



THE JOSEPHINUM DIACONATE INSTITUTE

Josephinum Diaconate Institute Course Catalog Fall 2024

BI405EE

Introduction to Sacred Scriptures

2 hours

Introduction to the Sacred Scriptures introduces students to the Canon of Sacred Scripture and an overview of each of the major sections of the Bible, including selected readings from Sacred Scripture. There are no prerequisites for this course; the instructor will presume that students have little to no academic knowledge of the Bible. The course will include a study of the ecclesial documents that help guide Catholic scriptural scholarship and the faithful who want to study and pray the sacred scriptures.

BI510CE English / BI510CS Spanish

The Pentateuch and Historical Books: Introduction to the Old Testament

2 hours

This course introduces and surveys the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Old Testament (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy). Through a close reading of this foundational narrative, we will gain fresh insight into the multiple perspectives it offers on the nature of God, the destiny of humanity, and the history of salvation. By studying and applying the Documentary Hypothesis, the dominant modern theory concerning the formation of the Pentateuch, we will sharpen our ability to appreciate both the individual authorial voices that inhabit the Pentateuch as well as the theological effect of their combination.

BI530CE English / BI530CS Spanish**The Prophets**

2 hours

The contribution of the prophets of Israel to the biblical corpus and therefore to the beliefs and practices of Jews and Christians who have inherited its implications for faith is unquestioned. The course considers Amos, Hosea, Micah, Isaiah (I, II, and III), Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Jonah.

BI610CE English / BI610CS Spanish**The Synoptic Gospels and Acts of the Apostles: Introduction to the New Testament**

2 hours

The Gospels of Mark, Matthew, and Luke are called the synoptic Gospels due to their interdependence and similarities. This course will study the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke as foundational witnesses to Jesus' life, death, and Resurrection by looking at both their independence and interdependence. The book of Acts is included and studied as the companion volume to Luke's Gospel.

BI612EE**The Four Gospels: The Synoptics and John**

2 hours

This course introduces students to the four canonical Gospels as the principal witness for the life and teaching of Jesus handed on to us in writing. Special attention is devoted to appreciating the inter-relatedness of the synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke), how they differ from John's Gospel, and how tensions generated by those differences enable us to enter more fully into the mystery of our faith.

BI630CE**Johannine Literature: The Gospel, Letters, and Book of Revelation**

2 hours

This course addresses the Gospel of John, the letters of John, and the book of Revelation. Students will learn some fundamental principles of biblical interpretation. These principles will be used to explore the Johannine texts, with special attention paid to the Gospel of John.

BI710CE**Pauline Literature and the Letter to the Hebrews**

2 hours

Students explore selected letters of Paul. Topics include authorship, audience, and secular and religious contexts. The study of Paul's writing style brings additional insight to the texts. Students are prepared for teaching and preaching in the parish and similar settings.

BI713EE**The Letters of Paul and the Acts of the Apostles**

2 hours

In this course, students explore selected letters of Paul and Acts. Topics include authorship, audience, secular, and religious contexts. The study of Paul's writing style brings additional insight to the texts. Students are prepared for teaching and preaching in the parish and similar settings.

BI810CE**Wisdom Literature and the Psalms**

2 hours

The book of Psalms is explored as the liturgical and personal prayer book of Jews and Christians, a book that embraces the entire spectrum of human emotion and experience, speaking as much to people of today as it did to those who first composed it. The overall structure of the book, types of Psalms, aspects of Hebrew poetry, and important themes arising in the text are analyzed. This course includes a survey of the other Wisdom literature found in the canon of Sacred Scripture.

BI905EE**The Book of Revelation**

2 hours

Students develop an appreciation and understanding of the Book of Revelation by careful study of the text as Sacred Scripture. Homiletic considerations are a particular focus. The study of Revelation examines the pastoral challenges stemming from popular fundamentalist interpretations. Students also explore the impact of Revelation on liturgical worship, justice, and witness.

BI950CE**Walking in The Footsteps****Of Jesus and The First Deacons: A Pilgrimage to The Holy**

Land 2 hours

The Josephinum Diaconate Institute offers a Holy Land Pilgrimage / Study Program. This is an 8-day directed study designed to introduce deacons and deacon candidates to the holy sites of our salvation. Through participant-directed preparation and execution of the pilgrimage/study program, students will prepare and then participate in an extensive visitation of predetermined biblical sites in Israel and the Palestinian National Authority.

