

Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology
Institute of Salesian Spirituality – Fall 2010
STSP3080 – Interactive Evangelization

3.0 units (5 ECTS) – Day/ Day: time, place

Instructor: John Roche, SDB
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Course Description

The “new evangelization” first proposed by Paul VI and strongly endorsed by John Paul II reaches far beyond older definitions of mission outreach. In this present moment, wrestling with the “dictatorship of relativism” and other realities addressed clearly and lovingly by Benedict XVI, religious educators have a duty to understand the times and to respond accordingly employing every resource at their disposal. Such a response demands of the educator and minister the high levels of integration and an ever-deepening of faith. This course examines the present moment in both the Church and culture within a North American context. By examining the cumulative impacts of globalization and secularization and by referencing prophetic voices addressing these evolving realities, the students will become conversant with various models of theology and spirituality which aptly demonstrate and reinforce the conviction that the Gospels are up to the challenges and tasks presented in this milieu. Among many of these prophetic voices has risen a discernible strain advocating the power of the shared journey of faith and a spirituality of accompaniment. A special focus will be given to various models of this shared journey as a fecund response to this challenging new moment. The course is designed as a facilitation by lecture, personal reading, and group discussion integrating three reflection papers designed for three distinct movements in the examination of this historical and cultural moment.

Course Outline and Calendar

Week beginning Tuesday, September 7, 2010:

Introduction: A New Moment, a New Evangelization, a New Opportunity

1. Charting the course objectives and overview of content
2. A New Cultural Moment and a New Formation

Week beginning Monday, September 13, 2010:

Examining the Context of the Western World

1. Defining the Western Context for a New Moment: How Did We Get Here?
2. A Period of Diminishment

Week beginning Monday, September 20, 2010:

Secularization and Globalization

1. Enlightenment North American Style
2. Maintenance versus Initiative

Week beginning Monday, September 27, 2010

The Many Faces of Secularity

1. Secularity As a Complex Phenomena
2. The Moral Ambivalence of Secularity

Week beginning Monday, October 4, 2010:

Naming the North American Context

1. The Immigrant Context
2. The Youth Context

Week beginning Monday, October 11, 2010

The Intersection of Culture and Communication

1. Images Suitable for Reality
2. The Translatable Gospel

Week beginning Monday October 18, 2010

Gospel Passions: Up to the Task

1. Passions of Provenance and Beauty
2. Passions of Rarity and Sharing the Journey

Week beginning Monday October 25-29, 2010: Reading Week Break

Week beginning Monday November 1, 2010:

A Grace and Necessity for the Moment: Accompaniment

1. Incarnation as Model of the Dynamic Relationship Between Theology and Science
2. Education and Formation Taking Shape in Spiritual Accompaniment

Week beginning Monday, November 8, 2010:

Accompaniment Defined

1. Defining a Spiritual Accompaniment
2. The Dimensions of Relationship and the Tasks of a New Accompaniment

Week beginning Monday, November 15, 2010:

Of Movements, Reactions, and Apologetics

1. Naïve Nostalgia, Apologetics, and Contemporary Reactions
2. Movements Not Born of Institution

Week beginning Monday November 22, 2010: (Thanksgiving November 26)

Diffusing the Gospel to the Capillaries: Responding to the Disappearance of Significant Christian Presence in Society

1. The Arenas of Science and Culture, Family Life, Social and Political Activity
2. A Flexible and Immediate Church: New Models

Week beginning Monday November 29, 2010:

New Models of Spirituality in a Time of Purification

1. The Kenotic Gift of God in Christ: the Biblical Model of our Time
2. Missionaries to Our Time and Culture

Week beginning Monday December 6, 2010:

Models of Accompaniment

1. Capturing Hearts, Ministers of Beauty, Transcending and Transforming Fears
2. Ministers of Mystery, Weavers of Wholeness and Organic Unity

Week beginning Monday December 13, 2010(Semester ends December 18):

Catching the Love of God

1. Sacraments of Compassion
2. Holiness and Experience

Required Reading

NOLAN Albert, *Jesus Today: A Spirituality of Radical Freedom*, New York, Orbis Books, 2008.

ISBN-13: 978-1570756726 Retail price: \$15.00

ROLHEISER Ronald, editor and author, *Secularity and the Gospel: Being Missionaries to our Children*, Crossroads, New York, 2006.

ISBN-13: 978-0824524128 Retail price: \$19.95

SWEET Leonard, *The Gospel According to Starbucks: Living with a Grande Passion*, Waterbrook Press, Colorado Springs, 2007.

ISBN-13: 978-1578566495 Retail price: \$13.99.

Instructor's Notes: ROCHE, John (copyright Salesian Society, Don Bosco Hall)

Additional Reading

- BLY Robert, *The Sibling Society: An Impassioned Call for the Rediscovery of Adulthood*, New York, Vintage Books, 1996.
- CHITTISTER Joan, *The Flame in These Ashes: A Spirituality of Contemporary Religious Life*, New York, Sheed & Ward, 1995.
- KIMBALL Dan, *They Like Jesus But Not the Church: Insights from an Emerging Generations*, Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 2007.
- ROHR Richard, *Near Occasions of Grace*, Maryknoll, Orbis Books, 1993.
- ROHR Richard, *From Wild Man to Wise Man: Reflections on Male Spirituality*, Cincinnati, St. Anthony Messenger Press, 2005.
- STRAUSS William, and HOWE Neil, *Generations: The History of America's Future, 1584 to 2069*. Reprint ed. New York, William Morrow, 1992.
- _____, *Millennials Rising: The Next Great Generation*, New York, Random House, 2000.
- STROMMEN Merton P. *Five Cries of Youth*. New and revised ed. San Francisco, Harper & Row, 1988.
- _____, *Passing on the Faith: A Radical New Model for Youth and Family Ministry*, Saint Mary's Press, Minneapolis, 2000.
- SWEET Leonard, CROUHY Andy, Mc LAREN Brian D, McMANUS Erwin Raphael, HORTON Michael, MATTHEWES-GREEN Frederica (Ed.) *The Church in Emerging Culture: Five Perspectives*, Michigan, Zondervan, 2003.
- WALLIS Jim, *The Great Awakening: Seven Ways to Change the World*, New York, Harper Collins, 2008.

Sources

(An extended bibliography is being compiled. There are many pertinent publications just now available to add to this list.)

Assignments

The required reading serves as the foundation for further discussion. The students are expected to participate in class discussions and to complete the writing of three theological reflections on subjects offered in relation to the class material.

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Catalogue Description

STSP3080 – Interactive Evangelization

Faculty (DSPT)

3.00 units

Days and Times DSPT or ISS

This course examines the present moment in both Church and culture within a North American context. By examining the cumulative impacts of globalization and secularization and by referencing prophetic voices addressing these realities, the students will become conversant with various models of theology and spirituality which boldly demonstrate that the Gospels are up to the challenges and tasks presented in this era. Among these prophetic voices is a discernible strain advocating the power of the shared journey of faith and a spirituality of accompaniment. A special focus will be given to the models of this shared journey as a fecund response to this new moment. The course is lecture and discussion based with three reflection papers designed for three distinct movements in the examination of this new moment.