

Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology
Institute of Salesian Spirituality – Fall 2019
STSP3082 – Evangelizing a Secular Age

3.0 units (5 ECTS) – M/Th: 8:10 am – 9:30am
Institute of Salesian Studies (Don Bosco Hall)

*During the first week,
Instructor & students are to arrange a mutually agreeable class schedule.*

Instructor: John Roche, SDB
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Course Description

The “new evangelization” first proposed by St. Paul VI and strongly endorsed by St. John Paul II reaches far beyond older definitions of mission outreach. In this present moment, wrestling with the “dictatorship of relativism” (Pope Benedict XVI) and the call to God’s mercy (Pope Francis), religious educators have a duty to understand the times and to respond accordingly. An appropriate response demands of the educator and minister high levels of integration and a deep personal faith. At issue is the debate between seeing God’s hand and sensing an absence of religious influence and authority in the public square. This course examines the complexity of this 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 for delivery 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

September 16, 2019:

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 (Examining contributions of major researches in theological and pastoral responses to this cultural moment)

September 17, 2019:

Examining Contexts & Soul Searching

1. Defining the Western Context for a New Moment: How Did We Get Here?
2. A Period of Diminishment (Fr. Ronald Rolheiser, OMI)

September 19, 2019:

Enlightenment versus Religious Imagination: the work of Maria Harris

1. Albert Nolan and the Signs of the Times
2. Transformation with Religious Imagination

September 23, 2019:

Diminishment and Maintenance

1. Don Bosco versus Modernism
2. Maintenances versus Initiative
3. Western Enlightenment

September 24, 2019::

Naming the North American Context

1. A New Post-9/11 Context: Dermot Lane
2. Theology Between Modernity & Post-Modernity

September 26, 2019:

Dermot Lane and the Theology of a Radically New Context

1. Post-Modernity (Dermot Lane)
2. Subtraction Theories (Charles Taylor)

October 21, 2019:

Modernity versus Post-Modernity with Dermot Lane and Charles Taylor

1. The Malaise of Post-Modernity (Charles Taylor)
2. Examining Charles Taylor (Fr. Michael Paul Gallagher, SJ)

October 22, 2019:

Secularity versus God's Design with Charles Taylor and Paul Michael Gallagher, SJ

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

October 24, 2019:

Translation versus Information: Young Adult Responses and the Emergent Church

1. The Emergent Church
2. Translating the Gospel
3. Youth and Globalization

October 25, 2019:

Passions for Evangelization

1. Passions for Evangelization: Leonard Sweet, Ron Rolheiser, Daniel O'Leary
2. Self-Help versus Self-Emptying

October 28, 2019:

Accompaniment and Incarnation

1. Defining Accompaniment
2. Fr. Vecchi and Horizons
3. Three Tasks of Accompaniment
4. Movements Not Born of Institution (Fr. Routhier)

October 29, 2019:

Mediation and Participation in Spiritual and Secular Understanding

1. Don Bosco's Missiology
2. Mediation Defined in Various Contexts
3. Mediation in the Three Lives

October 31, 2019:

The Meaning of Salvation and Does Faith Have a Future with Michael Sweeney, OP and Paula Lakeland, SJ

1. Does Faith Have a Future?
2. Inner Conversion
3. Salvation in Christ: Being Made Safe in Jesus Christ

November 1, 2019:

Local Church and Diffusion to the Capillaries: New Models

1. Diffusion to the Capillaries
2. Flexible and Immediate Church
3. Cultivating Faith: O'Leary

November 12, 2019:

Purification and Threshold Moments

1. Life at the Threshold
2. New Models of Ministry
3. New Pentecost and Vatican II

November 14, 2019:

The Disengaging of Young Adults

1. Dealing with the “None’s”
2. Almost Christian
3. Going, Going, Gone

November 15, 2019:

Making faith go Viral

1. Alienation versus Invitation
2. Service versus Experience
3. FOCUS & Other signs of New Discipleship

December 9, 2019:

The New Cultures of Faith and Youth

1. Speak my language
2. Push me to new horizons
3. We want to serve and to lead!

December 10, 2019:

Understanding Vocation

1. Call of the Baptized
2. Challenging Clericalism
3. Finding Mercy Anew

December 12, 2019:

Presentations of Papers and Reflections

December 13, 2019:

Presentations of Papers and Reflections

December 16, 2019:

Presentations of Papers and Reflections

December 17, 2019:

Evangelizing in a Multi-Cultural World in Dialogue with Global Religion

1. Return to Stepping Stones
2. No Domesticating the Gospel
3. Jesus as Judge and Example

December 19, 2019:

Evaluating the Course

Required Reading

BARRON Robert, with ALLEN John, *To Light a Fire on the Earth: Proclaiming the Gospel in a Secular Age*, Image, New York, Random House, 2017

ISBN-13: 9781524759506 Retail price: \$19.53

LANE Dermot, *Stepping Stones to Other Religions: A Christian Theology of Inter-Religious Dialogue*, Mary Knoll, New York, Orbis Books, 2011

ISBN-13: 978-0674026766 Retail price: \$40.27

RAUSCH, SJ, Thomas P., *Slow Work of God: Living the Gospel Today*, Paulist Press TM, Mahwah, 2017

ISBN-13: 978-0-8091-5350-3

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.

TAYLOR Charles, *The Malaise of Modernity*, CBC Massey Lecture Series, The House of Anansi Press Inc., Toronto, (2007).

ISBN - 10: 0887845207 Retail price: \$10.95, Online Price: \$18.93

ISBN - 13: 9780887845208

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

Additional Reading

ABRAHAM Susan, "What Does Mumbai Have to Do with Rome? Postcolonial Perspectives on Globalization and Theology," in *Theological Studies*, volume 69, Issue 1 (2008) pp. 376ff.

AGC 357 3/3 (8 September 1996) *The Exhortation "Vita Consecrata" Incentives for our Post-capitular Journey*, Rome, Direzione Generale Opere don Bosco, 1996.

AGC 361 3/4 (15 September 1997) 'For You I Study' (Constitution 14), Satisfactory Preparation of the Confreres and the Quality of our Educative Work, *Rome, Direzione Generale Opere don Bosco, 1997.*

- ARGAN Glen, "Pope John Paul offers a way out of our current social morass," *Western Catholic Reporter*, Edmonton, (2000).
- BADER-SAYE Scott, "Does God Protect Us?," *The Christian Century*, volume 124, Issue: 14, Chicago (July 10, 2007).
- BANKS James A., "Teaching for Social Justice, Diversity, and Citizenship in a Global World," in *The Educational Forum*, volume 68, issue: 4, (2004) ProQuest LLC.
- BANKS Peter, "Citizenship in a Global World," Powerpoint presentation for the Inauguration of the Annual Conference of the American Educational Research Association, April 12-16, 2004, San Diego, California.
- 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.
- CIMPERMAN, OSU Maria, "Inviting Thresholds: How Communities Might Respond to Shifting Times" in *Horizons Magazine*, number 2 (2009). *Horizons* is a memberships publication of the National Religious Vocations Conference, Chicago.
- CREASY-DEAN Kenda, *Practicing Passion*, Grand Rapids, Wm. B. Erdmans Publishing Company, 2004.
ISBN-13: 978-0802847126 Retail price: \$25.00
- _____, *Almost Christian: What the Faith of our Teenagers is Telling the American Church*, Oxford University Press, 2010.
ISBN-13: 9780195314847
- _____, "Something to Live For: What Adolescents Want," *The Christian Century*, volume 121, Issue: 5, Chicago (March 9, 2004).
- DERESIEWICZ William, "The End of Solitude: As everyone seeks more and broader connectivity, the still small voice speaks only in silence," *The Chronicle Review: The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Washington, D.C., (2009) volume 55, Issue 21, pp. B1-6.
- GALLAGHER Michael Paul, "Charles Taylor's Critique of 'Secularisation'", in *Theological Studies*, volume 97, number 388, (2008) pp. 433-444.