DO410CE English / DO410CS Spanish**Introduction to Catholicism**

2 hours

The Introduction to Catholicism course presents students with a comprehensive overview of the teachings of the Roman Catholic faith. It offers students a theological foundation and builds upon the basic tenets of the faith offered in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. The course aims to empower students for future catechetical and ministerial service.

DO420EE**Divine Revelation: Dei Verbum and the Word of God.**

2 hours

This course examines the important Vatican II document *Dei Verbum: The Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation*, and the impact it has on how the Catholic Church reads and interprets Sacred Scripture.

DO430CE English / DO430CS Spanish**Philosophy for Understanding Theology**

2 hours

This course presents students with an introductory overview of the major historical figures in the discipline of philosophy and their principal ideas. The goal is to make later theological concepts more intelligible by revealing their association with the great philosophical traditions that influenced the writings of the Church Fathers, Doctors of the Church, and theologians through the ages and into the contemporary world.

DO520CE**Fundamental Theology**

2 hours

This course in fundamental theology will introduce students to the complex issues surrounding the interchange between faith and reason. The goal of this course is to help students to solidify their intellectual foundation and prepare them for the work of theological study.

DO610CE**The Church: A Study in Ecclesiology**

2 hours

Within the framework of systematic theology, ecclesiology examines the nature of the Church and its emerging challenges. This course considers both classic insights and new directions in ecclesiology, including reflections on the nature and exercise of ministry in the Church. Central to the course is a critical examination of two documents of the Second Vatican Council: The Dogmatic Constitution on the Church (Lumen Gentium) and The Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World (Gaudium et Spes).

DO620CE**Christology**

2 hours

The Son of God became human while remaining divine. He suffered death on the cross to redeem humanity and rose from the dead in glory. The early Church grappled with the question of who was and who is Jesus. The early Councils proclaimed doctrine held to this day, and the Church Fathers wrote cogently about Him. The course addresses the fundamental questions about Jesus and reviews the heresies about Jesus and their resolution by the Church.

DO630CE**Sacramental Theology**

2 hours

A comprehensive study of the theology and rites for administering the Sacraments. The course examines biblical foundations for each sacrament, and the way in which the Church has understood and practiced its life of prayer and sanctification throughout history using the sacraments. The primary focus of this study is on the way that the Church currently celebrates the Sacraments.

DO710CE**The Second Vatican Council: History, Vision, and Documents**

2 hours

The Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) was the major event in the Church in the twentieth century. Sixty years since the start of the council, its meaning and impact is still being discussed and felt. We will read the four constitutions as well as select declarations and decrees, examining the contexts that gave rise to these documents including the Biblical and liturgical movements.

DO711EE**Ecumenism and Inter-religious Dialog**

2 hours

An introduction to the historical context and theology of the ecumenical movement. References will be made to the teaching of the Magisterium, significant achievements in ecumenical dialogue, prospects for future achievements, and the individual participant's contributions to ecumenism. Exposure to the rich variety of Christian ecclesial communities and traditions and world religions will be included.

DO720CE**Apologetics**

2 hours

This course is an introduction to Catholic apologetics equipping the student to clearly explain and charitably defend their faith fulfilling St. Peter's mandate to: "Always be prepared to make a defense to anyone who calls you to account for the hope that is in you, yet do it with gentleness and reverence." (1 Peter 3:15)

DO907EE**The Theology of Liturgy**

2 hours

This course introduces the history, theology, and praxis of the liturgy of the Catholic Church, and explores the function of the liturgy as an integral component of the Christian life and mission.

DO910EE**The Trinity**

2 hours

This course surveys the development of Trinitarian doctrine in the Roman Catholic Church from the 1st century to the present, beginning with doctrinal precursors as found in holy Scripture, early liturgical practices, and early writings of the Church Fathers, and ending with mature Roman Catholic Trinitarian doctrine.

DO980EE**The Catechism of the Catholic Church**

2 hours

This course will examine the modern Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC). The focus will be on the content of the doctrines the Church teaches and the style through which she teaches them. The course is divided into four major sections, each corresponding to the four major sections of the CCC.

