

REL 491i – Faith Formation in Religious Education

Intersession, 2020

COURSE OUTLINE

CLASS START AND END DATE

May 1 – June 26, 2020

CLASS MEETING TIME

Online

INSTRUCTOR NAME

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

An examination of God's revelation and people's response to faith; a study of the theories of faith formation in children and young people; and an exploration of how teachers and administrators can foster faith formation.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Theological Instruction Objective - The course shall offer the opportunity for students to achieve competency in the Stages of Faith, as well as a thorough understanding of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, the *General Directory for Catechesis* and other relevant Vatican documents.

Religious Education Instruction Objective - The course shall offer the opportunity for students to achieve competency in their teaching and/or administration concentration.

Cultural Context Objective - The course shall provide instruction in discerning the cultural and social contexts of contemporary Catholic education.

Personal and Spiritual Formation Objective - The course shall offer a variety of spiritual and community formation experiences, including opportunities for prayer, reflection, and participation in online discussions.

Integrating Theory and Praxis Objective - The course shall offer opportunities for students to integrate their learnings into their work as teachers and/or administrators.

TEXTBOOKS

Catechism of the Catholic Church

Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation, Vatican.va

Fowler, James. *Stages of Faith*

General Directory for Catechesis

The Catholic School, Vatican.va

The Catholic School at the Threshold of the Third Millennium, Vatican.va

The Religious Dimension of Education in a Catholic School, Vatican.va

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Based on the readings from the first part of James Fowler's book, complete a reflection describing what faith means to you – **10%**
2. Based on the readings from the second part of James Fowler's book, complete a reflection connecting the readings to your own classroom experience – **10%**
3. In regards to the *Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation*, complete a reflection on one of the themes presented in the Vatican Document – **15%**
4. In regards to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, complete a reflection describing its themes and relating those same themes to your own school experience. – **10%**
5. In regards to the *General Directory for Catechesis*, complete a reflection describing its themes and relating those same themes to your own school experience. – **10%**
6. In regards to the *Catholic School* and the *Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium* Vatican documents, complete a reflection describing its themes and relating those same themes to your own school experience. – **10%**
7. In regards to the *Religious Dimension of Education in a Catholic School*, complete a reflection on one of the themes presented in the Vatican Document – **10%**
8. Applying your learnings, complete a project that specifically reflects your work in the schools - staff reflection; religion in-service; parent gathering; student lesson plans – to name a few examples. The project should be 10 pages in length – **25%**

Regular participation in the content and discussions of the online course are required. More detail in terms of the assignments and discussions will be provided online when the course begins.

GENERAL ACADEMIC POLICY

Course Attendance

No credit will be given for a course if the student has been absent, for any reason whatever, for one-third or more of the online course scheduled for the term. Likewise, no credit will be given if term assignments or assignments are or remain incomplete.

Leave of Absence and Policy for Incompletes

Extensions to an incomplete grade may be granted in extenuating circumstances, but may not exceed 16 weeks following the end of the course. Students who fail to complete course work by the agreed deadline will have a grade assignment which is based on work completed.

Academic Integrity

Acts of academic dishonesty (plagiarism, cheating, etc.) are subject to an appropriate penalty. The grade "F" may be assigned to a student guilty of such acts by the professor of the course in which the infraction occurred. A second offense against academic integrity renders the student liable to automatic dismissal from NTC. Further details are available in the Student Handbook in the Academic Misconduct Policy.

Academic Grievances

Students may appeal grades received; the procedure is outlined in the Student Handbook in the Grade Appeal Policy. For other grievances, students will refer to the Student Grievances Policy also outlined in the Student Handbook.

NOTE: The GPA is computed on the basis of cumulative grade point (letter) values, not percentage values. All courses are included in this calculation except those exceeding degree requirements and/or received as transfer credits from other recognized institutions.

Grading System

Undergraduate Studies C.Th., Dip.Th., B.Th.			Graduate Studies M.T.S., M.Div., M.Th., G.C.C.S.A., M.R.E.		
Grade Meaning	Grade	Grade Point	Grade Meaning	Grade	Grade Point
Excellent	A+	4.0	Excellent	A+	4.0
	A	4.0		A	4.0
	A-	3.7		A-	3.7
Good	B+	3.3	Good	B+	3.3
	B	3.0		B	3.0
	B-	2.7		B-	2.7

Adequate	C+	2.3	Adequate	C+	2.3
	C	2.0		C	2.0
	C-	1.7		C-	1.7
Marginal	D+	1.3			
	D	1.0			
Fail	F	0.0	Fail	D+	1.3
				D	1.0
				F	0.0

Written Assignments - Style and Format

Newman Theological College requires that all written work be submitted in acceptable academic format and style. Please note the following regulations:

Regulations

Research papers, book reports, article summaries, reflection papers, and essays should be double-spaced, printed on one side only, and submitted on white, 8.5" x 11" paper.

A standard type style, such as Times New Roman, with a 12-point font size, must be used. The instructor will specify the most recent edition of the style manual to be used:

1. Kate Turabian, "A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations" (Chicago: University of Chicago Press).
2. Joseph Gibaldi & William Ahters, eds., "MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers" (New York: Modern Language Association of America).
3. American Psychological Association "Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association" (Washington: APA Publications).

Copies of these standard references may be purchased in the NTC bookstore.

Ignorance of standard form is not considered an acceptable excuse for deviation from required standards of format and style.

Academic Regulations

The following Academic Regulations are located in the Academic Calendar for your reference:

- Changes in Registration: Add/Drop/Withdraw Notice
- Course Work
- Final Examination Schedule
- Incomplete Grade Policy
- Inclusive Language

Related Academic Matters

The following Related Academic Matters are located in the Academic Calendar for your reference:

- Grade Reports & Posting
- Glossary of Academic Terms

Other Related Policies

The following policies are located in the Student Handbook for your reference:

- Academic Misconduct Policy
- Grade Appeal Policy

Recording of Lectures

Audio or video recording of lectures, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior consent of the instructor. Recorded material is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Student Accessibility Services

If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please let me know during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you are not already registered with Student Services, contact Doreen Bloos at 780-392-2450 ext. 2212; Email doreen.bloos@newman.edu .