops - OCCB): Choosing a Government, [Pentecost 1998]** Toronto: Ontario Conference of Catholic Bishops, 1998. See <http://www.acbo.on.ca/englishweb/publications.htm>

## **2. Other References**

**Dwyer, Judith A., Editor. The New Dictionary of Catholic Social Thought**.  
Collegeville, Min.:Michael Glazier Book, Liturgical Press,1994. [Reference Section]

**Finn, Daniel K., Editor. The True Wealth of Nations - Catholic Social Thought**.  
Oxford University Press, 2010

**Guardini, Romano. The End of the Modern World**.  
ISI Books, Intercollegiate Studies Institute, Wilmington, Del., USA. 1998

**Himes, Kenneth R. O.F.M., Editor Modern Catholic Social Teaching: Commentaries and Interpretations**.  
Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2005.

**McCarthy, David Matzko, Editor. The Heart of Catholic Social Teaching**.  
Brazos Press, 2009.

**Pabst, Adrian, Editor. The Crisis of Global Capitalism: Pope Benedict XVI=s Social Encyclical and the Future of Political Economy**. Eugene, Oregon: Cascade Books, 2011.

**Ryan, M. T. Solidarity: Christian Social Teaching and Canadian Society**,  
Second Edition, London ON: Guided Studies Programs in the Faith, 1990. [On Reserve]

**Walsh, Michael and Brian Davies, Editors. Proclaiming Justice and Peace: Papal Documents from Rerum Novarum through Centesimus Annus**. Mystic, Conn.: Twenty Third Publications, 1991. [Note: The index is more complete than in our text.] [On reserve]