

ST. PETER'S SEMINARY/KING'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
at *The University of Western Ontario*

CHRISTIAN SOCIAL TEACHING
THEOLOGY 5232B and RELIGIOUS STUDIES 2235G

Tentative Course Outline - January to April 2013

Wednesday 9:30 to 11:20 am

Fr. Frank O'Connor: 519-432-1824 ext. 235 Email tfoconno@uwo.ca

[Office hours by appointment by contacting the above number or address]

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Theology that supports Christian social action with a study of papal and other Church documents, from 1891 to the present, related to social justice. An analysis of specific issues of poverty in Canada and the global community. A consideration of the basic principles contained in Catholic social doctrine. Strategies for relating Catholic social teachings to the mission of the Church at the parish and local level.

B. 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.

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.

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 "See, 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.

Values

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.

C. REQUIRED TEXTS

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)

The Social Attitudes of a Catholic, by Michael T. Ryan. Solidarity Books, 2010 [with revisions]: 1688 County Rd. 46, R.R. 1, Woodslee, ON N0R 1V0. (Will be available for purchase at the first class or can be ordered directly from the author)

Preaching the Church's Social Doctrine, by Michael T. Ryan. Solidarity Books, 2008: 1688 County Rd. 46, R.R. 1, Woodslee, ON N0R 1V0. (Will be available for purchase at the first class or can be ordered directly from the author)

D. 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)

D. SCHEDULE OF LECTURES, SEMINARS AND READINGS - WINTER 2012

**Jan.9 Introduction: Preferential Option for the Poor
A Consistent Ethic of Life and the Common Good**
Linking Issues of Life and Justice [Principles, Policies & Action]

Read: Bernardin, Card. J. "Address: Consistent Ethic of Life Conference", pp. 86-95 [Handout]
Compendium, "The universal destination of good and the preferential option for the poor", pp. 79-80

Jan.16 Gaudium et Spes, [The Church in the Modern World]: Context, Themes and Texts
[Special attention to the sections on "Culture" 53-62; "Socio-Economic Life" 63-72; "The

Life of the Political Community” 73-76; “The Fostering of Peace” #77-90]

Read: O’Brien & Shannon, “Gaudium et Spes” [The Church in the Modern World], pp. 201-224

Jan.23 Theology of Work and Leisure

Read: Ryan, Solidarity, “A Theology of Work” and “Leisure”, in Ryan, p. 72-81
Ryan, Social Attitudes, “Work: Just a job or something more?” p. 67-70 and
“Work can be Hazardous to your health” pp. 71-73
Compendium, “Human Work” pp. 115-131

Jan.30 Populorum Progressio, [On the Development of Peoples]: Context, Themes and Texts

Discussion #1: Preaching the Church’s Social Doctrine by Michael Ryan pp. 1-22

Paper #1: Precis on Preaching the Church’s Social Doctrine: “Part I Essential Elements of Effective Preaching” due at the end of class - Jan. 30, 2013

Read: O’Brien & Shannon, “Populorum Progressio” [On the Development of Peoples], pp. 238-262
Ryan, Preaching the Church’s Social Doctrine, “Part I: Essential Elements of Effective Preaching” pp. 1-22

Feb.6 Justice and Interdependence: Micro Credit - History and Rights
Guest Lecture: Lesley Porter from Save a Family Plan

Read: Compendium, “The International Community”, pp. 185-196

Feb.13 Mid-term Test [First Hour of Class]

Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace (CCODP)
of the Canadian Catholic Bishops’ Conference: Themes for Lent 2013

Octagesimo Adveniens, [A Call to Action]: Context, Themes and Texts
Justice in the World: Context, Themes and Texts

Read: O’Brien & Shannon, “Octogesima Adveniens” [A Call to Action], pp. 263-286
“Justice in the World” [Synod of Bishops, 1971], pp. 287-300

Feb.20 Conference Week

Feb.27 Laborem Exercens, [On Human Work]: Context, Themes and Texts
Labour Unions and Movements of Solidarity

Discussion #2: Based on a Draft of Paper #2 (½ to 1 page) [Not handed in]

Read: O’Brien & Shannon, “Laborem Exercens”[On Human Work], pp.347-392
Compendium, “Rights of Worker”, “Solidarity among workers”, “New Things”, pp. 132-140
Ryan, Social Attitudes, “Labour Unions”, “The Right to Strike”, “Contracting out’: good business or degradation of work?”, “Replacement workers”, pp. 74-87

**Mar.6 Sollicitudo Rei Sociales, [On Social Concern]: Context, Themes and Texts
"Taking Sides", Albert Nolan, O.P.**

Read: O'Brien & Shannon, "Sollicitudo Rei Socialis", [On Social Concern], pp. 393-436
Nolan, Albert. Taking Sides. London, Eng.: Catholic Institute for International Relations
[On Reserve]
Compendium, "Safeguarding the Environment", pp. 197-212

