Global Catholicism: From the French Revolution to Pope Francis

Fall 2019
History 10350/30350
M-W 2:00-2:50
DeBartolo 319
Discussion Sections

:01: F 11:30am 209 O’Shaughnessy
02: F 11:30am B052 Jenkins Nanovic
03: F 2pm. 305 DeBartolo
04: F 2pm. B052 Jenkins Nanovic

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Office Hours: Monday 4-5:30pm, Wednesday, 3-4pm and by appt.

This course traces the history of Catholicism in the modern era. It is self-consciously global in its approach, examining how Catholic people, ideas, devotional practices and architectural drawings circulated around the world. Topics investigated include: Catholicism during the democratic revolutions of the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, religion and nationalism, the “social” question and Catholic ideas about the family and the economy, the crisis of fascism in the 1930s, decolonization and the cold war, the first (1869-70) and second (1962-65) Vatican councils, liberation theology and the global south and the contemporary sexual abuse crisis.

The primary goal of the course is simple: to place contemporary Catholicism – arguably the world’s largest, most multicultural and multilingual institution -- in an historical context. Doing so enables students to examine and assess changes in an institution occasionally thought unchanging. Students will develop a sharper sense of Catholicism’s evolution, a process vital for understanding Notre Dame as an institution, for Catholics themselves, and for anyone interested in the contemporary world.

The course meets the learning goals for the History and the Catholicism and the Disciplines components of the core curriculum.

The History goals – placing events in context, charting change over time, developing empathy for those distant from ourselves, assessing primary and secondary sources, distilling and evaluating arguments made by other historians – are contained in the syllabus. Historical context is the focus of the course including, for example, the context of Catholic uneasiness with political democracy in the nineteenth century and the ringing
endorsement of democracy in the late twentieth century. Change over time is reflected in the sweep from the late eighteenth century to the present. The mixture of sources will provide experience with close readings of primary source texts and analysis of secondary literature.

**The Catholicism and the Disciplines goals** are also woven into the syllabus. They include exposure to a wide range of Catholic texts and literary and cultural artifacts, including papal encyclicals, speeches, writings and artistic creations by self-consciously Catholic figures.

**Reading Assignments and Discussion Sections** are mandatory and important. The reading assignment for each week is listed on the syllabus. As you read, I advise taking notes. You can do this by underlining key passages or writing in the margins (note: not in library books!) or by taking separate notes. Prior to every discussion you’ll receive a short assignment or reading quiz. If you miss a quiz or an assignment, you’ll receive a zero unless your absence was pre-arranged (meaning you discussed it at least a day in advance with your section teacher and she excused you) or you can produce a note from some appropriate authority (doctor, dean, parole officer, Pope Francis).

**Students** should not have electronic devices such as laptops or tablets out during class. These distract your neighbors and sometimes yourself. So unless you have a disability requiring such a devise, you will need to take notes the old-fashioned way. For discussion sections, please bring a printed out text (or book) to each meeting.

**Written Assignments and Assessments.** Each student will take a short quiz or draft a one page essay for each discussion section, do one or two short assignments on class outings to the Basilica and Special Collections, write two five page essays and take a final examination.

**Grading.** Each essay and the final examination will be worth 25% of the final grade. Class discussion and short assignments will cumulatively be worth 25% of the grade.

**Mental Health** Care and Wellness Consultants at Notre Dame provide support and resources to students who are experiencing stressful or difficult situations that may be interfering with academic progress. Through Care and Wellness Consultants, students can be referred to The University Counseling Center (for cost-free and confidential psychological and psychiatric services from licensed professionals), University Health Services (which provides primary care, psychiatric services, case management, and a pharmacy), and The McDonald Center for Student Well Being (for problems with sleep, stress, and substance use). Visit care.nd.edu.

**Honor Code** Notre Dame students are expected to abide by the Academic Code of Honor. I take this seriously and so should you. All students should familiarize themselves with the honor code. All graded work for this class should be your own and you must clearly acknowledge the sources you have used in written work. If you have questions,
understandably, ask myself, Susanna or Lauren. Any incidence of plagiarism or other academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of the Provost.

**Lunch** I like to meet with students at least once a semester for lunch in groups of four or five. You will receive a signup opportunity soon.

