

### Theology Department Sequence

Grade:	Course Title	Length	Meeting Time	Required or Elective
Grade 7	Theology 7	Full-Year	Daily	Required
Grade 8	Theology 8	Full-Year	Daily	Required
Grade 9	Scripture	Semester	Daily	Required
	Who Is Jesus	Semester	Daily	Required
Grade 10	Mission of Jesus	Semester	Daily	Required
	Sacraments	Semester	Daily	Required
Grade 11	Ecclesiology	Semester	Daily	Required
	Vocations	Semester	Daily	Required
Grade 12	Apologetics*	Semester	Daily	Required
	Life in Christ: Morality*	Semester	Daily	Required
	Introduction to World Religions*	Semester	3 Days per Week	Elective

\*Courses eligible for dual credit through Mount Mercy University, Cedar Rapids.

Theology Course Transferability to Mount Mercy and to University of Iowa

RS110 Christian Moral Theology–General Elective Credit

RS115 Introduction to World Religions–General Elective Credit, meets the Vales/Culture General Education Requirement

RS284 Topics in Religious Studies–General Elective Credit, (Apologetics)

## THEOLOGY AND SPIRITUAL LIFE DEPARTMENT

### **PHILOSOPHY**

The Theology Department seeks to provide an environment of intellectual and spiritual formation in the truths of our Catholic faith and contact with the person of Jesus Christ to equip students with the tools necessary to be a disciple of Jesus Christ in this world and live as saints for eternity..

### **STANDARDS**

THE STUDENT WILL:

1. Read, interpret and apply Scripture to life.
2. Present a rationale, based on faith and knowledge, for being a Catholic.
3. Illustrate basic understanding of Catholic dogma and doctrine in light of the Catechism of the Catholic Church.
4. Illustrate a basic understanding of the person of Jesus Christ as the full revelation of God.
5. Illustrate a basic understanding of the mission of Jesus Christ as it continues in the Church.
6. Apply Catholic principles to interpersonal relationships (e.g., family, peers, work, society, Church, etc.).
7. Engage in service to the community in response to the Gospel call.
8. Examine the variety of Christian life-styles as ways to respond to the Baptismal call to a life of service.
9. Use various forms of prayer (e.g., liturgical, traditional, spontaneous, devotional, multicultural) to enrich and express personal and communal spirituality.
10. Demonstrate an understanding of various forms of technology and the skills necessary to use them.

**Protection of Children:** The Protection of Children curriculum is taught in grade 7 and in grade 11 as mandated by the Archdiocese of Dubuque.

**Human Sexuality:** The human sexuality curriculum is taught in grade 8 and grade 11.

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Number:	015/016	Title:	Theology 9
		1 <sup>st</sup> Semester	Revelation of Jesus
		2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester	Who is Jesus
Grade(s):	9	Meeting Time:	Every Day
Length:	Year	Credit:	5 Per Semester
Required*			

**COURSE SUMMARY FOR REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST IN SCRIPTURE:**

The student will:

1. Demonstrate a clear understanding of revelation as the primary way we know God and of Jesus Christ as the fullness of that revelation.
2. Demonstrate a clear understanding of Catholic teaching regarding the purpose and importance of Scripture as the inspired Word of God.
3. Explore the role of inspiration in the formation of the Scriptures.
4. Explore the historical, cultural, and literary context in which the Scriptures were written.
5. Analyze texts to determine their purpose and message, especially how they bear witness to Jesus Christ.
6. Evaluate the message in a text to determine how it applies to their lives.

Students will demonstrate a familiarity with the Roman Catholic understanding of the inspiration, formation and interpretation of the Scriptures.

**COURSE SUMMARY FOR WHO IS JESUS?:**

The students will:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of God's self-revelation and faith as the human response to that revelation.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of Jesus Christ as the full revelation of God.
3. Explore the implications of faith in Jesus Christ and what it means to be a disciple.
4. Explore what Jesus reveals to us about God.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the mystery of the Incarnation.
6. Explore what Jesus teaches us about ourselves.

Students will demonstrate familiarity with the nature of faith, the person of Jesus Christ, and the implications of our relationship with him.

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Number:	021/022	Title:	Theology 10
		1 <sup>st</sup> Semester	The Mission of Jesus Christ
		2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester	Sacraments
Grade(s):	10	Meeting Time:	Every Day
Length:	Year	Credit:	5 Per Semester

Required\*

### **COURSE SUMMARY FOR THE MISSION OF JESUS CHRIST**

The purpose of this course is to help students understand all that God has done for us through his Son, Jesus Christ. Through this course of study, students will learn that for all eternity, God has planned for us to share eternal happiness with him, which is accomplished through the redemption Christ won for us. Students will learn that they share in this redemption only in and through Jesus Christ. They will also be introduced to what it means to be a disciple of Christ and what life as a disciple entails.

The students will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of our origins in creation, humanity's fall from grace, and the promise of a Redeemer, Jesus Christ.
2. Demonstrate a thorough Catholic understanding of the Paschal Mystery.
3. Analyze how Jesus' life and ministry contributed to our redemption.
4. Explore the rationale for Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross.
5. Demonstrate and understanding of Christ's resurrection and its implications for us.
6. Explore the implications of Christ's Ascension and the sending of the Holy Spirit.
7. Explore the moral responsibilities of the believer in light of our redemption.
8. Evaluate various forms of prayer in fostering a relationship with God.

