

**SYT 357/STD 557 – ECUMENISM  
NEWMAN THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE  
2020-2021 SECOND SEMESTER  
COURSE OUTLINE**

**Instructor:** Julien Hammond  
**Office Hours:** By Appointment  
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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

History of the Ecumenical Movement. Ecumenical dialogue between the Roman Catholic and the Eastern, Anglican and Protestant Churches. Ecumenical activities and dialogues in Canada. Models of Christian Unity. Liturgical Convergence. Christian-Jewish Relations.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

1. Understanding of the biblical and theological principles which make Christian division a scandal and Christian unity an imperative.
2. Appreciation for the gifts and distinctives of the various Christian traditions, and for the growing areas of convergence between them as a result of ecumenical dialogue.
3. Ability to interact with a Christian tradition other than your own, and to speak about your own to others with maturity and sensitivity.
4. Awareness of the possibilities for partnership in mission and social justice with other Christians.
5. Cultivation of a spirituality of ecumenism.

**COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATION**

- Forum Discussions (25%) – Due **Weekly**
  - Students are expected to post a weekly reflective commentary (250 words) on some aspect of the lecture content for the week to the online discussion forum. This post will include **a minimum of one comment and one question** based on the primary source readings for the week.
- Personal Reflection Paper (25%) – Due **February 24, 2021**
  - Students will write a 4-5 page (double spaced, 12-point font) reflection paper considering the applicability of the course content to their life and ministry. The paper will answer the question: **How can/does/will ecumenism affect of influence my life and ministry?**
- Doctrinal Dialogue Research Essay (25%) – Due **March 31, 2021**
  - Students will write a research paper (undergraduates 5-7 pages; graduates 8-10 pages) exploring in greater detail **ONE of the international dialogues carried out between their own church and one of its ecumenical partners**. They are expected to consult primary and secondary sources, and

to include references throughout the essay. The paper will answer the following questions, and provide evidence for the answers:

- 1) What is the history of the international dialogue group?
- 2) What are the key themes that have been considered in the dialogue?
- 3) What advancements have the dialogues enabled? and
- 4) What difference does this make for church relations and partnership going forward?

- Final Exam (25%) – Due **April 28, 2021**
  - Students will complete an essay style “take-home” exam. The exam questions will be based on topics covered in the course, and will be available later at exam time.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS**

Bliss, Frederick M. *Catholic and Ecumenical: History and Hope. Why the Catholic Church is Ecumenical and What She is Doing About It*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2007.

### **PRINCIPAL ONLINE RESOURCES**

[UR] Vatican II. *Unitatis Redintegratio* (Decree on Ecumenism). 21 November 1964.

[DAPNE] Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity. *Directory for the Application of Principles and Norms of Ecumenism* (DAPNE). 25 March 1993.

[UUS] John Paul II. *Ut Unum Sint* (Encyclical Letter on Commitment to Ecumenism). 25 May 1995.

### **Course Requirements**

This course comprises 36 hours of instruction delivered in a partly synchronous online format through a combination of Zoom gatherings, written and video recorded lecture materials and primary and secondary source readings. Students are expected to complete read, watch, and reflect on all of the weekly materials, and to post weekly reflections, comments, and questions. The lectures, readings, and assignments are varied in form in order to facilitate learning and formation in ecumenical theology, the practice of ecumenical dialogue, an ecumenical approach to pastoral and social ministry, and personal and spiritual commitment to the ecumenical task.

### **General Academic Information**

#### **Late Submission Policy.**

Please do not ask for extensions except in the case of genuine emergency. Late assignments will be assessed a penalty of a full letter grade per day, up to a maximum of five days.

#### **Course Attendance**

No credit will be given for a course if the student has been absent, for any reason whatever, from one-third or more of the lectures and/or seminars scheduled for the term. Likewise, no credit will be given if term assignments or other 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 assigned 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, please contact the Dean of Students.

