# **Justice and Catholic Social Teaching**

MOR-D528-01 Hybrid

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3 credits January – May 2013 Intensive February 21-23

## **Course Description**

This course will examine the fundamental insights of modern Catholic social teaching (CST), e.g., the dignity of the human person, the meaning and demands of justice, principles such as the common good, participation, and subsidiarity. These insights will be addressed by grappling with some of the more pressing social issues of our time, e.g., the meaning of work and rights and responsibilities of workers; ethical questions raised by environmental degradation, the culture of consumption and illegal immigration, etc.

#### **Course Goals/Student Outcomes:**

At the completion of this course students will ....

- Understand the basic insights and principles of Catholic social teaching particularly as they relate to critical issues encountered in our highly pluralistic society;
- Articulate and operationalize the basic ethical principles of Catholic social teaching that should inform and guide the ministries of church, both individual and institutional, today and into the future;
- Present the fundamentals of Catholic social teaching in a compelling manner to colleagues within the various ministries of the church;
- Appreciate the complexity of some of the more pressing social issues of our time and how CST can inform a faith based response to these issues.

### **Required Readings**

Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church,

http://www.vatican.va/roman\_curia/pontifical\_councils/justpeace/documents/rc\_pc\_justpeace\_doc\_20060 526\_compendio-dott-soc\_en.html

David N. Power, OMI, Michael Downey. *Living the Justice of the Triune God*. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, March, 2012.

Documents of Catholic Social Teaching, http://www.osjspm.org/page.aspx?pid=441

All other required readings (readings, web resources, YouTube presentations, etc.,) can be found

- o Under COURSE DOCUMENTS according to week and topic;
- o On St. Louis University e-reserves under instructor name (deblois) and password justice;
- o By following the web-link in the course syllabus.

#### **Recommended Texts**

Edward P. DeBerri, James E. Hug, Peter Henriot, *Catholic Social Teaching: Our Best Kept Secret*. Fourth Revised and Expanded Edition. Maryknoll: NY: Orbis Books, 2003.

Kenneth R. Himes, OFM, ed. *Modern Catholic Social Teaching: Commentaries & Interpretations*. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press, 2005.