HS520CE English / HS520CS Spanish**Church History**

2 hours

This survey course in the history of the Church investigates theological, political, and social developments from the apostolic age through the Second Vatican Council. This range of topics in the course is organized according to the “six ages” of the Church as divided by the historian Christopher Dawson.

HS810CE**Patristics: An Introduction to the Church Fathers**

2 hours

The early Church Fathers addressed fundamental questions about the Church in their writings. Included are texts on Christology, the Trinity, the sacraments, and other topics. Writings from the Eastern and Western Fathers will be read to understand better how the Church currently “breathes with both lungs” of the East and West.

HS830CE**The History of the Church in the United States**

2 hours

The course is designed to cover the growth of the Church in the United States from the origins of the U.S. to the Second Vatican Council. Beginning with the earliest migrations and explorations and continuing with its colonization by the Spanish and French Empires, the course continues with a study of the growth of Catholicism in the English Colonies and the later American Republic.

MO530CE English / MO530CS Spanish
Foundations of Catholic Moral Theology

2 hours

An introduction to Catholic moral teaching including natural law; character, virtue, acts and object of acts; scriptural basis for moral teaching; and an introduction to Veritatis splendor and Magisterial teaching.

MO720CE**The Social Teaching of the Catholic Church**

2 hours

This course introduces Catholic Social Teaching, its place within Catholic doctrine, and its response to contemporary challenges of society, politics, and economy. It also considers Catholic Social Teaching's relation to contemporary American ideologies.

MO820CE**Catholic Medical Morality and Ministry**

2 hours

This course presents fundamental Church principles relating to ethics and medical ethics. This course studies the theology of the human body, personhood, and human dignity in protecting life from beginning to end and in treating illness.

MP630ME**JDI Summer Seminar**

1 hour

See MP730ME: JDI Summer Seminar; Registrants in the 1-credit seminar gain access to the presentations and discussions of the entire seminar but are not expected to prepare or present their own research.

MP730ME**JDI Summer Seminar Workshop**

2 hours

Each summer, the MAPS program presents an extended seminar on diaconal ministry featuring speakers whose experience and knowledge have helped to shape the ministry of the permanent diaconate in the United States. The MAPS program requires this 2-credit seminar workshop for students in the MAPS program, but any JDI student may participate. (Note: a 1-credit version of the seminar is also available. See MP630ME for details). All participants will prepare for taking an active role in the seminar by completing the background readings prior to the seminar and follow up assignments. Additionally, MAPS students will work toward their own research goals and, at the end of their program, present their work live as a seminar speaker. (At least one MAPS pro-seminar workshop is required of every MAPS student.)

MP830ME**MAPS Thesis and Project Direction**

2 hours

Master's Thesis and Project Direction is the course taken during the time that a MAPS candidate is working on their thesis. This course registration is required for each semester while the thesis is in process.

PA420CE**The Call, Mission, and Spirituality of the Permanent Deacon**

2 hours

This course offers the students an opportunity to examine the diaconate by examining its biblical, patristic, and canonical roots, its decline and ultimate renewal authorized by the Second Vatican Council. The emergence of contemporary theologies of the diaconate will also be explored, based on a spirituality of the diaconate which is grounded in the deacon's sacramental initiation and ordination, coupled with an approach to diaconal ministry which is at once similar yet distinct from the sacerdotal orders of the episcopate and presbyterate.

PA510CE**Introduction to Pastoral Care and Counseling**

2 hours

Pastoral care is part of the daily life of the deacon and all ministers in pastoral assignments. Pastoral counseling incorporates additional theories into the process. Through this course, deacons and their colleagues in ministry will gain the knowledge and skills to be more comfortable in pastoral care situations.

PA620CE**Introduction to Homiletics and Exegesis**

2 hours

This course provides students with the foundations for Catholic preaching. As a general introduction, we will examine contemporary magisterial teaching on homiletics while also affording students the opportunity to prepare homilies which will be shared among participants for feedback. Emphasis will be given to the liturgical and sacramental context within which Catholic preaching takes place.

