



MA IN JOHN PAUL II STUDIES DEGREE PLAN

(THE PROGRAM OF STUDIES INCLUDES A MINIMUM OF 30 HOURS OF STUDY)

ANTHROPOLOGICAL COURSES (9 CREDIT HOURS)

JPII 5300. Redeemer of Man and the witness of John Paul II (3 credit hours)

A study of the life and thought of John Paul II through a consideration of his autobiographical writings to converge on his artistic, philosophical, theological, spiritual and pastoral gifts as displayed in *Redemptor Hominis*.

JPII 5305 Faith and Reason according to John Paul II (3 credit hours)

An exploration of two overarching claims made about the relationship between faith and reason: (a) "Each contains the other, and each has its own scope for action." (*Fides et ratio* §17); (b) "Each without the other is impoverished and enfeebled." (*Fides et ratio* §48).

JPII 5310 Thomistic Personalism (3 credit hours)

An explication of the Thomistic character of JP2s philosophical project and the role of phenomenology in his study of the subjectivity of the person focusing upon conscience, as the centerpiece of *Person and Act and Veritatis Splendor*.

SOCIAL TEACHING COURSES (6 CREDIT HOURS)

JPII 5315 The Family and the Civilization of Love (3 credit hours)

An study of the Communion of persons, the law of free giving, and the vocation of marriage in various works. The role of the family in a civilization of love and the threats from a culture of death (*Evangelium Vitae*).

JPII 5320 Social/political teaching of John Paul II (3 credit hours)

An explication of the dignity of the person in community through work, family, social solidarity, economic development, culminating in the participation in cultural and political life as found in *Laborem Exercens*, *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis*, and *Centesimus Annus*.

MISSION COURSES (9 CREDIT HOURS)

JPII 5325 Divine Mercy and the Work of Holy Spirit (3 credit hours)

A study of the Trinitarian vision of John Paul II, *Dives in Misericordia & Dominum et Vivificantem* tracing the meaning of mercy in the Bible, and defining its special characteristics in relation to justice and the meaning of the cross in the work of the Church. A study of the work of Holy Spirit in arousing conscience and conversion.

JPII 5330 Vatican II and Sources of Renewal (3 credit hours)

The meaning of Vatican Council II as evident through the participation and writings of Cardinal Wojtyla, (*Sources of Renewal*) and various writings of Pope John Paul II, especially the Extraordinary Synod on Vatican II (1985). We seek to discover the deepest sources of renewal through the Eucharist (*Ecclesia de Eucharistia*) and the patronage of Mary as Mother of the Church (*Redemptoris Mater*). Also of interest is religious dialogue as in *Ut Unum Sint*.

JPII 5335 Culture, Education and Lay Apostolate (3 credit hours)

This course on the Christian engagement with culture and education looks to *Slavorum Apostoli* and *Redemptoris Missio* to discover the special role of the laity in apostolate to culture and the framework for the training and education of the laity.

SYNTHESIS COURSES (6 CREDIT HOURS)

JPII 5340 Capstone: JP2 in context of Polish Culture & History (3 credit hours)

A study of the thought of JP2 in context of Polish history and culture. The course will give special consideration of the Jewish people, the existence of God, divine mercy, sanctity, and humanism. The class will visit sites in Poland that have special relevance to his life and thought.

JPII 5345 Final Project in John Paul II Studies (3 credit hours)

A final project will be planned by the student in consultation with and approval from a faculty member and completed for this course.