

**Santa Clara University**  
**Graduate Program in Pastoral Ministries (GPPM)**  
**Transformative Catechesis: Missionary Discipleship**  
**CATE 224 (4 Credits)- Summer (June 12<sup>th</sup>- July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021)**

**Instructor:** Fr. James Okafor

**Email:** [jokafor@scu.edu](mailto:jokafor@scu.edu)

**Phone:** 4085008218 (Cell)

**Office Hours (Zoom):** By appointment

**Course Format-** Online

**Course Description and Objectives:**

The whole effort of Catechesis is what Pope Francis has described as an invitation for us to become missionary disciples through a deep formation in missionary discipleship within the context of the call for a new evangelization. A course on Transformative Catechesis is a response to this clarion call for a deep formation in missionary discipleship. Through readings, discussions, papers and presentations, students will explore this missionary and prophetic dimension of catechesis and its ability to transform individuals, the parish community and the larger society. The course will inspire the students (catechists) to re-examine their catechetical and evangelizing approach in the light of new evangelization and missionary discipleship in order to be better equipped to continue the formation of the Disciples of Christ, which is the primary aim of catechesis.

**Program & Course Learning Objectives:** The GPPM Program learning objectives for the Transformative Catechesis course stipulate that, by the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Integrate core theological competencies in the chosen area of concentration (*GPPM, Objective 1B*)
  - a. Identify the tasks of Catechesis in relation to Evangelization and New Evangelization (Reflection Paper #1).
  - b. Develop a strategic catechetical program that will promote missionary discipleship, which will be based on a community one is serving or seeking to serve (Class Final Project/Paper)
2. Apply skills from their area of concentration for use in their faith community. (*GPPM, Objective 3B*).
  - a. Become familiar with different cultural and social challenges of the New Evangelization (Reflection Papers #2 & #3).
  - b. Develop a project that employs one of the different methods of missionary discipleship that have been discussed in the class (Class Final Project/Paper).

## How to Prepare for Class

*Reading and Study Prior to Class:* Students are required to read before class the readings listed in the class schedule in order to participate fully during class discussions. There will be time for presentations, questions, discussions and small group work. There will be time also for clarifications regarding the next class requirements, especially with regard to papers and the final project.

### Required Texts

- (New) *Directory for Catechesis*. Washington, D.C: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2020. **ISBN-978-1-60137669-5**. Amazon- \$24.95
- Weddell, Sherry A., *Fruitful Discipleship: Living the Mission of Jesus in the Church and the World*. Our Sunday Visitor Publishing Division: Huntington, IN, 2017. **ISBN: 978-1-61278-973-6**. Amazon- \$16.78
- Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium- The Joy of the Gospel*, 2013 (Vatican Website).
- Pope Francis, *Let us Dream: The Path to A Better Future*. Simon & Schuster: New York: NY, 2020. **ISBN 978-1-9821-7186-5**. Amazon-\$17.99

### Recommended Books:

- ❖ Mallon, James. *Divine Renovation: Bringing Your Parish from Maintenance to Mission*. Twenty Third Publications: New London, CT, 2014. **ISBN: 978-1-62785-038-4**.
- ❖ USCCB, *Creating a Culture of Encounter: A Guide for Joyful Missionary Disciples*, 2019.
- ❖ *Living Missionary Disciples: A Resource for Evangelization*, Washington, D.C: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2017 (USCCB, Website).

Additional short chapters and articles will be made available in electronic format on Camino.

### Course Assessment and Grading:

Student's progress in the course will be assessed based on:

Class Participation (attendance, Camino discussions and class participation)-	30%
Reflection Papers (3 @ 10 points each) -	30%
Course Project/Final Paper-	25%
Class Presentations-	15%

**Attendance & Participation:**

Attendance and active participation are expected at every class meeting. If an absence from a scheduled class is absolutely essential the student should contact me as soon as possible to identify the reasons for the absence and how to make up work missed. Readings and assignments should be completed as and when due. Students should be prepared to discuss the readings, share insights, raise questions and relate the readings to their pastoral and catechetical experiences. 30% of grade.

**Reflection Papers:**

There will be three reflection papers for this class. These papers will be integrative in style (reading, class discussion and life experience) and are designed to build toward your final project/paper. All typed papers will be due electronically on the course Camino page by 11.59 pm on the due dates (see Course Schedule) 30% of grade.

**Course Project-Final Paper**

The course project will involve a written (6-8 pages) of a developed catechetical program based on a community one is serving or seeking to serve. The project should employ different catechetical processes and methods that have been discussed in the class. The electronic copy of your paper (25% of grade) with the proper citations will be due in the Course Camino assignment on the due date by 11.59pm

**Oral Presentations:**

You will have 20-25 minutes presentations on your final paper. This will be on the last day of class. Be prepared to answer questions after the presentations and to update your final paper with the feedbacks from the presentations. 15% of grade.

**Policies & Protections for You.****Academic Integrity**

The Academic Integrity pledge is an expression of the University's commitment to fostering an understanding of -- and commitment to -- a culture of integrity at Santa Clara University. The Academic Integrity pledge, which applies to all students, states:

*I am committed to being a person of integrity. I pledge, as a member of the Santa Clara University community, to abide by and uphold the standards of academic integrity contained in the Student Conduct Code.*

Students are expected to uphold the principles of this pledge for all work in this class. For more information about Santa Clara University's academic integrity pledge and resources about ensuring academic integrity in your work, see [www.scu.edu/academic-integrity](http://www.scu.edu/academic-integrity).