- _____, "The Challenge of evangelizing in a secular culture," Paper delivered at Summer Institute for the Diocese of San Antonio, San Antonio, July 2016).
- _____, "Culture and Imagination as Battlegrounds," Paper delivered in Mexico (2011).
- GC24, *Documents of the 24th General Chapter of the Society of Saint Francis de Sales*, in "ACG 333, anno LXXI, May 1990," Rome, Editrice S. D. B. Edizione extra commerciale, 1990.
- GILLIS Chester, "Review: Dermot A. Lane – Stepping Stones to Other Religions: A Christian Theology of Inter-Religious Dialogue," in *Studies in Christian-Jewish Relations (CCJR)*, volume 7 (2012): Gillis R1-2.
- GRISESZ Germain, "The True Ultimate End of Human Beings: The Kingdom, Not God Alone," in *Theological Studies*, volume 69, Issue 1 (2008) pp. 38ff.
- GROODY Daniel G., "Crossing the Divide: Foundations of a Theology of Migration and Refugees" in *Theological Studies*, volume 70, Issue 3, (2009) pp. 638ff.
- HUGHSON Thomas, "Interpreting Vatican II: 'A New Pentecost,'" in *Theological Studies*, volume 69, Issue 1 (2008) pp. 3ff.
- JOHN PAUL II, *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis, Redemptoris Missio*, 7 dec. 1991, in AAS 83 (1992)
- KEENAN James F., "Crises and Other Developments" in *Theological Studies*, volume 69, Issue 1 (2009) pp. 125ff.
- KIMBALL Dan, *They Like Jesus But Not the Church: Insights from an Emerging Generations*, Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 2007.
- LAKELAND Paul, "Does Faith Have a Future?" in *Cross Currents*, volume 49, Issue 1, Association for Religious and Intellectual Life, (Winter 1998-99).
- LANE Dr. Dermot A., *Eucharist as Sacrament of the Eschaton: A Failure of Imagination?*, IEC2012 Theology Symposium, St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, Ireland (Mater Dei Institute of Education, Dublin City University).
- _____, "Discerning the Holy Spirit in the Life of Creation," Paper for the 17th UN Climate Change Conference, Durban, South Africa (November 28, 2011).
- _____, "One Jesus, Four Gospels and Many Christologies," in *Teaching Religious Education*, Issue 2, (2008) pp. 18-19.

MARQUARDT Marie Friednmann, “Transnational Paradigms in the Study of Religion” in *On Being with Krista Tippett* blogsite, <http://www.onbeing.org>, (July 26, 2007) American Public Media, Minnesota.

MENDILIBAR, CCV Maria Isabel Ardanza, “Diminution, a Time of Grace for Living Faith,” in *UISG Bulletin*, Number 154 (2016) pp. 15-22.

McCLAY Wilfred, “Two Concepts of Secularism,” in *The Wilson Quarterly*, volume 24, issue:3, (Summer 2000) Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, pp. 54ff.

McNEAL Reggie, *The Present Future: Six Tough Questions for the Church*, San Francisco, Jossey-Bass: A Wiley Imprint, 2003.

MOOREHEAD Dr. Robert, “The Fellowship of the Unashamed,” Research indicates that the testament with this title was written in 1980 by a young Christian pastor in Rwanda who was threatened with death unless he denounced his Christianity. The young man was executed but in his room, back in Zimbabwe, this testament was found. The actual author remains anonymous but Dr. Robert Moorehead and other media evangelists have kept this testimony alive.

NAYAK Anoop, *Race, Place, and Globalization: Youth Cultures in a Changing World*, Oxford, Berg (an imprint of Oxford International Publishers Ltd.), (2003) 174 pages.

NODAR Dave, “What Are the Characteristics of the New Evangelization?”, copyright 9c0 Dave Nodar – www.christlife.org.

O’DEA Thomas F. and YINGER J. Milton, “Five Dilemmas in Institutionalized Religion,” in *Journal for Scientific Study of Religion (JSTOR)*, <http://www.jstor.org>, Wed Nov. 28, 2007.

PAUL VI, Apostolic Letter, *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, 8 dec. 1975, in AAS 66 (1976) 1-82.

RAHNER Karl, “Towards a Fundamental Theological Interpretation of Vatican II,” in *Theological Studies*, volume 40, (1979).

ROCHE, SDB John, “Mediation and Participation,” a reader published for a seminar on the Spirituality of Salesian Accompaniment, Berkeley (2008), Institute of Salesian Studies.

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.

SCHILLING Timothy P., "Spreading the News: A Report on Europe's New Evangelization," *Commonweal*, volume 133, Issue: 15, (2007) Bolinas, California.

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.

SWEENEY, OP Michael, "Made Safe, Free, and Unafraid in Christ," notes from a retreat directed by Fr. Michael Sweeney, OP for the Salesians of Don Bosco in the western province of the United States, Three Rivers, California (2009). The notes are not the work of Fr. Michael Sweeney, OP but the notes taken at his conferences by John Roche, SDB and used by permission.

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.

STROMMEN Merton P. *Five Cries of Youth*. New and revised ed. San Francisco, Harper & Row, 1988.

