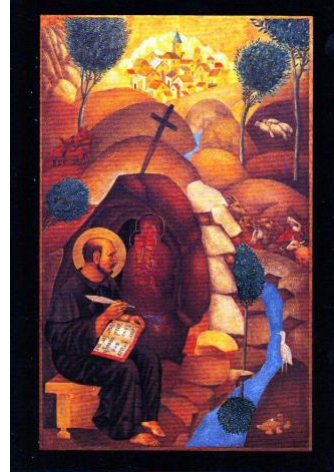


SPIR 222: IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY AND DISCERNMENT:
Fall 2021

SPIR 222 - 36547

Class Time: S 9/25, 10/23, 12/4 9am-3pm
San Bernardino Diocesan Center
1201 Highland Avenue
San Bernardino, CA
Zoom. W 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Instructor: Jean Molesky-Poz, PhD
Email: jmoleskypoz@scu.edu



Ignatian spirituality is a way of seeing, hearing and perceiving
our experience, which is where God is.

Gerard W. Hughes, SJ

Course Description: SPIR 222:

This course introduces students to **Ignatian spirituality**, a charism emerging in the sixteenth century, which is marked by particular attention to ways of finding God, and continues today as a vital means to tending to our experience of the Mystery of God. SPIR 222 explores and applies **spiritual practices** developed by Ignatius Loyola (1491-1556) -- methods of prayer, contemplation, and the “Examen.” Discernment, the Christian practice of seeking God’s call in the midst of the decisions that mark one’s life, may very well be the most important Christian spiritual practice for dealing with our lives and contemporary dilemma. Special attention will be given to **methods and practices of discernment**, what Ignatius called “motions of the soul,” and engages practices to apply to major choices and decisions in our lives, and daily experience as well. Offers practices of integrating prayer in our active lives, that we become **women and men for others**. Throughout the course, we will also be raising and examining issues of our times and communities, asking how Ignatian spirituality might inform our awareness of the Mystery of God in our midst.

Resources for this course include: the students’ own experience of life, primary sources from Ignatius of Loyola; secondary sources, that is, interpretations and analysis of Ignatian spirituality, videos, podcasts and blogs. From the beginning of his ministry, Ignatius chose to engage others in friendly **conversation** about their lives, their concerns, and eventually about God, and our pedagogy will, in part, mirror this practice.

Program and Course Learning Objectives: By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify **Ignatius of Loyola**, events and traditions in Christian spirituality that influenced his life and his first companions, and the development of this distinctive spirituality (1A)
2. Understand and engage with **Ignatian spiritual practices**, its methods of prayer for recognizing God’s presence in one’s life, and acting on that experience (3A)
3. Employ Ignatian practices of **discernment** in personal decisions, vocational aspirations and commitments. (3A)
4. Discuss and reflect upon **applied Ignatian practices** in diverse sociocultural contexts (5A)
5. Apply the **theological reflection and discernment practices** in the work of ministry in and beyond the communities GPPM students serve. (Personal journal/Project/Research paper) (2A)

Preparing for Class

Course Camino Website

On “Camino,” the SCU online learning management portal, you will find all course materials: syllabus, class preparation guidelines, readings, discussion posts, writing rubrics, grade summaries. Every class session has an overview page on Camino. This page gives session information, the readings, background information on the topic, and the assignments.

Prior to class: For Saturday online classes, reading and assignments found on Camino should be completed and posted, if required, by Friday at 3:00; for Wednesday online classes, if short quiz or writing response required, should be posted on Camino by 3:00 that afternoon.

Questions, Lecture, Student-led discussions or panels.

Classes will generally begin with an introduction, move on with a brief praxis and, lecture or close reading directed by the professor, Q&A session, followed by a reflection on a specific reading led by a student or a student team and then conversation among us on how this topic focuses, deepens or contests your understanding of prayer, spirituality and ministry, and a discussion how this material could be useful to ministry in your faith community.

Course Requirements

Student’s Self Evaluation (20% of course grade). Reading required texts and preparation for class; regular attendance, attentive and active participation in class, and personal journaling. See Camino for guidelines (3A)

Instructors Evaluation (80% of course grade)

- Preparation and participation, including written questions you have about assigned texts, demonstrating a critical reading with the text. **20 pts.**
- Reflection papers (3). Guidelines & rubrics on CAMINO (3A) **30 pts.**
- Final Theological Paper and Ministry Project on Ignatian spirituality for our times, 12-15 pages (2A): Choose 1) developing a practice that you can facilitate in a parish or other ministry situation; 2) an applied analysis of a particular theme or practice of Ignatian spirituality on a particular situation, i.e. The concept of vocation and how Ignatian spirituality responds to discerning one’s call; 3) a video/power point with a written narrative for teaching Ignatian spirituality and facilitating one practice in your own ministry. **30 pts.**

Submit proposal on CAMINO, Friday, November 19

Fifteen minute presentation, Saturday, December 4

Final paper due, Saturday, December 11.

