PERSON AND SOCIETY IN THE THOUGHT OF THOMAS AQUINAS

Donald J. Goergen, O.P.
goergen@sprynet.com

PHL-D510
DOM-D510

Mondays
8:45 – 11:15 a.m.

3 credits
Spring, 2014

Course Description

A seminar investigating philosophical and theological themes in selected questions of the *secunda pars* of Thomas Aquinas's Summa Theologiae, both the *prima/secundae* and the *secunda/secundae*, although predominantly questions from the latter: Aquinas's treatment of happiness, original sin, grace, the theological and moral virtues, and the contemplative life.. Prerequisites include the courses, "Thomas Aquinas: Life, Thought and Works" (PHL-D506), and "The Philosophical Foundations of Thomas Aquinas" (PHL-D501).

Course Objectives

-- to engage selected questions in the *secunda pars* of the Summa Theologiae in order to be at home in reading the Summa critically;
-- to deepen one's understanding of Aquinas's theology of the human person and the moral life;
-- to integrate Thomas's appreciation of the Christian life into one's own life.

Evaluation

Class participation (1/3)
Class presentations (1/3)
Written assignments (1/3)

Students should normally expect a "B" unless their work demonstrates that they are not doing what is minimally expected or that they are doing superior work. The decision on the grade will be based on class participation, class presentations, completion of assigned readings, and written assignments.

Required Text

ALL STUDENTS ARE TO HAVE AVAILABLE TO THEMSELVES A COPY OF THE COMPLETE SECOND PART (Secunda Pars) OF THOMAS AQUINAS'S SUMMA THEOLOGIAE. If you do not have your own copy, you must have access to one that you are able to bring to class. You will need to have a copy for your own use in class.

There will be other selected readings from secondary sources.