**Mar.13 Centesimus Annus, [On the Hundredth Anniversary of Rerum Novarum]:
Context, Themes and Texts**

Read: O'Brien & Shannon, "Centesimus Annus [On the Hundredth Anniversary of Rerum
Novarum], pp. 437-488
Compendium, "The Political Community", pp. 163-184
Ryan, Social Attitudes, "Politics", pp. 99-101

**Mar.20 The Economy
Discussion #3: Conversation on Homily/Talk or Theological Essay**

Paper #2 - Essay due to be handed in at the end of Class today - March 20, 2013

Theological Essay - Due to be handed in at the end of class - March 20, 2013

Read: Ryan, Social Attitudes, "Making and Spending Money" and "Investing our Money" pp.
36-43
Compendium, "Economic Life" pp. 141-162

**Mar.27 Systemic Justice: Our Economic and Political Systems in the Light of Christian
Catholic Social Teachings.**

**Guest Lecture: Sr. Sue Wilson c.s.j.,
Sisters of St. Joseph Office for Systemic Justice**

Apr.3 A Spirituality of Social Justice

One way of Action: Moses Coady, Jimmy Tompkins and the Antigone Movement

Read: Compendium, "For a Civilization of Love", pp. 251-255
Ryan, Social Attitudes, "Spirituality of justice?" p. 6-8

**Apr.10 "Caritas in Veritate" Revisited: Social Change In Society and the Church:
Summary and Conclusions: Spirituality of Social Involvement Revisited**

Read: Ryan: Social Attitudes, "Working for social change", "Putting the social teaching of the
Church into practice", pp. 102-110

***Paper #3 - For Religious Studies 2235G - Summary topics and questions
Due at the end of class April 10, 2013***

E. OUTLINE OF TOPICS FOR THE SECOND SEMESTER

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 [Charity in Truth]

3. Theological Teachings and Applications

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

4. Social Issues: Analysis and Praxis

- i. The Economy
- ii. The Just Wage
- iii. Ecology
- iv. Work: Unemployment, Underemployment, Full Employment
- v. Women and Social Justice
- vi. Labour Unions
- vii. Transnational Corporations
- ii. Leisure and Work
- ix. The Media
- x. Food and Agriculture
- xi. Worker Sharing in Management, Ownership, Profits
- xii. Trade: Fair and Free
- xiii. The Challenges of World Poverty and Just Distribution
- xiv. Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace (CCODP) of the Canadian Bishops Conference

5. Social Change: In Society and in the Church

6. Social Issues: Group Work and Class Presentation:

Each person will carry out study of the social documents and apply them to social issues. This will then be shared in class discussion groups as indicated by the professor.

7. Personal Research:

Essay assignments are required which will flow out of the personal research done on the social documents. The essays will clearly summarize the document and indicate applications.

F. MARKING: SECOND SEMESTER

I. For Religious Studies 2235G

1. **Paper #1:** Precis on "Preaching the Church's Social Doctrine" pp. 1- 22 [1-1 ½ Page] (10 Marks) [**due Jan. 30, 2013**]
2. **Mid-Term Test** -(ONE HOUR, in class) (30 Marks) [**Feb. 13, 2013**]
3. **Paper #2:** Homily or Talk (30 Marks) [5 to 7 pages of 1500-2000 words using font 12] [**due March 20, 2013**]
4. **Paper #3:** Response to Take-home topics or questions (30 Marks) [**due April 10, 2013**]

II. For Theology 5232B - Complete EITHER Plan A OR Plan B

Plan A

1. **Paper #1:** Precis on "Preaching the Church's Social Doctrine" pp. 1- 22 [1 ½ to 2 Pages] (10 Marks) [**due Jan. 30, 2013**]
2. **Mid-Term Test** -(ONE HOUR, in class) (30 marks) [**Feb. 13, 2013**]
3. **Paper #2:** Homily or Talk (30 Marks) [6 to 8 pages of 2000-2500 words using font 12] [**due March 20, 2013**]
4. **Final Oral Exam for Theology 5232B:** - (30 marks).[during exam period]

Plan B

1. **Major Research Essay:** On a Theological topic of your choice which draws on the Social Teachings, Social Documents and the wider Moral Theology tradition of the Church [15-20 pages] Precise footnotes and complete bibliography are to be given. (70 Marks) [**due March 20, 2013**]

[NOTE: A ½ to 1 page draft is to be handed in for approval of the topic - [**due no later than Feb. 27, 2013**]

2. **Final Oral Exam for Theology 5232B:** - (30 marks).[during exam period]

G. WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

a. For Religious Studies 2235G

Paper #1: Precis on Preaching the Church's Social Doctrine pp. 1- 22 [1-1 ½ Page] (10 Marks) [**due Jan. 1, 2013**]

This is a summary of the key teachings of Fr. Ryan found in "Part I: Essential Elements of Effective Preaching". Be prepared to discuss this with others on the day the paper is due.

