

MPS 229/STP 578 - Married Love and Sexuality in the Christian Tradition

Winter Semester 2018-2019

Course Outline

Class Start Date & End Date

January 3, 2019 - March 28, 2019

Class Meeting Time, Location, and Room

Thursday 1:15pm - 4:05pm, Newman Theological College, St. Francis Room

Instructors Name: Fr. Michael Schumacher
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Course Description

The human dimensions of love and sexuality. The religious meaning of human sexuality in the Judeo-Christian tradition, with special reference to Christian marriage. Issues raised by the contemporary sexual revolution. Doctrinal, liturgical, moral, pastoral, sacramental and spiritual dimensions of Christian marriage.

Course Objectives

Formulated to address one or more of the four goals of theological education at NTC as articulated in the context and scope section of the catalogue.

- a) **Intellectual Formation** - *The course aims to deepen the students' understanding of the anthropological, Scriptural and theological foundations of an authentic vision of human sexuality and marriage in the Catholic Tradition especially through greater familiarity with Saint Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body. It is also intended to fully connect this vision to fully Catholic ethical vision of human sexuality.*
- b) **Cultural Context** - *In conjunction with and in application of their intellectual formation, the course aims to help students engage critically the contemporary challenges and criticisms to a Catholic understanding of human sexuality and marriage by bringing the light of the Gospel to bear on the contemporary problematic. The course will also help students to better identify solutions the genuine meaning and authentic goods of human sexuality and marriage.*
- c) **Personal and Spiritual Formation** - *By deepening an holistic understanding of the nature and significance of human sexuality and marriage this course seeks to develop in students a greater familiarity and comfort with the complex issues related to human sexuality and a better foundation upon which to approach and consider aspects of human sexuality and marriage.*

- d) **Capacity for Ministerial Leadership** - *By exposing students to a breadth of Magisterial teaching on sexuality and marriage and by acquainting them with the richness of Saint Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body the course will provide students both a greater resourcefulness and preparedness to comfortably engage and respond to the contemporary situation with greater confidence and clarity.*

Course Assignments and Evaluation

MPS 229 Assignments and Evaluation

1. **Assignment #1:** Paper on Pope St. John Paul II's *Theology of the Body*, between 5-6 pages in length, due February 14, 2019.
 - The report must be based on any of the following books:
 - a. St. John Paul II. *The Theology of the Body: Human Love in the Divine Plan...*
 - b. St. John Paul II. *Man and Woman He Created Them: A Theology of the Body*
 - c. William E. May. *Theology of the Body in Context...*
 - d. Christopher West. *Theology of the Body Explained: A Commentary on John Paul II's 'Gospel of the Body'.*
2. **Assignment #2:** Book Review, 5-6 pages in length, due March 14, 2019. The book review must be based on the class textbook, John S. Grabowski. *Sex and Virtue: An Introduction to Sexual Ethics.*

STP 578 Assignments and Evaluation

1. **Assignment #1:** Paper on Pope St. John Paul II's *Theology of the Body*, between 8-10 pages in length, due February 14, 2019.
 - The report must be based on any of the following books:
 - a. St. John Paul II. *The Theology of the Body: Human Love in the Divine Plan...*
 - b. St. John Paul II. *Man and Woman He Created Them: A Theology of the Body*
 - c. William E. May. *Theology of the Body in Context...*
 - d. Christopher West. *Theology of the Body Explained: A Commentary on John Paul II's 'Gospel of the Body'.*
2. **Assignment #2:** Book Review, 8-10 pages in length, due March 14, 2019. The book review must be based on the class textbook, John S. Grabowski. *Sex and Virtue: An Introduction to Sexual Ethics.*

Textbooks/Required Reading

1. Choose one of the following (corresponds to the first assignment):
 - St. John Paul II. *The Theology of the Body: Human Love in the Divine Plan...*
 - St. John Paul II. *Man and Woman He Created Them: A Theology of the Body*
 - William E. May. *Theology of the Body in Context...*
 - Christopher West. *Theology of the Body Explained: A Commentary on John Paul II's 'Gospel of the Body'.*

* See bibliography for more information. An english translation from L'Osservatore Romano can be accessed online @ <https://www.ewtn.com/library/PAPALDOC/JP2TBIND.HTM>
2. Grabowski, John S. *Sex and Virtue: An Introduction to Sexual Ethics.* Washington: The Catholic University of America Press, 2003.
3. Pope St. Paul VI. Encyclical Letter *Humanae Vitae*, On the Proper Regulation of the Propagation of Offspring. July 25, 1968.

