CERTIFICATE IN CATHOLIC STUDIES (C.C.S.)

CCS-006 CATECHESIS

COURSE OUTLINE

Introduction to Catechesis considers the ministry of catechesis within the context of the Church's mission to evangelize. The General Directory for Catechesis provides religious educators, teachers, and catechists with a single point of reference for all aspects of catechetical instruction, for content and pedagogy and methodology, as well as the basic principles of pastoral theology taken from the Magisterium of the Church and in a special way from the Second Vatican Council.

General Course Objectives
1. Understand the relationship between evangelization and catechesis.
2. Identify the purpose, goals, tasks and essential content of catechesis.
3. Learn the importance of appropriate methodology for catechesis of various age groups.
4. Understand the role of the catechist and the importance of this vocation.

Course Structure and Highlights

Week 1: Faith Development and Catechesis
• Identify and understand the various influences on your personal faith development.
• Describe the nature and purpose of catechesis.

Week 2: The Content of Catechesis
• Learn the ways the Church evangelizes.
• Explain the relationship of evangelization and catechesis.

Week 3: Methods in Catechesis
• Understand the structure of the Catechism of the Catholic Church and its implications for catechesis.

Week 4: Catechesis and the Faith
• Articulate the Gospel message.
• Learn various methods of teaching the faith for different age groups and learning styles and the need for different catechetical approaches for different ages, cultures and life situations.

Week 5: Roles and Organization of Catechesis
• Understand the different roles in catechesis: family, faith community, bishops, clergy and catechists.
• Appreciate the vocation of the catechist as a public ministry of the Church and how catechesis is organized in one's own parish and diocese.

Textbooks
General Directory for Catechesis

References
Catechism of the Catholic Church.
The Holy Bible

Assessment
Introduction to Catechesis consists of ten lessons and ten assignments, with each assignment weighted at 10% (percent) of the total grade. Completion of the entire course is determined by either a pass or fail.

Technical Skills and Equipment Requirements
1. You must have Internet access. A high-speed connection, either ADSL or cable, is recommended.
2. You should know how to use a web browser to navigate the web to locate educational resources and download files.
3. You will need the files management skills necessary to create directories, to save files and to retrieve files.