

Spring 2018  
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**Office Hours:**

## **CLASS MEETINGS, READINGS, AND EXERCISES**

### **I. A SHORT REVIEW OF AN ANCIENT FAITH**

Week 1: A Review of the Basics

January 16: Models for Theology and the Study of Religion (Review)

January 18: Lived Religion, Civil Religion, and (oh my God) Natural Law (Review)

Reading: Thomas Aquinas, *Summa*

### **II. NEO-THOMISM AS “CATHOLI-SPEAK**

Week 2: A Dive Into the Deep End

January 23: Numbers, American and Catholic Natural Law

Reading: John Courtney Murray, *We Hold These Truths*, Introduction

January 25: Natural Law and Neo-Thomism

Reading: Murray, *We Hold These Truths*, Chapter 1 (“E Pluribus Unum”)

Week 3: Murray and the Natural Law

January 30: Articles of Peace and Articles of War

Reading: Murray, *WHTT*, Chapter 2 (“Civil Unity and Religious Integrity”)

February 1: What *Is the* “Public Consensus”?

Reading: Murray, *WHTT*, Chapter 4 (“Origins and Authority of the Public

### **III. THE CATHOLIC TRADITION CONFRONTS THE MODERN WORLD**

#### Week 5: Vatican II and All That

February 13: Ecumenical Councils, and What They Mean

Reading: Viladesau and Massa, *Foundations*, Nos. 52, 53, 54, 55. 59; *Lumen Gentium*

February 15: What Happened at Vatican II?

Reading: John O'Malley, *What Happened at Vatican II*, Introduction

#### Week 6: The Tradition of Ecumenical Councils

February 20: The Long Duree

Readings: O'Malley, *What Happened*, chapter 1 ("Big Perspectives")

February 22: The 19<sup>th</sup> Century and Its Theological Aftermath

Reading: O'Malley, *What Happened*, chapter 2 ("The Long Nineteenth Century")

#### Week 7: Why Vatican II Changed Everything

February 27: The First Sunday of Advent, 1964

Reading: Massa, *Catholics and American Culture*, chapter 7 ("Into Uncertain Life")

March 1: The Meaning(s) of Vatican II

\*Exercise No. 2 on O'Malley due in class

(March 4<sup>th</sup> through March 11<sup>th</sup>: Spring Break)

### **IV. THE THEOLOGICAL MEANING(S) OF CHRISTIAN LITERATURE**

#### Week 8: The Sacramental Universe in Literature

March 13: Thomas Merton and the Catholic "Literary Revival"

Reading: Massa, *Catholics and American Culture*, chapter 2 ("Young Man Merton")

March 15: CS Lewis and the Reality of Grace

Reading: CS Lewis, *The Screwtape Letters*, Letters 1-12

#### Week 9: The Analogical Imagination

March 20: Fallenness, Grace, and Redemption

Reading: CS Lewis, *The Screwtape Letters*, Letters 13-24

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March 22: What Does Lewis Show about the Christian Tradition?

Reading:CS Lewis, *The Screwtape Letters*, Letters 25-31

## **V: TO SPEAK RIGHTLY OF GOD**

Week 10: To Speak Rightly of God

March 27: ETf ( ) ri

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April 24: Merton and Catholicism's Coming of Age

Reading: Massa, *Catholics*, chapter 2 ("Young Man Merton")

April 26: "A Conspiracy So immense"

Reading: Massa, *Catholics*, chapter 3 ("Catholicism as a Cultural System")

Week 15: "The Downward Path"

May 1: Dorothy Day and the Catholic Worker

Reading: Massa, *Catholics*, chapter 5 ("The Downward Path")

May 3: The End of All Things: Review

\*Exercise Number 5 on Massa due