

Description: This course gives an overview of the Catholic Church's theological, liturgical, and spiritual understanding of marriage and family, with an emphasis on the marriage rite, contemporary teachings, and pastoral considerations.

Objectives: To give an historical overview of the Judaeo-Christian tradition concerning marriage and the family.

To explore the rite of marriage, attentive to how it is celebrated in various cultural settings

To seek to derive from the rite of marriage, writings of theologians, and Church teaching a contemporary theology and spirituality of Christian marriage and family life

To become aware of current resources available for ministry to married couples and their families.

Procedures: This course will likely be taught as a seminar (depending on number of students). Students will be expected to read from a variety of sources and make presentations on their reading and personal research to the class. Assignments will include both written work and preaching.

Evaluation: The student's grade will be determined by his or her participation in class sessions, knowledge of assigned reading materials, and the quality of oral and written work.

Required Texts:

Together for Life. Notre Dame, IN: Ave Maria Press. (please do not order until close to course start date because new edition should be available by then)

Gaillardetz, Richard. *A Daring Promise: A Spirituality of Christian Marriage*. Liguori, MO: Liguori, 2007.

Rubio, Julie Hanlon. *Family Ethics: Practices for Christians*. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press, 2010.

Scott, Kieran ed. *Perspectives on Marriage: A Reader*. Oxford University Press, 2006.

Recommended Text:

Antonio, David William. *An Inculturation Model of the Catholic Marriage Ritual*. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2002.

Urbine, William and William Seifert. *On Life and Love: A Guide to Catholic Teaching on Marriage and Family*. Mystic, CT: Twenty-Third Publications, 1996.

(A packet of readings will also be available at the beginning of the semester)