Michael Demkovich, O.P.

3 Credite

Description:

The course is a theological and pastoral study of Spirituality from the Catholic perspective with application to ecumenical and inter-religious understandings. This course examines the fundamental traditions and doctrines of the spiritual life, surveying the great spiritual writers and their contribution to the Christian vocation.

Objectives:

- 1. To explore Spirituality as a *locus theologicus* (a place for theology) that enriches doctrine (Grace, God, Salvation, Creation) and life.
- 2. To examine the great spiritual writers, their sense of personal and social conversion as well as notions of transcendence in their writings.
- 3. To understand the personal and ecclesial character of Spirituality, and its role in Morality and Christian Anthropology.
- 4. To critically engage the dynamics of various spiritual movements in evaluating their pastoral applications in preaching and counseling.

Procedures:

This course will include both lecture and discussion, oral and written activities. Auditors are welcome if willing to do what is required for full oral participation. Activities include reports, reflections, reviews, a paper, and an exam.

Evaluation:

From attendance, contributions, assigned work, & exam.

Required Texts:

Spiritual Theology. Jordan Aumann, O.P. Huntington, IN: OSV, 1980. On line: http://www.ldysinger.com/@books/Aumann/spir_theol/default.htm

Catholic Spirituality, Its History and Challenge. James J. Bacik. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 2002

A Soul-Centered Life: Exploring an Animated Spirituality. Michael Demkovich, O.P. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2010.

An Anthology of Christian Mysticism. Harvey D. Egan, S.J. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 1996

Spirituality & History: Questions of Interpretation and Method. Philip Sheldrake. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1998

Recommended/Additional Texts: articles and excerpts from works will be given in class