



**Santa Clara University**  
**Graduate Program in Pastoral Ministries**  
**PMIN-211 – Issues in Moral Theology**  
**Winter 2022**

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Participants will be invited into an examination of the vibrant and living tradition of Catholic moral theology. A foundational consideration of Catholic moral principles is considered and the principles are then applied to contemporary moral issues. The course will use official documents and other sources for these considerations. (Ethics Foundational Course, 4 Units)

### **CLASS TIMES AND LOCATION:**

**Tuesday 6:00 – 9:00 PM**

**LOCATION - TBD**

Full Calendar – Pg. [4]

### **PROFESSOR:**

**Rev. Joseph Benedict, S.T.D.**

**408-867-3634 ext. 551 (Office)**

**[Benedict@dsj.org](mailto:Benedict@dsj.org)**

**[Office Hrs. by Apt.]**

### **ACADEMIC HONESTY**

Santa Clara University insists on honesty and integrity from all members of its community. The standards of the University preclude any form of cheating, plagiarism, forgery of signatures, and falsification of data. A student who commits any offense against academic honesty and integrity may receive a failing grade without a possibility of withdrawal. An offense may also dictate suspension or dismissal from the University. In particular, it is each student's responsibility to understand the serious nature of plagiarism and the consequences of such activity.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Read all required material and be ready to discuss it in class
- Actively participate in class discussions
- Midterm Exam
- Final Paper
  - The final paper should consider a contemporary moral issue from a Roman Catholic perspective. The paper should address the Church's official teaching, pastoral implications, and possible pastoral approaches when working with individuals struggling with life decisions regarding these issues.
    - Choose from one of the following moral issues:
      - Birth Regulation
      - Reproductive Technologies
      - End of Life Care
      - Homosexuality
      - Cooperation with Evil
        - Living in a Consumer Society
        - Ecological Considerations
        - Working in Hi-Tech and Military Complex41
    - The paper is to be 7-10 pages in length.
    - The paper must clearly identify Catholic teaching, scholarly developments, and pastoral applications.
    - The paper must appropriately reference appropriate documents and sources used in the course.
    - Standard 1" margins, Times New Roman 12 pt. font., and proper notation must be used.
    - No title page or folders are to be used; simply staple pages together.
    - The goals of the paper include:
      - Indication of clear comprehension of Catholic teaching
      - Indication of capacity to communicate the teaching in a pastoral setting
      - Indication of critical thought regarding contemporary approaches to moral issues.

Grades will be calculated on the following basis:

Midterm 35%

Final Paper 40%

Class Participation 15% (including class facilitation). If you do not participate in class discussion, your final grade will not be higher than a "B".

No more than two absences are permitted.

## Course Readings

CDF. *Declaration on Euthanasia*. 1980.

—. *Declaration on Procured Abortion*. 1974.

—. *Donum Vitae*. 1987.

—. *Questions on the Pastoral Care of Homosexual Persons*. 1986.

—. *Persona Humana*. 1975.

Gula, Richard M. *Reason Informed by Faith: Foundations of Catholic Morality*. New York, NY: Paulist Press, 1989.

John Paul, II. *Veritatis Splendor*. 1995.

John Paul, II. *Evangelium Vitae*. 1995.

### **Suggested - Not required but will be referenced in the Course.**

Salzman, Todd A., and Michael G. Lawler. *The Sexual Person*. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2008.

Francis, I. *Laudate Si*

## Calendar and Format

<u>Concepts in Fundamental Moral</u>		
<b>4-Jan-22</b>	<b>Theology I</b>	
	Context and Faith	Gula, pgs. 1-60
	The Human Person	Gula, pgs. 63-88
<b>Concepts in Fundamental Moral</b>		
<b>11-Jan-22</b>	<b>Theology II</b>	
	Sin	Gula, 89-122
	Conscience	Gula, 123-162
<b>Concepts in Fundamental Moral</b>		
<b>18-Jan-22</b>	<b>Theology III</b>	
	Sources of Moral	
	Reasoning	Gula, 165-249
	The Moral Person	Gula, 250-329
<b>25-Jan-22</b>	<b>Moral Theology of John Paul II</b>	
	<i>Veritatis splendor</i>	<i>Veritatis splendor</i>
<b>1-Feb-22</b>	<b>Midtern Exam</b>	
<b>Foundations in Medical Ethics I</b>		
	Principles	Lecture
<b>8-Feb-22</b>	<b>Foundations in Medical Ethics II</b>	
	Considerations	<i>Evangelium Vitae</i>
<b>15-Feb-22</b>	<b>Foundations in Medical Ethics III</b>	
	End of Life	Lecture
	Euthanasia	<i>Declaration on Euthanasia</i>
	Ethical and Religious	
	Directives	<i>USCCB</i>
<b>22-Feb-22</b>	<b>Foundations in Sexual Ethics</b>	
	Human Sexuality	<i>The Sexual Person</i> , 1-92 (Suggested)
	Human Sexuality	<i>Persona Humana</i>
<b>1-Mar-22</b>	<b>Homosexuality and Contraception</b>	
	Integral Sexuality	<i>The Sexual Person</i> , 93-161 (Suggested)
	Homosexuality	<i>Questions on the Pastoral Care of Homosexual Persons</i>
<b>Reproductive Ethics</b>		
<b>8-Mar-22</b>		
	<i>Declaration on Abortion</i>	
	<i>Donum Vitae</i>	
<b>15-Mar-22</b>	<b>Final Papers Due</b>	Final Papers are due by 6:00 pm.