Required Texts:

1. Brackley, Dean. 2004. *The Call to Discernment in Troubled Times: New Perspectives on the Transformative Wisdom of Ignatius of Loyola*. Crossroad. ISBN: 0824522680. Crossroad, 19.95
2. *Saint Ignatius Loyola—Personal Writings: Reminiscences, Spiritual Diary, Selected Letters* including the text of *The Spiritual Exercises*, Translated with Introduction and notes by Joseph A. Munitiz and Philip Endean, (London: Penguin Classics, 2004) — ISBN 0-140-43385-6 Available to download: <https://1lib.us/book/2746534/0324a7?id=2746534&secret=0324a7/> or Penguin, \$18.
3. Traub, S. J. George E. 2008. *An Ignatian Spiritual Reader. Contemporary Writings on Ignatius Loyola, the Spiritual Exercises, Discernment and More* (Chicago: Loyola Press, 2008) ISBN 10: 0-8294-2723-6. \$12.31 with Loyola Press, plus shipping. (IS)

All other course materials, guidelines and exercises will be provided to students through our course page on Camino. Each student also needs to have access to a Bible. There are various translations of the scriptures; however, the NRSV, that is, the *New Revised Standard Version*, is highly recommended.

Schedule of Readings and Assignments

Guidelines for class preparations on CAMINO

S 9/25 Introduction to Ignatian spirituality and to Ignatius of Loyola

In *An Ignatian Spirituality Reader (ISR)*, Ignatius: His Life, 20-44; Gallagher, S.J., “St. Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556),” 21-23; Ron Hansen, “The Pilgrim: Saint Ignatius Loyola,” 24- 44;

In *Saint Ignatius Loyola: Personal Writings*. “Introduction” by Philip Endean, 3-12; then the beginning of the testimony of “the pilgrim,” *Reminiscences*, 13-28, or [1] through [34], where Ignatius recalls his time in Loyola and Manresa, 1521-1522.

Explore: <https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/>

In-class praxis: Where am I? How am I? Who am I? (modeled after Margaret Silf, *Inner Compass*)

W 9/ 28 Ignatius of Loyola, the man, in his historical context. His early history, conversion, spiritual journey, influences, Ignatian worldview.

In Ignatius-*PW*, *Reminiscences*, 29-38, or [35] through [53], where Ignatius recalls his pilgrimage to Jerusalem, 1523; 39-48, or [54] through [72], where Ignatius recalls his studies and challenges in Barcelona, Alcalá, Salamanca, 1524-27; as well as 49-55, or [73] through [86], where he recounts his studies in Paris, 1528-36. 56-64, or [87] through [101], where Ignatius now tells of his return to Loyola and his journey to Venice and Rome, 1537-38.

In-class praxis: Let your life speak: charting your journey

“For him [Ignatius], solitude and lengthy prayer are not the chief standards by which to evaluate our prayer, nor is prayer always the preferred means to union with God.”

D Brackley, 244.

**W 10/6 The Practice of Prayer: Conversation is the Heart of Prayer
Apophatic and kataphatic practices in Ignatian spirituality**

Walter J. Burghardt, S.J., “Contemplation: A Long Loving Look at the Real,” 89- 98; William A. Barry, S.J., “Prayer as a Conscious Relationship,” 99-103 (ISR)

In Ignatius-*PW*, [26]

In-class praxis: The Examen

W 10/13 What is Religious Experience? Awe, Wonder, Crisis. How do I Know It’s God?

What is a religious experience? What spiritual experiences have I had? Why are they important?

Monika K. Hellwig, “Finding God in All Things: A Spirituality for Today,” 50-58, (ISR).

Brackley, on prayer, Chapters 24-26, pgs. 223-252.

Brackley, Foreword (pp. ix-xix), Afterword (pp. 253-255), Chapters 1-5, 2-44

In-class praxis: The Gift of Imagination

W10/20. No Class.

S 10/23 At the Center of Ignatian Spirituality: Discernment

Making wise decisions is one of the most important skills in life, but often we don’t know how.

Morning: The Exercises: Week 1 Getting Free, Rules for Discernment

William A. Barry, S.J., “What are Spiritual Exercises,” pages 121-128 (ISR);

In Ignatius-*PW*, [22–31/ optional to 43] Principle and Foundation, Particular Examination of Conscience, and Rules for Discernment[313-336].

