

THE CONTENT OF THIS DESCRIPTION IS NOT A LEARNING CONTRACT AND THE INSTRUCTOR IS NOT BOUND TO IT. IT IS OFFERED IN GOOD FAITH AND INTENDED AS A HELPFUL GUIDE TO THE STUDENT. THE OFFICIAL COURSE SYLLABUS WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE FIRST CLASS.

TITLE: Human Sexuality and Marriage

TERM: January – April 2018 [20181]

SCHEDULE:

- January 27, 2018 – 9:00am to 2:30pm
- February 10, 2018 – 9:00am to 2:30pm
- March 3, 2018 – 9:00am to 2:30pm
- March 24, 2018 – 9:00am to 2:30pm
- April 7, 2018 – 9:00am to 2:30pm

PROFESSOR: Fr. Kevin Belgrave

REGISTRATION: LIMITED TO _____

UNLIMITED _____

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course examines human love, sexuality, and marriage from the perspective of Catholic morality. Using Pope John Paul II’s *Theology of the Body* as its principal guide, it will first explore the foundational dimensions of human sexuality, including: creation in the image of the Trinitarian God, who is love; the body-soul unity of the human person; the sacramentality, language, and spousal meaning of the body; the love of Jesus Christ for the Church as the model and norm of relations between man and woman; self-gift as the central meaning of human love; the intrinsically fruitful nature of authentic love and the subsequent inseparability of the unitive and procreative meanings of the conjugal act; the virtue of chastity. The course will then apply these foundations to a moral analysis of contemporary issues in sexuality, including contraception, pornography, masturbation, fornication, cohabitation, divorce, and same-sex attraction.

CLASS OBJECTIVES:

- To deepen understanding of the fundamental Christian meaning of human sexuality and how it connects to the broader Catholic vision of the moral and spiritual life.
- To introduce students to John Paul II’s *Theology of the Body* as a helpful and persuasive means of communicating the meaning and moral implications of human love, sexuality, and marriage.
- To introduce students to the important magisterial documents in the area of human sexuality.
- To analyze a selection of contemporary issues in sexual ethics in light of the meaning of human love, sexuality, and marriage.
- To introduce students to a variety of pastoral resources in the area of human sexuality.

PREREQUISITES: Fundamental Christian Ethics I and II or Permission of Instructor

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- Pope John Paul II. *Man and Woman He Created Them: A Theology of the Body*. Edited by Michael Waldstein. Boston: Pauline Books & Media, 2006.
- Christopher West. *Theology of the Body for Beginners*. Revised edition. Ascension Press, 2009.

POSSIBLE ASSIGNMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/TESTS: Paper, Journaling, Final Exam