**Office of Accessible Education (formerly Disabilities Resources)**

If you have a documented disability for which accommodations may be required in this class, please contact the Office of Accessible Education (Benson 1, <http://www.scu.edu/oe>, 408-554-4109) as soon as possible to discuss your needs and register for accommodations with the University. If you have already arranged

accommodations through OAE, please discuss them with me during my office hours within the first two weeks of class.

To ensure fairness and consistency, individual faculty members are required to receive verification from the Office of Accessible Education before providing accommodations. OAE will work with students and faculty to arrange proctored exams for students whose accommodations include double time for exams and/or assistive technology. Students with approved accommodations of time-and-a-half should talk with me as soon as possible. The Office of Accessible Education must be contacted in advance (at least two weeks' notice recommended) to schedule proctored examinations or to arrange other accommodations.

### **Accommodations for Pregnant and Parenting Students**

In alignment with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and with the California Education Code, Section 66281.7, Santa Clara University provides reasonable accommodations to students who are pregnant, have recently experienced childbirth, and/or have medical needs related to childbirth. Pregnant and parenting students can often arrange accommodations by working directly with their instructors, supervisors, or departments. In addition, the Office of Accessible Education will provide reasonable accommodations for pregnancy related impairments which impact a major life activity.

### **Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct (Title IX)**

Santa Clara University upholds a zero-tolerance policy for discrimination, harassment and sexual misconduct. If you (or someone you know) have experienced discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, or stalking, I encourage you to tell someone promptly. For more information, please consult the University's Gender-Based Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct Policy at <http://bit.ly/2ce1hBb> or contact the University's EEO and Title IX Coordinator, Belinda Guthrie, at [408-554-3043](tel:408-554-3043), [bguthrie@scu.edu](mailto:bguthrie@scu.edu). Reports may be submitted online through the Office of Student Life <https://www.scu.edu/osl/report/> or anonymously through EthicsPoint <https://www.scu.edu/hr/quick-links/ethicspoint/>

### **In-Class Recordings**

The [Student Conduct Code](#) (p. 13) prohibits students from “(m)aking a video recording, audio recording, or streaming audio/video of private, non-public conversations and/or meetings, inclusive of the classroom setting, without the knowledge and consent of all recorded parties,” except in cases of approved disability accommodations. The Student Conduct Code also prohibits the “falsification or misuse, including non-authentic, altered, or fraudulent misuse, of University records, permits, documents, communication equipment, or identification cards and government-issued documents.” Dissemination or sharing of any classroom recording without the permission of the instructor would be considered “misuse” and, therefore, prohibited. Violations of these policies may result in disciplinary action by the University. At the instructor’s discretion, violations may also have an adverse effect on the student’s grade.

### Schedule- Summer (June 12<sup>th</sup>- July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021)

Before the first class, students will read:

- ❖ (New) Directory for Catechesis (DC), p. 10-71, #1-109
- ❖ Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*, 2013. Section: #s 1-49 (see Camino).

Module/Dates/Time/Format	Topics	Readings/Assignments
Saturday June 12th, 2021, 9.00am – 3.00pm	Catechesis Within the Church's Mission of Evangelization.  The Church's Missionary Transformation	& Pope Francis, <i>Evangelii Gaudium</i> , 2013. Section: #s 50-109 (see Camino).
Thursday, June 17th, 2021, 6.00pm-8.00pm	Challenges of New Evangelization and the Church's Missionary Activity	Pope Francis, <i>Evangelii Gaudium</i> , 2013. Section: #s 110-175 (see Camino). <b>Reflection Paper #1 Due TBA</b>
Thursday, June 25th, 2021, 6.00pm-8.00pm	Missionary Discipleship: Creating a Culture of Encounter	Read <b>Fruitful Discipleship</b> , <b>Sherry Weddell</b> -p. 9-95
Thursday, July 1st, 2021, 6.00pm-8.00pm	Fruitful Missionary Discipleship and Charisms	Read Fruitful Discipleship, Sherry Weddell- 97-202
Saturday July 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2021 9.00am – 3.00pm	Fruitful Missionary Discipleship and Charisms	DC, p. Pope Francis, <i>Evangelii Gaudium</i> , #s 176-258 <b>Reflection Paper #2 Due- TBA</b>
Thursday, July 9th, 2021, 6.00pm-8.00pm	The Social Dimension of Missionary Discipleship	Pope Francis, <i>Let us Dream</i>
Thursday, July 16th, 2021, 6.00pm-8.00pm	Methodology & Developing Pastoral Plan for Missionary Disciples	Pope Francis, <i>Evangelii Gaudium</i> , 2013. Section: #s 259- 288 <b>Reflection Paper #3 Due- TBA</b>
Thursday, July 23rd, 2021, 6.30pm-8.30pm	Forming Spirit-Filled Missionary Disciples/Evangelizers/Catechists	Prepare for the final presentations of your paper/project
Saturday, July 24th, 2021 9.00am – 3.00pm	Class Presentations	<b>Final Paper due: TBA</b>