### **COURSE SUMMARY FOR SACRAMENTS:**

The purpose of this course is to help students understand that they can encounter Christ today in a full and real way in and through the sacraments, and especially through the Eucharist. Students will examine each of the sacraments in detail so as to learn how they may encounter Christ throughout life.

The students will:

1. Explore the sacramental nature of the Church as encounters with Jesus Christ.
2. Consider the history, theology, and Scripture supporting each sacrament.
3. Learn the graces, effects, and importance of each sacrament.
4. Compare the matter, form, and essential elements of each sacrament.
5. Examine the disposition and intention toward reception of the sacraments, including requirements for receiving each sacrament.
6. Look at how the sacraments are lived in the Christian life.

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Number:	023/024	Title:	Theology 11
		1 <sup>st</sup> Semester	Ecclesiology
		2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester	Vocations
Grade(s):	11	Meeting Time:	Every Day
Length:	Year	Credit:	5 Per Semester
Required*			

**COURSE SUMMARY FOR JESUS CHRIST'S MISSION CONTINUES IN THE CHURCH (ECCLESIOLOGY):**

The purpose of this course is to help the students understand that in and through the Church they encounter the living Jesus Christ. They will be introduced to the fact that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by him through the Holy Spirit. The students will come to know that the Church is the living Body of Christ today. This Body has both divine and human elements. In this course, students will learn not so much about the events in the life of the Church but about the sacred nature of the Church.

**COURSE SUMMARY RESPONDING TO THE CALL OF JESUS CHRIST (VOCATIONS):**

The purpose of this course is to help students to understand the vocations of life: how Christ calls us to live. In this course, students should learn how all vocations are similar and how they differ. The course should be structured around married life, single life, priestly life, and consecrated life. Students should learn what it means to live life for the benefit of others and the value in considering a vocation in service to the Christian community.

The students will:

1. Be able to describe the vocation of humanity as defined by the Church.
2. Study and understand the Catholic Church's teaching on human sexuality.
3. Understand the Protection of Children curriculum as set forth through the archdiocese.
4. Understand the four traditional vocations endorsed by the Church, and be able to fully describe the nature of each. These vocations are:
 

- Matrimony	- Priesthood
- Single Life	- Religious Life

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Number:	025/026	Title:	Theology 12
		1 <sup>st</sup> Semester	Apologetics* MMU RS 284
		2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester	Catholic Apologetics Life In Jesus Christ* (Moral Theology) MMU RS 110
Grade(s):	12	Meeting Time:	Every Day
Length:	Year	Credit:	5 Per Semester

Required\* (May be taken for College Credit)

**COURSE SUMMARY FOR APOLOGETICS:**

The purpose of this course is to serve as a capstone to students' theological faith formation and prepare them to live, explain, and (when necessary) defend Christian and Catholic core theological principles as adults in American society. The course begins with basic religious truths and progresses to detailed concepts of Catholicism and Christianity as a whole. Each unit builds upon previous truths and provides the evidence and rationale for Christian and Catholic doctrines and practices.

Main Topics of Study Include:

1. Relationship between Catholicism and science.
2. Evidence for God's existence, primarily philosophical and scientific.
3. Evidence for the reliability and accurate transmission of the Bible, especially the New Testament, primarily supported by archaeology.
4. The way Jesus and his revelation make Christianity unique among the world religions and their founders.
5. Evidence for the resurrection of Jesus, which serves to enhance the credibility of Jesus and his message, primarily using historical and psychological evidence.
6. A treatment of the Church and its purpose in the world as flowing from Jesus and continuing his mission.
7. Comparing and contrasting Catholic Christianity with other Christian churches and ecclesial communities.
8. Concluding with practice defending elements of Christianity or Catholicism.

**COURSE SUMMARY FOR LIFE IN JESUS CHRIST (MORAL THEOLOGY):**

The purpose of this course is to help students understand that it is only through Christ that they can fully live out God's plans for their lives. Students are to learn the moral concepts and precepts that govern the lives of Christ's disciples.

Students will:

1. Identify God's plan for us and how we respond through a moral life in Christ.
2. Explore the Decalogue and Beatitudes as God's revelation regarding Christian morality in broad and specific applications to living the Christian life.
3. Become familiar with and utilize basic moral terminology and concepts such as grace, sin, virtue, vice, freedom, and conscience.
4. Seek to apply their moral knowledge and discernment accurately and in conformity with Magisterial doctrine to contemporary moral/ethical issues.

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Number:	034	Title:	Introduction to World Religions* MMU RS 115
Grade(s):	11,12	Meeting Time:	T/W/R
Length:	Semester	Credit:	5 Per Semester

Elective

\*College credit

**IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION:**

This course is a college level course with dual enrollment at both Beckman Catholic and Mount Mercy University. The difficulty level and workload are aimed at freshman/sophomore college level. The grade students receive in this course will be both on Beckman's transcript as well as on students' college transcripts and will impact their college GPA hereafter. Students wanting additional details may see the instructor for more information and for assistance evaluating if they are prepared for the coursework involved.

**COURSE SUMMARY FOR INTRODUCTION TO WORLD RELIGIONS:**

This course is an introduction to the history, belief-systems, practices, and divisions of the world's major religions. It focuses especially on Hinduism, Sikhism, Buddhism, Jainism, Confucianism, Taoism, Shintoism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and the Baha'i Faith, and Native American spirituality.