

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.

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**TITLE:** Papal Teaching on Social Justice

**TERM:** January to April 20191 [20191]

**PROFESSOR:** Rev. Kevin Belgrave

**REGISTRATION:** LIMITED TO \_\_\_\_\_

UNLIMITED \_\_\_\_\_

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The course is intended as an introduction to Catholic Social Teaching (CST). Drawing principally on magisterial sources, it will survey the main themes of CST: The Church's social mission, the principles of CST, the family, work, economic life, the political community, the environment, and war and peace. For each theme, applications will be made to contemporary social challenges, encouraging student discussion of the role that CST can play in responding to these challenges.

**CLASS OBJECTIVES:**

Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to:

- Explain what is distinctive about a Catholic approach to social, economic, and political life; in particular, the underlying principles and values of moral reasoning in these areas.
- Identify and explain the major themes of CST.
- Identify and analyze a selection of current social challenges from within the perspective of CST, showing an understanding of the principles that guide a Catholic analysis, the particular magisterial documents that are relevant to each topic, as well as an understanding of the correct interaction between magisterial teaching and theological reflection in CST.
- Demonstrate an ability to communicate and engage the arguments of contemporary social commentators from the perspective of CST.

**PREREQUISITES:**

None.

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

1. Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace. *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*. Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2006. Available online at [Vatican.va](http://Vatican.va). Also available in hard copy from [Book Depository](http://Book Depository) and the [CCCB](http://CCCB).
2. *Handbook of Catholic Social Teaching: A Guide for Christians in the World Today*. Edited by Martin Schlag. CUA Press, 2017. Available from [Amazon.ca](http://Amazon.ca).
3. *DOCAT: What to Do? The Social Teaching of the Catholic Church*. Ignatius Press, 2016. Available from [Amazon.ca](http://Amazon.ca) in Kindle or paperback format.

**POSSIBLE ASSIGNMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/TESTS:**

- Participation in class discussions – 20%
- Book review and in-class presentation – 40%
- Social analysis paper – 40%