

Notre Dame High School
Syllabus

Course: Responding to the Call of Christ
Teacher: Miss Cassandra Boccardi
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Course Description:

The aim of this course is to unlock the mystery of the human person and his supreme calling by the key of the Incarnation. This course challenges the student to marvel at the universal call of Christ and to express that vocation faithfully in his/her daily life. This course will explore this call through Pope St. John Paul II's *Theology of the Body*, an anthropological study and biblical reflection which provides the basis for understanding man's vocation to love as God loves.

The metaphysical and phenomenological groundwork will be laid at the start of the course. An anthropological foundation will be built upon this philosophical groundwork. The remainder of the course will examine the states of Christian life: celibacy for the kingdom and marriage.

Course Rationale:

Christianity presents a worldview that claims to answer the fundamental questions common to all people (ie. What is the meaning of life? Why is there evil in the world? What is love?). Ignoring such a claim would either aid in perpetuating foolishness that harms advancement of society or would be a missed opportunity to discover and lead others to the Truth that begets happiness.

Essential Questions:

These questions will serve as a philosophical thread guiding the thought of this entire course.

- Does life have meaning? What is it?
- Is there objective universal Truth?
- How can I live my life in a fulfilling way?
- What does it mean to be human?
- Who am I?
- What is my vocation?

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to:

1. Interpret and analyze Scripture as well as challenging theological texts
2. Practice critical thinking through written assignments and participating in class discussions
3. Communicate the beauty and reasonableness of fundamental Christian beliefs
4. Form and communicate personal beliefs through the written and spoken word
5. Listen and respond clearly and charitably to those with differing view points
6. Explore and cultivate their own interior life through personal reflection

Units of Study

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| 1. The Journey for Logos | 6. The Historical Man |
| 2. The Pursuit of Truth | 7. The Eschatological Man |
| 3. Existence of God | 8. Celibacy for the Kingdom |
| 4. Establishing an Adequate Anthropology | 9. The Sacrament of Marriage |
| 5. The Original Man | 10. Discernment |

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Course Structure

Materials

Each day you will be required to bring the following materials to class unless otherwise noted:

- ✓ Pen or pencil
- ✓ Binder with loose-leaf and at least one divider

Grading

Each quarter's grading will proceed as follows:

<i>Assessment</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Participation/Classwork	20%
Homework (includes quizzes)	20%
Tests, Projects, Papers	60%
TOTAL	100%

Classroom Procedures

Respect: All classroom activities especially classroom discussions are to be governed by respect and reverence for the other. Fr. Michael Gately writes, "Each person is a whole world unto himself, much greater and glorious than an anonymous crowd. The real marvel is that while a great crowd itself can be a thing of excitement and emotion, a single human person seen from the inside is infinitely more awe-inspiring and amazing." This should be the prevailing ethos of the classroom environment.

Participation: Participation is crucial to true learning. This class is about you and your education. Taking ownership of that will make you a successful learner. It will also help your classmates become successful learners. We do not just learn from books or teachers. This is why it is a part of your grade. Come to class prepared to actively listen, think and talk about the topics from the beginning bell until the ending bell. Lateness will affect your participation grade.

Electronic Communication: It is the responsibility of the student to check their Notre Dame email on a regular basis. It is also the responsibility of the student to participate in all Google Classroom activities as well as properly and efficiently submit Google Classroom Assignments in a timely and appropriate manner. Classroom expectations extend into our virtual classroom.

Makeup Work: When work needs to be made up due to an excused absence, you will have three full days from the day you return to make up the work unless otherwise discussed. It is the student's responsibility to schedule the makeup of tests, projects, papers, quizzes etc. The student is responsible for gathering any missed notes or materials.

Late Work: You are always expected to hand in your assignments. Late work will result in a deduction of points for each day late. Classwork and homework will not be accepted if more than 2 days late. Students excused from class for field trips, athletics, or any other reason must turn in work when they return. If possible, students should show completed assignment before leaving school. If a student does not follow these guidelines, work will be considered late.

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Additional Assistance: If a student is in need of additional academic help for a particular topic covered in class or an upcoming assessment please arrange tutoring in advance.

Cell Phones: Cell phones and all electronic devices may not be used in the classroom. Please see your student handbook for the cell phone policy.

School Policies: All school policies will be enforced in the classroom. See your student handbook for guidelines. ***CDC guidelines must be followed at all times. This includes but is not limited to wearing a mask at all times and remaining seated during the class period unless otherwise instructed.***