

Foundations of the Catholic Faith

Online Course S09P

COURSE SYLLABUS

University of Sacramento

Term: Summer 2009

Dates: June 10 – July 15, 2009

Class Times: 4:00 – 5:30 PM (PDT)

Faculty: Deacon Ray Helgeson, M.A., John Hamlon, M.A.

Course Description: This six-week online course is designed for those who want to grow in their knowledge and love of the Faith. The course will introduce the following content found in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (2nd edition): Our capacity for God, God's revelation, and our response to God in faith; God the Father and creation; Jesus Christ the Incarnate Word; the transmission of Divine Revelation through Scripture, Tradition, and the Magisterium; evangelization and conversion; Prayer.

Course Objectives

The course will provide an understanding of the essential doctrines of the Faith and our response to them. An introduction to using the *Catechism* as a resource for learning will also be presented.

Course Requirements

Thorough preparation of assigned readings to enable informed, reflective participation in class; daily open-book quizzes; a final, open-book exam.

Course Format

The course will be in a GoToMeeting format, using PowerPoint slides and down-loadable materials emailed before each session. The student will need a computer with internet access and a speaker phone. Students will be able to hear the instructor and each other. At certain times in each hour and a half presentation, the instructor will invite input from the students.

Required Textbooks

Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2nd Edition

Catholic Bible Recommended: Revised Standard Version (Catholic Edition) or New American Version

Evangelii Nuntiandi (On Evangelization in the Modern World), Paul VI, December 8, 1975
(handout)

Required Computer & Equipment

Computer with Internet connection
Speaker-phone telephone for live audio

Required reading between classes

Approximately 4-5 hours per week will be required for the reading assignments and any homework outside of class. The reading is essential in order to come to appreciate the beauty and scope of the Deposit of Faith and enter into class discussion.

Grading Policy

Grade is Pass/Fail. A passing grade = 75% or above. The following are required for a passing grade:

- Class participation
- Five quizzes
- Final exam
- Attendance (See attendance policy below)

Attendance Policy (adapted from University catalog)

Regular class attendance will be taken for each period of educational training. To successfully complete the course and receive credit, students must attend all six sessions. Special exceptions to this policy may be made. The student is solely responsible for making up all work missed due to an absence.

Certificate of Completion

Successful completion of this course provides a certificate of completion.

Class Schedule

All classes Wednesday evenings, 4:00–5:30 PM (PDT)

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| June 10, 2009 | Introduction to the <i>Catechism</i>
Our Capacity for God
God's Revelation
Our Response to God in Faith |
| June 17 | God the Father
Attributes of God
Catechesis on Creation |
| June 24 | Jesus Christ
The Good News
Only Son of God
The Incarnation |

July 1	Transmission of Divine Revelation Apostolic Tradition Interpretation of the Heritage of Faith Sacred Scripture
July 8	Evangelization Conversion
July 15	Prayer Forms of Prayer Expressions of Prayer The Battle of Prayer