



FAITH FORMATION COURSES

The mission of the Faith Formation Department’s academic curriculum is proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus by educating both the minds and hearts of students, through the promotion of collaborative teamwork, cultural awareness, creativity, and personal reflection. It is our desire to make God known, loved, and served, as we form students into young men of intellect, compassion, justice, and love.

In addition to specific course content, each course will acquaint students with the history and distinctive and timeless spirituality of the Congregation of Holy Cross and the lives of figures such as Blessed Basil Moreau and St. André Bessette, as well the development of the Congregation in the New World. Students will also be invited to engage in Catholic Holy Cross spirituality and examine the central themes of various Holy Cross writings, and gain perspectives on the missionary and educational charisms of Holy Cross.

#R10A Hebrew Scriptures **I Credit Level 2**

* Will not be offered in the 2021-2022 school year due to resequencing of courses.

Through a thorough examination of the Hebrew Scriptures/Old Testament, this semester-long introductory course explores God’s relationship with the People of Israel. Through their reading of each book of the Hebrew Scriptures, students will examine the literary styles and techniques used, as well as historical and cultural contexts. Topics include creation, covenant, exodus, suffering, bearing witness, worship, and prophecy.

Prerequisites: Sophomore status

R03A/B Hebrew Scriptures Moreau Honors **I Credit Level 3**

As a component of the freshman Moreau Honors curriculum, this learning experience blends with the English and Social Studies departments for an advanced humanities-based approach to biblical studies. Through a thorough examination of the Hebrew Scriptures/Old Testament, this semester-long introductory course explores God’s relationship with the People of Israel. Through their reading of each book of the Hebrew Scriptures, students will examine the literary styles and techniques used, as well as historical and cultural contexts. Topics include creation, covenant, exodus, suffering, bearing witness, worship, and prophecy.

Prerequisites: Freshman/Sophomore Moreau Honors

#R14A/B Jesus the Church and Holy Cross **I Credit Level 2**

This two semester course will acquaint students with the historical person of Jesus Christ, the history and the spirituality of the Catholic Church, and the Congregation of Holy Cross. Major topics covered include the Gospels and their themes, parables, miracles, the historical events of Jesus’ life, the Catholic Mass, liturgy, and the seven sacraments. A chronological overview of Holy Cross history will examine the central themes of Holy Cross writings and the philosophy of education of Holy Cross.

Requirements for placement: Freshmen status

#R15A/B Jesus the Church and Holy Cross **Moreau Honors I Credit Level 3**

This two semester course will acquaint students with the historical person of Jesus Christ, the history and the spirituality of the Catholic Church, and the Congregation of Holy Cross. Major topics covered include the Gospels and their themes, parables, miracles, the historical events of Jesus’ life, the Catholic Mass, liturgy, and the seven sacraments. A chronological overview of Holy Cross history will examine the central themes of Holy Cross writings and the philosophy of education of Holy Cross.

Requirements for placement: Previous record: high verbal scores on the entrance exam: signature of the school counselor

#R22A/B Christ and the Sacraments **I Credit Level 2**

This two semester course examines the life and teachings of Jesus and his effect not only on human life and history itself, but on the life of the student in particular. The students study the Jesus of History—the divine Son of God who lived, preached, and healed at a particular place and time. Major topics covered include the religion of the time, the politics of the time, the Gospels and their themes, parables, miracles, and the historical events of Jesus’ life. The students also study the Christ of Faith—the title for Jesus that expresses our Catholic understanding that He is our Lord and Savior today. The seven sacraments of the Catholic Church are studied as symbols of His living presence in our world. They are presented as ways in which God reaches out to us in friendship and invites us to respond to a Divine Love. Major topics include the historical development, the symbols and rituals used, and the central meaning of the individual sacraments.