Brackley, Chapter 6, 44-55

In-class praxis: A Meditation [45 – 54]

Afternoon: Week 2 Something Worth Living For

In Ignatius-*PW*, Consideration of States of Life [135-148], The Two Standards.1[60-161]:
Three ways of being humble [165-168]
Brackley, Chapters 7 -13, pp. 56 – 125.
In-class praxis: Two choices

W 10/27 Week 2 Discerning and Deciding

Brackley, Chapters 14-17, 126-175.
David Lonsdale, ‘Discernment of Spirits,’ 171-191, (ISR)
In-class praxis: Tracking our Moods

W 11/3 Week 3 Passion and Compassion

In Ignatius, [190-217].[218-237].
Brackley, Chapters 18-20, pgs. 174-193.
In-class praxis: Tracking the desolations and consolations of our times

W 11/10. Week 4 Resurrection: Recognizing the Risen One

Brackley, Chapters 21-23, 1, pgs. 194-223.
Wilkie Au and Noreen Cannon Au, “Refining the Acoustics of the Heart,”192-216 (ISR).
In-class praxis: Recognizing the Risen One

W 11/17 Living Contemplative, in Action: Women and Men for Others

“Fall in love, stay in love, and it will decide everything” Joseph Whelan, SJ

Ignatius-*PW*, pgs. 329-330, [230 -237] Contemplation for attaining love.
Writings of Arrupe, and other readings, TBD.
In-class praxis: Approaching discernment through your body, reason and feelings.

W 11/24 Thanksgiving Break

W 12/1 No class.

S 12/4 A Spirituality for Everyday

Discussion: In what ways do you see the Ignatian tradition as useful (or not) to contemporary seekers of an intentional spiritual life?

Assess your learning and growth from the course. What changes took place? What perspectives already held, were reinforced, challenged?

Read: TBD. Student presentations.

S 12/11 Pastoral Application Project due on or before

Grading Policy Santa Clara’s grading scale indicates that an A is reserved for work that is “excellent.” Please note that an “A” does not reflect “sufficient” or even “full” engagement with the material: it is reserved for *truly exceptional work*. B correlates to “good,” and a C to “adequate.” You should not expect to receive an A or a B for cruising through the class with “adequate” work. These grades require consistent levels of diligent, thoughtful attention and excellent work on papers and exams. Be proud of passing grades. They indicate that you have done hard work well!

Grading Scale

93.5-100	A	86.7-89.9	B+	76.7-79.9	C+	66.7-69.9	D+
90.0-93.4	A-	83.3-86.6	B	73.3-76.6	C	63.3-66.6	D
		80.0-82.2	B-	70.0-73.2	C-	60.0-63.2	D-

Attendance Policy If you are ill, or something unavoidable comes up, or, email me in advance. Make the most of our time together, come prepared, having completed all the readings and assignments on time, and ready to engage. You are allowed one unexcused absence with no impact to your grade. Unexcused absences of two or more result in one whole letter-grade deduction each (i.e. B to C). If you miss three classes (30% of our meetings), it will not be possible to pass this class.

Use of Technology in & Recording of Class Cellphones should be turned off during class, and laptops may only be used for Zoom and authorized collaborations or for viewing course readings.

Video Recording Policy The Student Handbook prohibits video- or audio-recording or streaming of private, non-public conversations and/or meetings, inclusive of the classroom setting, without the knowledge and consent of all recorded parties. If you require the recording of classroom lectures, discussions, simulations, and other course-related activity for a documented disability, make arrangements through Disabilities Resources (see below) and discuss this with the instructor. If for some reason other than disability you would like to record the class, please seek the permission of the instructor first, and then of the class.

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.

You are expected to uphold the principles of this pledge for all work in this class. Violations include plagiarism, cheating, outsourcing, and destruction of library or other materials needed for a course. Students found to have engaged in any form of academic dishonesty will, at the least, receive zero points for the piece of work concerned. 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.

Disabilities Resources If you have a disability for which accommodations may be required in this class, please contact the Office of Accessible Education (OAE), Benson 216, <http://www.scu.edu/oae> as soon as possible to discuss your needs and register for accommodations with the University. If you have already arranged accommodations through the OAE, please discuss them with me during my office hours. Students who have medical needs related to pregnancy may also be eligible for accommodations.

While I am here to assist you in any way I can, I am unable to provide accommodations until I have received verification from OAE. The OAE will work with students and faculty to arrange proctored exams for students whose accommodations include double time for exams and/or assisted technology. (Students with approved accommodations of time-and-a-half should talk with me as soon as possible). OAE must be contacted in advance to schedule proctored examinations or to arrange other accommodations. The OAE would be grateful for advance notice of at least two weeks. **For more information, you may contact OAE at 408-554-4109.**

Accommodations for Pregnancy and Parenting In alignment with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and with the California Education Code, Section 66281.7, SCU provides reasonable accommodations to students who are pregnant, have recently experienced childbirth, and/or have medically related needs. 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 that impact major life activities.

Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct (Title IX) SCU 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, tell someone immediately. 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, bguthrie@scu.edu. Reports may be submitted online through <https://www.scu.edu/osl/report/> or anonymously through Ethicspoint <https://www.scu.edu/hr/quic>