**COURSE SCHEDULE (with Reading Assignments)**

Jan. 13, 2021	<b>Introduction to SYT357/STD 557</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read: UR – §1</li> <li>➤ Read: DAPNE – §9-10</li> <li>➤ Read: UUS – §1-2</li> </ul>
Jan. 20, 2021	<b>History of Ecumenism (Part 1)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read: Bliss – Chapter 1: pp. 1-27</li> <li>➤ Read: DAPNE – §11-12</li> <li>➤ Read: UUS – §3-4</li> </ul>
Jan. 27, 2021	<b>History of Ecumenism (Part 2)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read: Bliss – Chapter 2: pp. 29-46</li> <li>➤ Read: DAPNE – §13-17</li> <li>➤ Read: UUS – §5-6</li> </ul>
Feb. 3, 2021	<b>Theology of Ecumenism (Part 1): Catholic Principles; Koinonia; Dialogue</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read: Bliss – Chapter 3: pp. 47-63</li> <li>➤ Read: UR – §2-4</li> <li>➤ Read: DAPNE – §18-21</li> <li>➤ Read: UUS – §7-14 and §28-40</li> </ul>
Feb. 10, 2021	<b>Theology of Ecumenism (Part 2): Spiritual Ecumenism; Renewal, Conversion and Reform</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read: UR – §5-12</li> <li>➤ Read: DAPNE – §22-36</li> <li>➤ Read: UUS – §15-17</li> </ul>
Feb. 17, 2021	<b>READING WEEK</b>
Feb. 24, 2021 <b>(REFLECTION PAPER DUE)</b>	<b>Fruits of Ecumenism: East-West Relations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read: Bliss – Chapter 4: pp. 65-86</li> <li>➤ Read: UR – §13-18</li> <li>➤ Read: DAPNE – §92-101</li> <li>➤ Read: UUS – §41-42 and §50-63</li> </ul>
Mar. 3, 2021	<b>Fruits of Ecumenism: Reformation Churches (I): Continental Reforms</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read: Bliss – Chapter 5: pp. 87-107</li> <li>➤ Read: UR – §19-24</li> <li>➤ Read: DAPNE – §102-107</li> <li>➤ Read: UUS – §43-49 and §64-67</li> </ul>
Mar. 10, 2021	<b>Fruits of Ecumenism: Reformation Churches (II): Radical Reforms</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read: Bliss – Chapter 5: pp. 107-121</li> <li>➤ Read: DAPNE – §108-115</li> <li>➤ Read: UUS – §68-70</li> </ul>
Mar. 17, 2021	<b>Fruits of Ecumenism: Reformation Churches (III): English Reforms</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read: Bliss – Chapter 6: pp. 123-145</li> <li>➤ Read: DAPNE – §116-136</li> <li>➤ Read: UUS – §71-73</li> </ul>

Mar. 24, 2021	<b>Fruits of Ecumenism: Reformation Churches (IV): Evangelical Reforms</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read: Bliss - Chapter 6: pp. 145-158</li> <li>➤ Read: DAPNE – §137-142</li> <li>➤ Read: UUS – §74-76</li> </ul>
Mar. 31, 2021 <b>(RESEARCH ESSAY DUE)</b>	<b>Structures and Models of Ecumenism; Ecumenical Formation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read: Bliss – Chapter 7: pp. 159-169</li> <li>➤ Read: DAPNE – §37-91</li> <li>➤ Read: UUS – §77-81</li> </ul>
Apr. 7, 2021	<b>Ecumenism in Canada/Future of Ecumenism</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read: DAPNE – §143-218</li> <li>➤ Read: UUS – §82-103</li> </ul>
Apr. 14, 2021	<b>Jewish-Christian Relations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read: Bliss – Chapter 7: pp. 169-177</li> <li>➤ Read: <i>Nostra Aetate</i> §4</li> </ul>
Apr. 28, 2021	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>

## Bibliography

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