PA720CE**Intermediate Homiletics: Preaching the Lectionary**

2 hours

This course focuses on practical dimensions of preparing homilies through a critical and prayerful reading of the Scriptures associated with the various seasons of the liturgical year, as well as using the liturgical year itself as a valuable resource in preaching. Student homilies will be recorded and viewed by the rest of the class, giving an opportunity for constructive feedback. Included will be opportunities for preaching at seasonal celebrations such as the sacred Triduum, Christmas Midnight Mass, Pentecost, and selected Sundays of Ordinary Time.

PA730CE**Canon Law**

2 hours

This course has been developed specifically to address the canon law topics which most frequently arise in the ministry of deacons. This course of instruction is based on the 1983 Code of Canon Law.

PA731CE**The Spiritual Life: The Practice of Discernment in Prayer**

2 hours

The course leads the student on a spiritual journey of intimacy with God that can bring healing to the minister and those who are being cared for. The journey of this course involves both the head and heart. The course focuses on the theological and Biblical background and some of the basic ways to pray and discern the spiritual life. Included are step-by-step meditations and devotional guides for prayer experiences that help to internalize and adopt the basics of spirituality.

PA820CE**Introduction to Grief Counseling and Ministry**

2 hours

This course is designed to allow the participant to explore the many facets of a person who is grieving the loss of someone close to them. Completion of this course will allow the participant to identify with those who bereave and allow the participant to experience a methodology of counseling that will be healing and helpful to the bereaved.

PA830CE**Best Practices for Pastoral Administrators and Directors**

2 hours

The course is designed to meet the needs of those appointed to act in the capacity of administrator or business manager of a parish. Participants will be introduced to a variety of administrative tasks common to the role of the parish administrator and to “good practices” for pastors, administrators, and professionals. An overview of applicable legal principles is also provided so that the participant is presented with the tools necessary to analyze administrative issues, recognize potential pitfalls, and formulate viable problem-solving options to parish administrative issues.

PA910EE**Principles of Catechetics**

2 hours

This course will provide a survey of emerging models and approaches to faith formation. Reading assignments and presentations point to texts, journals, web sites, and parishes that provide and practice the models described. The course will encourage conversation and mutual learning about various approaches to parish faith formation across the life span with the goal of assisting all who bear this responsibility.

PA920EE**Marriage and Family**

2 hours

This course is based on the mandate given by John Paul II in *Familiaris Consortio*: “No plan for organized pastoral work at any level must ever fail to take into consideration the pastoral area of the family.” This course is designed to focus on the pastoral aspects of ministry with families. Much attention will be given to marriage preparation.

PA930EE**Marriage Practicum**

2 hours

This course focuses on developing skills that are essential to deacons in the pastoral setting of pre-marriage counseling and preparation, such as the ability to assess and summarize various information to the sacramental nature of marriage, and the capacity to develop a pastoral care approach to the couple's vision of the wedding liturgy.

PA940EE**Implementing the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults**

2 hours

This course will help deacons explore the OCIA. While previous experience working with the RCIA/OCIA is a benefit in the course, deacons new to the process and those wanting to know more about the OCIA should find value in taking this course and be able to help implement or improve the OCIA process in a parish ministry assignment.

PA950EE**Health Care Ministry**

2 hours

This course is designed to introduce participants to the chaplaincy in a health care environment. The health care chaplain is discussed in relation to six major roles performed. This course focuses on the pastoral aspects from a diaconal perspective of ministry with the ill and frail. Note: participants are required to work with a hospital chaplain, visit hospital patients, and complete assigned tasks and reflections relating to pastoral visits.

PA960EE**Planning and Conducting Funeral and Memorial Services**

2 hours

This course is concerned with how a deacon addresses the aspects of the funeral from initial pastoral meetings through the final burial and committal service. The current Roman Catholic guidelines covering vigils and calling hours, the funeral mass, memorial services, committal services, graveside services, and cremations are discussed. Other topics include music and scripture and how and when to use eulogies, sermons, and words of remembrance.

PA980EE

Pastoral Theology, the Art and Science of Shepherding

2 hours

Pastoral theology examines the relationship between the doctrine of the Church and its practice, especially in the context of the local Church and parish. The course looks at pastoral theology and praxis as it developed from Vatican II, with a special focus on the role of pastoral ministers in pastoral care.