

THE CONTENT OF THIS DESCRIPTION IS NOT A LEARNING CONTRACT AND THE INSTRUCTOR IS NOT BOUND TO IT. IT IS OFFERED IN GOOD FAITH AND INTENDED AS A HELPFUL GUIDE TO THE STUDENT. THE OFFICIAL COURSE SYLLABUS WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE FIRST CLASS.

TITLE: Ecumenism **TERM:** F **YEAR:** 2009

PROFESSOR: Mary Marrocco

REGISTRATION: UNLIMITED

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The course is designed to give students the opportunity and understanding to read some important ecumenical texts, both foundational Catholic statements and also statements of ecumenical bodies. To assist in understanding these texts, attention will be given to the bases on which they build: the witness and interpretation of Scripture, pastoral and spiritual questions, questions of culture and history, Church teachings, liturgies and traditions, the lived relationship among Christians in our own time and place, and the life of prayer and fidelity of each one of us. The time taken by the student for reading, reflection, prayer and writing will be a crucial factor in the student's personal learning, and in all that we accomplish together as a class.

CLASS OBJECTIVES: LEARNING OUTCOMES

Objectives. Students will

- be introduced to the history, theology, spirituality and experience of both unity and disunity in the Church
- understand better the origins, history, and ethos of the various churches and ecclesial communities within the Christian family
- be awakened to the desire for ecumenical conversion and renewal in the Church; be motivated and strengthened in their understanding of such conversion and renewal
- acquire the authentically ecumenical disposition which will aid them in their work, whether pastoral or academic (in accordance with the aims laid out by the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity)
- be acquainted with the work and fruits of the modern ecumenical movement, especially Catholic involvement in that movement, and theological underpinnings of Catholic involvement; begin to sense and articulate its achievements, its weaknesses, the questions with which it wrestles, and the directions to which it points

PREREQUISITES:

There are no prerequisites for the course.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Frederick M. Bliss. *Catholic and Ecumenical, History and Hope: Why the Catholic Church Is Ecumenical and What She Is Doing About It.* Franklin, Wisconsin: Sheed & Ward, 1999.

Jeffrey Gros, Eamon McManus, and Ann Riggs. *Introduction to Ecumenism.* New York: Paulist, 1998.

Walter Kasper. *That They May All Be One: The Call to Unity Today.* London, New York: Burns & Oates, 2004.
Decree on Ecumenism (Unitatis redintegratio), from the Documents of the Second Vatican Council.

POSSIBLE ASSIGNMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/TESTS:

Reflection paper; Study paper; Research paper; Class participation.