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

CCS-013 YOUTH MINISTRY - HUMAN DEVELOPMENT & GROWTH
COURSE OUTLINE

Youth Ministry - Human Development and Growth builds on the contributions of such key thinkers as Piaget, Erikson, and Kohlberg; draws on a wide range of scholarship, literature, and research; and presents the six Stages of Faith in a expertly and engaging manner. In addition to understanding one's own pilgrimage of faith, the course considers the ministry of catechesis within the context of the Church's mission to evangelize. The General Directory for Catechesis provides religious educators, teachers, catechists, and youth ministers 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. Study such key thinkers as Piaget, Erikson, and Kohlberg.
2. Explore James Fowler's Stages of Faith.
3. Identify the purpose, goals, tasks and essential content of catechesis.
4. Understand the relationship between evangelization and catechesis.
5. Learn the importance of appropriate methodology for catechesis of various age groups.

Course Structure and Highlights

Week 1: Faith Development

- Identify and understand the various influences on personal faith development.
- Understand the general principles of Human Faith.

Week 2: Human Development

- Study the windows on Human Development.
- Learn about the six Stages of Faith.

Week 3: Dynamics of Faith and Human Development

- Examine and understand the Stages of Faith.

Week 4: Methods in Catechesis

- Describe the nature and purpose of Catechesis.
- Explain the relationship of Evangelization and Catechesis.

Week 5: Catechesis and the Faith

- Understand the structure of the Catechism of the Catholic Church and its implications for Catechesis.
- Learn the 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.

Textbooks

[Fowler, James. *Stages of Faith – The Psychology of Human Development and the Quest for Meaning.* Harper San Francisco, 1981.](#)

[General Directory for Catechesis](#)

References

[*The Holy Bible.*](#)

Assessment

Youth Ministry - Human Development and Growth consists of ten lessons and ten assignments, with each assignment weighted at 10% (percent) of the total grade.

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.