Recommended Reading

1. Pope St. John Paul II, Apostolic Exhortation *Familiaris Consortio*, On the Mission of the Family in the Modern World. November 22, 1981.
2. Vatican Council II. *Gaudium et spes*, Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World. December 7, 1965. §46-52.

Course Requirements

Student grades will be determined from four elements:

1. Assignment #1: Theology of the Body Paper (weighted at 30%)
 2. Assignment #2: Book Report (weighted at 30%)
 3. Participation in class discussions - 10%
 4. Final In-Class Written Exam (weighted at 30%)
1. **The Theology of the Body paper** will help the students' gain a familiarity with Saint John Paul II's important contribution to theological anthropology and sexuality assisting them in the apprehension of the natural, anthropological and Scriptural foundations for human sexuality and marriage within the Catholic Tradition.
 2. **The Book Report** will assist students in applying/linking the anthropological foundations with ethical considerations within the "Virtue Ethics" tradition.
 3. **In class discussions** will develop an increased willingness to engage the important and complex topics around human sexuality and marriage as well as to develop an ability to articulate clearly Christian perspectives when in conversation with others.
 4. **The final exam** is meant to allow the student to demonstrate their knowledge of foundation principles and concepts related to human sexuality and marriage in the Catholic Tradition and to apply them to contemporary problems in a holistic and clear way.

Course Schedule

Lecture 1 (January 3, 2019)

Introduction, Natural Foundations and Theological Anthropology I

Lecture 2 (January 10, 2019)

Theological Anthropology II

Lecture 3 (January 17, 2019)

Theological Anthropology III

Lecture 4 (January 24, 2019)

Religious Significance of Sexuality, Love and Marriage in Judeo-Christian Tradition I

Lecture 5 (January 31, 2019)

Religious Significance of Sexuality, Love and Marriage in Judeo-Christian Tradition II

Lecture 6 (February 7, 2019)

Christian Marriage I - Marriage as Sacrament and Marriage in the Mystical Union of Christ and the Church

Lecture 7 (February 14, 2019) *Theology of the Body paper due

Christian Marriage II - Magisterial Development/History, Canon Law and Liturgical Celebration

Reading Break

Lecture 8 (February 28, 2019)

Christian Marriage III - Properties/Characteristics and Responsibilities of Marriage

Lecture 9 (March 7, 2019)

Contemporary Issues - Pastoral Care of Divorced and Remarried Persons, Cohabitation, Contraception

Lecture 10 (March 14, 2019) *Book Report due

Contemporary Issues - Chastity and Offences against Chastity (Fornication, Pornography, Masturbation)

Lecture 11 (March 21, 2019)

Contemporary Issues - Homosexuality and Gender

Lecture 12 (March 28, 2019)

Celibacy and the Importance of the Family

General Academic Information

Late Submission Policy.

All grading will be in accordance with NTC guidelines. Please see NTC Academic Regulation in the *Academic Calendar* (14-19) and below for more information. **Any request for an extension must be discussed with the professor at least one week prior to the due date and will be considered on a case by case basis.** Without a formal request for an extension, there will be a 5% grade reduction for each day past the due date (including weekends).

Course Attendance

No credit will be given for a course if the student has been absent, for any reason whatever, from one-third or more of the lectures and/or seminars scheduled for the term. Likewise, no credit will be given if term assignments or other assignments are or remain incomplete. Attendance will be taken every class.

Leave of Absence and Policy for Incompletes

Extensions to an incomplete grade may be granted in extenuating circumstances, but may not exceed 16 weeks following the end of the course. Students who fail to complete course work by the agreed deadline will have a grade assigned which is based on work completed.

Academic Integrity

Acts of academic dishonesty (plagiarism, cheating, etc.) are subject to an appropriate penalty. The grade “F” may be assigned to a student guilty of such acts by the professor of the course in which the infraction occurred. A second offense against academic integrity renders the student liable to automatic dismissal from NTC. Further details are available in the Student Handbook in the Academic Misconduct Policy.

Academic Grievances

Students may appeal grades received; the procedure is outlined in the Student Handbook in the Grade Appeal Policy. For other grievances, students will refer to the Student Grievances Policy also outlined in the Student Handbook.

NOTE: The GPA is computed on the basis of cumulative grade point (letter) values, not percentage values. All courses are included in this calculation except those exceeding degree requirements and/or received as transfer credits from other recognized institutions.

