SMC 103Y1Y – CATHOLICISM

LECTURES: TR2, Carr Hall 404   **TUTORIALS:** T3, Alumni Hall 302;
R1, Alumni Hall 304; R3 Alumni Hall 302

Instructors: Peter Baltutis: peter.baltutis@utoronto.ca (email preferred)
Reid B. Locklin: reid.locklin@utoronto.ca, 416.926.1300, x3317,

Office Hours: Mr. Baltutis: **T4:10 – 6:00 pm,** Alumni Hall 327
Dr. Locklin: **T10:10 am-12 noon**, Odette Hall 130
Or email for an appointment

Email Policy: We will attempt to respond to legitimate email enquiries from students within 3-4 days. If you do not receive a reply within this period, please re-submit your question(s) and/or leave a message by telephone. Where a question cannot be easily or briefly answered by email, the instructor will indicate that the student should see him during posted office hours.

Course Description

This course offers an introduction to Christianity as it is lived, reflected upon and celebrated in the Roman Catholic tradition. Catholicism flows out of and places enormous value on its roots in the past; hence, we will devote the first major unit of our study to a historical overview. A second unit explores the teachings of the Second Vatican Council, which set out to draw creatively upon this history and make it relevant in the modern world. Finally, our attention will turn to the intellectual richness and diversity of contemporary Catholicism, focusing mainly on selected writings of Timothy Radcliffe, Pope John Paul II and Mary Jo Leddy.

The course format will consist of lectures and tutorial discussions. The perspective for the purpose of instruction is that of a "critical insider" to the Catholic tradition; students will, however, be encouraged to form, articulate and defend their own distinctive viewpoints on course material.

Course Objectives

1. To acquire and demonstrate sympathetic familiarity with Catholic history, the Second Vatican Council, and diverse contemporary perspectives on Catholic life and thought;

2. To demonstrate critical understanding of and engagement with major Catholic ideas;

3. To develop and demonstrate academic skills in careful reading and observation, critical analysis, and clear written expression.

Required Texts

*   The following required textbooks are (or will be) available at **Crux Books** (5 Hoskin Avenue, at Wycliffe College; 416.599.2749)

    o   Austin Flannery, *Vatican Council II* (Costello Publishing Company, 1996).
    o   Kevin Hughes, *Church History* (Loyola Press, 2001).
    o   Mary Jo Leddy, *Radical Gratitude* (Orbis Books, 2002).
    o   Timothy Radcliffe, *What is the Point of Being a Christian?* (Continuum, 2005).

*   Students will also need to procure the ***SMC103Y1Y Course Reader*** from **Canadian Scholars Press** – 180 Bloor Street West, Suite 801 (416.929.2774), as well as access to a *modern translation* of the Christian New Testament (i.e., *not* the KJV or any paraphrase).

Please see the attached course outline for specific assignments and full bibliographic information.

Assignments and Evaluation

20% – *Class Participation* (attendance, contribution to class or tutorial discussions, at least 2 tutorial presentations, "Learning Metaphor" statement, completion and presentation of 2 "lecture minutes," proposal for Third Term Paper, and other short assignments, as specified by instructors). Term work will not ordinarily receive letter grades, but will be assessed on √-, √, √+, √++ basis (0 for non-completion)—with a √ indicating adequate or satisfactory completion of the assignment.

 7.5% – *First Term Paper* (4-5 page Observation/Response), due **15 October 2009**
                  Optional Rewrite of First Term Paper, due **17 November 2009
12% – *Second Term Paper* (5-7 page Comparison/Analysis), due **21 January 2010**
14% – *Third Term Paper* (5-7 page Interview/Synthesis), due **25 March 2010**

✓ **Please note:** late papers will be penalized by 2% for each day, or portion thereof, it is delayed (M-F). Papers will not ordinarily be accepted more than one week past the assigned deadline; **papers delayed more than one week will receive a score of 0%.**

12.5% – *Term Examination*, Fall Examination Period (9-18 December 2009)**
34%   – *Comprehensive Final Examination*, Winter Examination Period (7-23 April 2010)**
   ***Dates and times to be set by the Registrar for the Faculty of Arts and Science*

Marking protocols for tests and term papers will follow the Grading Regulations described on p. 538 of the *University of Toronto Faculty of Arts and Science (St. George Campus) 2009-2010 Calendar*. **NOTE:** *Failure to attempt each one of these written assignments (tests and term papers) will ordinarily result in <u>failure of the course</u>.*

Academic Expectations

Students are expected to attend lectures and tutorials regularly, to submit assignments on time, and to participate actively in class discussions. It is also expected that reading assignments will be completed by the date and time of the tutorial. Excessive absences (i.e. more than two in a given term) and/or obvious lack of preparation will weigh against the participation portion of the student's final grade. *Please turn off pagers and cell phones during class.*

Course materials and announcements will be posted on the Portal (i.e. the Blackboard Academic Suite). Please make it a habit to check this site regularly.

All students in this class are bound by the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters detailed on pp. 548-50 of the *University of Toronto Faculty of Arts and Science (St. George Campus) 2009-2010 Calendar*. Each individual student is responsible for completing her or his own work, for appropriately acknowledging outside sources used in the preparation of papers and other written work and for avoiding plagiarism or any other academic offence detailed in the Code. To ensure the veracity of written work, students will submit all papers both to the instructor and to Turnitin.com, a commercial anti-plagiarism service engaged by the University of Toronto.

Please read the following notice very carefully: *Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site.*