Requirements for placement: Sophomore status



#R23A/B Christ and the Sacraments Moreau Honors

I Credit Level 3

This two semester course examines the life and teachings of Jesus and his effect not only on human life and history itself, but on the life of the student in particular. The course will integrate an examination of the sacraments as understood and experienced in the Catholic tradition. The course is linked with the English II Moreau Honors course, challenging the students to integrate what they are learning in each course. Cross-curriculum projects will be a standard feature of the course. The students study the Jesus of History--the person who lived, preached, and healed at a particular place and time. Major topics covered include the daily life of the people, the religion of the time, the politics of the time, parables, miracles, and the historical events of Jesus' life. The students also study the Christ of Faith—the individual Christians believe to be the Messiah and Son of God. A bringing together of these two concepts (Jesus of History and Christ of Faith) and a deeper understanding of Jesus of Nazareth are the goals of this course. The sacraments are studied as symbols of Jesus' continued living presence in our world. They are presented as ways in which God reaches out to us in friendship and invites us to respond to a Divine Love. The historical development, the symbols and rituals used, and the central meaning of the individual sacraments are major aspects of this course.

Requirements for placement: English II Moreau Honors

#R32A Christian Doctrine

0.5 Credit Level 2

This one semester course is designed to teach students what Catholics believe and why. The students are encouraged to see the stable, gradual nature of Catholicism. By discussing God's Word found in Scripture, the Church and Christ, and our response to God's Word, the relationship to faith is explored. Emphasis is placed on prayer and intellectual study as a means to strengthen a lifelong Catholic commitment to faith. An historical review of Church doctrines such as the Trinity, Resurrection, grace, teachings concerning Mary, and eternal life are discussed. Supplementary articles will add to the information given in the text.

Requirements for placement: junior status

#R32B Christian Morality

0.5 Credit Level 2

This one semester course is an examination of who we are as human beings. The goal of the course is to develop an understanding of our relationship with God, our neighbor, and ourselves. Through the use of lecture, small group interaction, class presentations by students, role-playing,

reflection papers, and audio-visuals, the student is encouraged to look within himself, his life experience, and the society within which he lives. He is asked to study Scripture, the person of Jesus, and Church teaching. Ultimately, the course challenges the student to pull these many factors together in order to lead a coherent, reflective Christian life of service according to God's plan for us all.

Requirements for placement: junior status

#R52A/B Peer Counseling

I Credit Level 2

This two semester course trains its participants in a year-long experience of "Servant Leadership". The course begins with a required four day summer workshop. The course stresses training in leadership, counseling, and group skills, all of which are presented as a response to the Gospel, the teaching of the Church, and the mission of the Congregation of Holy Cross. These skills are used in leading small groups, retreats, workshops, and directed service to their peers. The course seeks to take students interested in growth and equip them for lifestyles of leadership through service.

Requirements for placement: senior status; application process

#R42A Global Issues

0.5 Credit Level 2

Examining the concept of justice in human culture, this one semester course explores current social issues encountered on the local, national, and global Levels through the lens of Catholic social teaching. Topics such as genocide, environmental stewardship, war, and peace will be covered, as well as human dignity and fundamental rights of every person. Students will use references of papal encyclicals, pastoral letters of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and documents of Vatican Council II. A variety of teaching techniques including class discussion, research, appropriate audio-visual material, and written papers accomplish the goals of the course.

Requirements for placement: senior status

#R82B Science and Religion

0.5 Credit Level 2

Often seen as two conflicting dominant forces, the concepts of science and religion are intensely examined in this one semester course. Students will investigate if this notion is true, or if they are parallel ways that partner in the understanding of reality and the quest for truth. There will also be the examination of the relationship between science and religion beginning with an inquiry into two important controversies: the Galileo affair and the theory of evolution. Other topics will include science vs. pseudoscience: verification and falsification in science and religion: modern cosmology and



divine creation: biblical miracles and quantum mechanics:
human freedom and divine action. Class discussion, lectures,
research, appropriate audio-visual material, and written
papers accomplish the goals of the course.

Requirements for placement: senior status

#R72A Comparative Religions

0.5 Credit Level 2 NCAA

The purpose of this one semester course is to offer students the opportunity to examine non-Christian religious traditions. The course begins with an in-depth historical approach to the Roman Catholic Church's current teaching regarding non-Christian religions. This course helps the student appreciate the diverse world in which he lives as well as grow in respect for God's work among all people. The course aims to deepen the student's understanding of Catholicism, the dimensions of faith that are common to all humanity, and the elements of individual faith traditions that are unique. The course involves readings, lectures and reflection papers.

Requirements for placement: senior status