TABOO: THE JOURNAL OF CULTURE AND EDUCATION, volume 9, Number 1, Brooklyn, Spring-Summer 2005 (whole journal in PDF), Alan H. Jones, Caddo Gap Press, San Francisco.

TAYLOR Charles, "Three Malaises" excerpted from *The Malaise of Modernity*, CBC Massey Lecture Series, The House of Anansi Press Inc., Toronto, (2007), pp1-29, (reprinted for educational purposes and only by permission).

TULUD CRUZ Gemma, "Between Identity and Security: Theological Implications of Migration in the Context of Globalization," in *Theological Studies*, volume 69, Issue 2, (2008) pp. 357 ff.

TWENGE Jean M., *Generation Me*, New York, Free Press, 2006.

WALLIS Jim, *The Great Awakening: Seven Ways to Change the World*, New York, Harper Collins, 2008.

_____, “Words Matter”, Sojourners’ website (September 24, 2009), <http://sojo.net/>.

WIJAVA, Yabya, “Economic Globalization and Asian Contextual Theology” in *Theological Studies*, volume 69, number 309, (2008) pp. 309ff.

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

STSP3081 – Evangelizing a Secular Age

Faculty (DSPT)

3.00 units

Days and Times DSPT or ISS

The real challenge for the Church today is the task of educating and evangelizing in a secular context. That context has been named many things, from Post-Modern, a “Time of Diminishment” (Ron Rolheiser, OMI), Post-Christian, and many other attempts to describe the age in which we live. Though this is not a new problem, the task is not only to unravel the cultural and political context in which Christian ministry and faith is challenged to persist, but to vibrantly present the Gospel to all who live within this age. The work of Catholic Philosopher, Charles Taylor, and the continuing discussions and debates of contemporary Spiritual Authors weave a pathway toward a hopeful vision for Evangelization. This course will study these contributions and wrestle with the challenges of this age to uncover the gift of a *Salesian Spirituality of Accompaniment*. This school of spirituality is seen a “gift and a necessity”* for the task at hand. (*Sr. Giuseppina Del core, FMA, President La Pontificia facoltà di scienze dell'educazione Auxilium)

Written Work

STSP3081 – *Evangelizing a Secular Age*

Faculty (DSPT)

Three Theological Reflections: *(in partial fulfillment for MA portfolio)*

The students in the Interactive Evangelization Course are asked to bring their own experience of faith and ministry to bear on the issues surrounding a Post-Modern approach milieu and the task of evangelization.

This is to be done by choosing any topic of salient and pertinent interest arising from the class content and offering a 5 to 10 page theological reflection. One such reflection would be due at the end of each two week session.

Research is not necessary, though certainly acceptable.

These are the basic requirements for the course. There will be no written or oral exam.

Due Dates:

- September 26, 2019
- November 1, 2019
- December 10, 2019

A Multi-media Class Presentation *(also in partial fulfillment of the MA portfolio)*

Students are expected to make a classroom presentation using multi-visual aids. These will be presented on the following dates:

Presentation Dates:

- December 12
- December 13
- December 16

Moodle Postings or Google Drive:

Class discussion will be supplemented by ongoing postings at the class Moodle site or by Google Drive. To sign into Moodle, the class participants should log onto Moodle at www.moodle.gtu.edu. Each participant will be given a username and password from the GTU school in which the student is enrolled. Continuing dialogue and specifically chosen topics for discussion and research will be posted regularly. Also, the class materials and presentations will

be available for student access. For Google Drive, content will be given with links from the presenter.

The required reading has been enhanced beginning with the Fall of 2019. Many of the listed texts are available as e-books for various devices and for your computers. You may find these at a much-reduced rate.

The ordering of texts is the responsibility of the student. The order in which the texts are to be read will be discussed, though this is fluid. Most of the text material is integrated into the class presentations. The newer material will appear and will be found on the moodle postings.

If you have any special needs, questions, or requests, you can reach me at Jrochesdb@gmail.com or by cell phone at (510) 725-5520. My office number is (562) 925-1923 extension 205. The objective of this course is to generate meaningful discussion by use of the class materials, resources, presentations, and to bring that discussion into the sharing of your own pastoral and ministerial experiences. Therefore, the three theological reflections and class presentations are an effort to open up this dialogue between study and experience. The final evaluation of your participation depends largely on this input.