

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:** Sacramental Theology I

**TERM:** 20109 (September 2010)

**PROFESSOR:** Father Mark Robson

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

*The sacraments are “of the Church” in the double sense that they are “by her” and “for her.” They are “by the Church,” for she is the sacrament of Christ's action at work in her through the mission of the Holy Spirit. They are “for the Church” in the sense that “the sacraments make the Church,” since they manifest and communicate to humanity, above all in the Eucharist, the mystery of communion with the God who is love, One in three persons (CCC 1118).*

The course is designed to provide a fuller understanding of how the sacraments are lived and experienced in the daily lives of the Church’s members and how best to apply these in a pastoral setting. This course will focus on general sacramental principles and the Sacraments of Initiation.

**COURSE OUTCOMES OR OBJECTIVES:**

The goal of the course is to explore how communication and communion with God is lived in the life of the Church. At the conclusion of the course, the theological knowledge gained by the student should contribute to a deeper understanding of the liturgical practices of the Church and her canonical principles.

**PREREQUISITES:**

Foundations of Theology, Grace, Christology

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

**A Selection of Readings from the books listed below.**

- N. Halligan, *The Sacraments and their Celebration*, (New York: Alba House Publishing, 1986).
- M. Lawler, *Symbol and Sacrament*, (Omaha: Creighton University Press, 1995).
- J. Martos, *Doors to the Sacred*, (Tarrytown, NY: Ligouri / Triumph Books, 2001).
- M. Schmaus, *The Church as Sacrament*, vol. 5 (Kansas City: Sheed & Ward, 1975).
- J. Neuner, J. Dupuis, *The Christian Faith*, 6th ed. (New York: Alba House Publishing, 1996).
- H. Volgrimler, *Sacramental Theology*, trans. Linda M. Maloney (Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 1992).

**POSSIBLE ASSIGNMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/TESTS:**

Three short papers (4-5 pages each) **and** Final Oral Exam