Paper #2: Homily or Talk (30 Marks) [5 to 7 pages of 1500-2000 words using font 12] [**due March 20, 2013**]

This is a talk or homily you would give to a specified group on a social justice topic drawing on the Holy Scriptures and the social teachings and documents of the Church that we are studying this semester. Clearly specify what group is being addressed by your talk or homily.

NOTE: Draft of Paper #2 (½ to 1 page) [Not be handed in] is to be brought to class for discussion on Feb.27, 2013

Paper #3: Response to Take-home topics or questions (30 Marks) [**due April 10, 2013**]

This will be a written response to topics or questions which will be given out in the class in March 2012. Specific guidelines will be given at that time. These will serve as a means to draw together and summarize the course.

[NOTE: There will be NO final exam in the UWO examination period in April 2013]

b. For Theology 5232B - Complete EITHER Plan A OR Plan B

EITHER Plan A

Paper #1: Precis on Preaching the Church's Social Doctrine pp. 1- 22 [1 ½ to 2 Pages] (10 Marks) **[due Jan. 30, 2013]**

This is a summary of the key teachings of Fr. Ryan found in "Part I: Essential Elements of Effective Preaching". Be prepared to discuss this with others on the day the paper is due.

Paper #2: Homily or Talk (30 Marks) [6 to 8 pages of 2000-2500 words using font 12] **[due March 20, 2013]**

This is a talk or homily you would give to a specified group on a social justice topic drawing on the Holy Scriptures and the social teachings and magisterial documents we are studying this semester. Clearly specify what group is being addressed by your talk or homily. Seminarians are encouraged, but not required, to choose to do a homily for this assignment.

NOTE: Draft of Paper #2 (½ to 1 page) [Not handed in] to be brought to class for discussion on Feb.27, 2013

OR Plan B

1. **Major Research Essay:** On a Theological topic of your choice which draws on the Social Teachings, Social Documents and the wider Moral Theology tradition of the Church [15-20 pages font 12]. Precise footnotes and complete bibliography are to be given. (70 Marks) **[due March 20, 2013]**

This essay is offered as an opportunity and challenge to those who wish to do in-depth research on a theological topic in Christian Social Teaching that you see as important for connecting the theology of this field with the wider theological conversation in the church and in society today.

[NOTE: A ½ to 1 page draft is to be handed in for approval of the topic - [due no later than Feb. 27, 2013].

This draft will also be used as a basis for participation in the class discussion on Feb. 27th.

H. WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS: REQUIREMENTS

1. Policies regarding Submission of Assignments and Tests

a. It is the responsibility of the student to organize his or her work so that the assignments can be completed on time.

b. 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.

c. 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 “make-up” date with the professor. Any medical reasons will be confirmed by proper documentation as approved by the Dean’s Office.

2. 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.

3. Academic Offenses

a. “Scholastic offenses are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offense, at the following web site: <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf>.”

b. “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>).”

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.

H. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Valuable References

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

Himes, Kenneth R., editor, Modern Catholic Social Teaching: Commentaries and Interpretations. Washington: Georgetown University Press, 2005

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 our text.] [On reserve]

Select Bibliography and References

1. Official Church Documents

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

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 and www.thesocialagenda.com].

Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops [CCCB] (Social Affairs Commission):
“**Responsibility and Discernment: Election [2004]**”. *Origins*, April 29, 2004 Vol. 33: No. 46, p. 785. [On Reserve]

Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops [CCCB]: “The Struggle Against Poverty: A Sign of Hope for our World” [1996]. [On Reserve]

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

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>

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>

2. Other References

Boileau, David A, Editor. Principles of Catholic Social Teaching. Milwaukee: Marquette University Press, 1998.

Charles, Rodger, S.J. Christian Social Witness and Teaching: Catholic Tradition from Genesis to Centesimus Annus. 2 Volumes. Herefordshire, England: Gracewing, 1998.

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

ISARC - Interfaith Social Assistance Reform Coalition. Faith to End Poverty Campaign. 2011 See www.isarc.ca and www.faithtoendpoverty.ca [Helpful material to prepare for a Provincial Election in 2013]

Krier Mich, Marvin L. Catholic Social Teaching and Movements. Mystic, CT: Twenty-Third Pub., 1998.

Massaro, Thomas, S.J. Living Justice: Catholic Social Teaching in Action. Franklin, WI: Sheed and Ward, 2000

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

Nolan, Albert. Taking Sides. London, Eng.: Catholic Institute for International Relations, 1984. [On Reserve]

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 Catholic Faith, 1990. [On Reserve]

Rousseau, Richard, S.J. Human Dignity and the Common Good: The Great Papal Social Encyclicals from Leo XIII to John Paul II. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2002.

Sheridan, Edward F. S.J., Editor. Do Justice! The Social Teaching of the Canadian Catholic Bishops (1945-1986). Sherbrooke, P.Q.: Editions Paulines, 1987.

**..... Love Kindness! The Social Teaching of the Canadian Catholic Bishops (1958-1989)
A Second Collection . Sherbrooke, P.Q.: Editions Paulines, 1991.**