GRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTION

Term: Fall 2015
Instructor: Dr. Susan Wood, SCL
Course #: THEO 6321, Section 101 (Distance Learning)
Course Title: Christian Doctrine 2

Course Description:

This course is a historical and theological introduction to the Christian doctrine of Church, sacraments, and eschatology. It is designed especially for the Masters in Christian Doctrine program in order to give students the background they need in order to teach in high schools and in religious education programs.

Course Objectives:

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Show how Vatican II was an ecclesiological council and identify the main characteristics of the church emphasized by that council.
2. Identify various images and models of the church and describe their specific contributions to an understanding of the church.
3. Explain the function of the episcopacy and the papacy with reference to apostolicity, catholicity, and communion.
4. Describe the function, exercise, and limits of authority in the Roman Catholic Church.
5. Articulate the relationship between the Roman Catholic Church and other church communities as developed in the Decree on Ecumenism of Vatican II.
6. Give an account of the function and theology of lay and ordained members of the Church.
7. Have an understanding of the official Church teaching on the sacraments, be familiar with traditional vocabulary associated with that teaching, and have a contemporary interpretation of that teaching.
8. Articulate the theology of the sacraments embedded in the liturgical rites.
9. Give an account of what Christians hope for and present a contemporary understanding of heaven, hell, and purgatory, indulgences, and the communion of saints.