

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.

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TITLE: Psychology of Faith Development

TERM: F **YEAR:** 2009-10

PROFESSORS: Rev. John Yake

REGISTRATION: LIMITED TO 20

UNLIMITED _____

COURSE DESCRIPTION: – This course is a reflection on the role of psychology as a way to understand faith development (James W. Fowler) and/or human transcendence (Bernard J. F. Lonergan). Attention will also be given to those who structured the spiritual or faith life of prayer within the Catholic tradition before the advent of the science of psychology (circa 1890), for example St. Ignatius Loyola (Ignatian Spirituality) and St. Teresa of Jesus (Avila) and St. John of the Cross (Carmelite spirituality).

CLASS OBJECTIVES: *The Psychology of Faith Development* alludes strongly to the fact that our focus is the inner world, the vast and often ignored universe that is human interiority. We are utilizing those thinkers and sciences that can enable us to understand ourselves at the deepest level; what it means to be human. The scientific (psychology) and religious (spirituality) conversations can enable us to understand God and ourselves in the world: God’s activity upon the soul and person’s response to God’s activity.

REQUIRED TEXTS: A reading package is provided by the instructor (required reading) and a list of suggested readings is given for each session.

POSSIBLE ASSIGNMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/TESTS:

The course mark is based upon the following assignments:

1. A participation mark that is reflected by the quality and timeliness of weekly postings.
2. The posting of your contribution to the Survey of Psychological Theory in Unit Two.
3. Two tests based on readings.
4. Integrative Project Paper