Grading System

Undergraduate Studies C.Th., Dip.Th., B.Th.			Graduate Studies M.T.S., M.Div., M.Th., G.C.C.S.A., M.R.E.		
Grade Meaning	Grade	Grade Point	Grade Meaning	Grade	Grade Point
Excellent	A+	4.0	Excellent	A+	4.0
	A	4.0		A	4.0
	A-	3.7		A-	3.7
Good	B+	3.3	Good	B+	3.3
	B	3.0		B	3.0
	B-	2.7		B-	2.7
Adequate	C+	2.3	Adequate	C+	2.3
	C	2.0		C	2.0
	C-	1.7		C-	1.7
Marginal	D+	1.3			
	D	1.0			
Fail	F	0.0	Fail	D+	1.3
				D	1.0
				F	0.0

Written Assignments - Style and Format

Newman Theological College requires that all written work be submitted in acceptable academic format and style. Please note the following regulations:

Regulations

Research papers, book reports, article summaries, reflection papers, and essays should be double-spaced, printed on one side only, and submitted on white, 8.5” x 11” paper.

Please use standard type style, such as Times New Roman, with a 12-point font size.

1. Kate Turabian, “A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations” (Chicago: University of Chicago Press).

**Copies of these standard references may be purchased in the NTC bookstore. Ignorance of standard form is not considered an acceptable excuse for deviation from required standards of format and style.*

Academic Regulations

The following Academic Regulations are located in the Academic Calendar for your reference:

- Changes in Registration: Add/Drop/Withdraw Notice
- Course Work
- Final Examination Schedule
- Incomplete Grade Policy
- Inclusive Language

Related Academic Matters

The following Related Academic Matters are located in the Academic Calendar for your reference:

- Grade Reports & Posting
- Glossary of Academic Terms

Other Related Policies

The following policies are located in the Student Handbook for your reference:

- Academic Misconduct Policy
- Grade Appeal Policy

Recording of Lectures

Audio or video recording of lectures, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior consent of the instructor. Recorded material is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Student Accessibility Services:

If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please let me know during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you are not already registered with Student Services, contact Doreen Bloos at 780-392-2450 ext. 2212; Email doreen.bloos@newman.edu .

Bibliography

Magisterial Sources

Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2nd ed. September 8, 1997.

Pope Benedict XVI. Encyclical Letter *Deus caritas est*, On Christian Love. December 25, 2005.

Pope St. John Paul II. Apostolic Exhortation *Familiaris Consortio*, On the Mission of the Family in the Modern World. November 22, 1981.

Pope St. John Paul II. Encyclical Letter *Veritatis Splendor* On Certain Fundamental Questions of the Church’s Moral Teaching. August 6, 1993.

Pope St. Paul VI. Encyclical Letter *Humanae Vitae*, On the Proper Regulation of the Propagation of Offspring. July 25, 1968.

Pope Pius XI. Encyclical Letter, *Casti connubii*, On Christian Marriage. December 31, 1930.

Vatican Council II. *Gaudium et spes*, Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World. December 7, 1965. §46-52.

Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF)

Persona humana, Declaration on Certain Questions concerning Sexual Ethics. December 29, 1975.

The Holy See, *Charter on the Rights of the Family*. October 22, 1983.

Letter to the Bishops of the Catholic Church on the Pastoral Care of Homosexual Persons. October 1, 1986.

Letter to the Bishops of the Catholic Church concerning the Reception of Holy Communion by Divorced and Remarried Members of the Faithful. October 14, 1994.

Considerations Regarding Proposals to Give Legal Recognition to Unions between Homosexual Persons. June 3, 2003.

General Texts

Burke, Cormac. *Covenanted Happiness: Love and Commitment in Marriage*. 2nd ed. Scepter Publishers, 1999.

Flaman, Paul. *Sex, Love and Marriage in the Light of Following Jesus*. Ottawa: Justin Press, 2015.

García de Haro, Ramón. *Marriage and the Family in the Documents of the Magisterium: A Course in the Theology of Marriage*. 2nd ed. Trans. by William E. May. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 1993.

Grabowski, John S. *Sex and Virtue: An Introduction to Sexual Ethics*. Catholic University of America Press, 2003.

Joyce, Mary Rosera and Robert E. Joyce. *New Dynamics in Sexual Love: A Revolutionary Approach to Marriage and Celibacy*. Collegeville: St. John's University Press, 1970.

Marks, Loren D. and David C. Dollahite. *Religion and Families: An Introduction*. New York: Routledge, 2017

St. John Paul II. *Man and Woman He Created Them: A Theology of the Body*. Boston: Pauline Books and Media, 2006.

St. John Paul II. *The Theology of the Body: Human Love in the Divine Plan*. Boston: Pauline Books and Media, 1997.

Ouellet, Marc. *Mystery and Sacrament of Love: A Theology of Marriage and the Family for the New Evangelization*. Eerdmans, 2015.

Witherspoon Institute. Marriage and the Public Good: Ten Principles. Princeton, NJ, August 2008.