**Media Assignments:**

**Podcast:** Malcolm Gladwell, *Revisionist History*, season 4, “Dr. Rock’s Taxonomy” (40:56)

**Film:** Pope Francis, *A Man of His Word* (Wim Wenders, director, 2018)

**Reading Assignments:**

**Books** (available at the Notre Dame Bookstore) and on reserve at the ND library except Harris which you should order online:


**Article:** Available on Sakai. Please print out for the discussion section.

- Civil Constititution of the Clergy (1791), copy in *Church and State Throughout the Centuries*, Sidney Z. Ehler, and John B. Morral, tr. and ed. (Westminster, MD: New Man Press, 1954), 236-249.


Gaudium et Spes (1965), sections 1-10.

Gregory XVI Mirari Vos (1832), sections 1-15


John Paul II, “Victory Square Homily,” (1979) (full text available online)


Flannery O’Connor, “A Good Man is Hard to Find” [1955]


Paul VI, Humanae Vitae (1968), sections 1-14

Pius XII, 1944 Christmas Message
Vietnamese Bishops’ Statement (1945) in Voices of Decolonization: A Brief History with Documents, Todd Shepard, ed. (Boston, 2015), 52-53.

Course Schedule:

1. Wednesday, August 28: Introduction – Catholic Reform and French revolution

2. Friday, August 30: Discussion Section: Civil Constitution of the Clergy; De Maistre

3. Monday, September 2: Romanticism and the Ultramontane Revival

4. Wednesday, September 4: Democratic Revolutions 1776-1831

5. Friday, September 6: Discussion Section: Lammenais, Mora, Mirari Vos (1832), sections 1-15.


7. Wednesday, September 11: Diaspora and Global Catholicism

8. Friday, September 13 Discussion Section Harris, 3-165


11. Friday, September, 20: Discussion Section Harris, 169-288, 357-366

12. Monday, September 23: The Social Question and Modernism (Handout anti-Modernist oath)

13. Wednesday, September 25: Missions and Empire 1832-1919

   Special Event: Wednesday, September 25, 7pm. Notre Dame Forum on Sexual Abuse in the Church. Extra Credit for Attendance.

14. Friday September 27: Discussion Section: Harrison

15. Monday, September 30: World War I
Essay #1 Due

16. Wednesday October 2: The Crisis of the 1930s and the Second World War

17. Friday, October 4: Discussion Section: “In the Face of the World’s Crisis” (1942); Pius XII 1944 Christmas message; Moyn, 65-100.


19. Wednesday, October 9: Debate: Catholicism and Democracy.

20. Friday, October 11: Discussion Section: Chappel, 144-181; UN Declaration of Human Rights (1948)

21. Monday, October 14: Missions and Decolonization (1919-1962)

22. Wednesday, October 16: The Catholic Cold War

23. Friday, October 18: Discussion Section: Vietnamese Bishops; Foster.

Fall Break

23: Monday, October, 28: Catholic culture: literature, art, film

24: Wednesday, October 30: Vatican II (I)

25: Friday, November 1: Discussion Section: O’Connor; O’Connor correspondence.

26: Monday, November 4: Special Collections Tour

27: Wednesday, November 6: Vatican II (II)

28. Friday, November 8: Discussion Section: O’Malley, 1-14, 93-313; Gaudium et Spes, sections 1-10.

29: Monday, November 11: 1968: Students, Vietnam and Rebellion

30: Wednesday, November 13: 1968: Humanae Vitae and Gender
31: Friday, November 15: James Carroll; Humane Vitae (1968) sections 1-18.

Listen to Podcast: Malcolm Gladwell, Revisionist History, season 4, “Dr. Rock’s Taxonomy” (40:56)

32: Monday, November 18: Latin America, Liberation Theology and Human Rights

33: Wednesday, November 20: Poland and John Paul II

Essay #2 Due

34: Friday, November 22: Discussion Section: Gutierrez; John Paul II; Dominican Republic Episcopal Statement [1967].

35: Monday, November 25: Africa and the Global South

Thanksgiving Break

36: Monday, December 2: 1989 and beyond

37: Wednesday, December 4: Sexual Abuse

38: Friday, December 6: Discussion Section: Pope Francis interview; Orsi.

39: Monday, December 9: Pope Francis

Film Screening: Pope Francis: A Man of His Word (Wim Wenders, Director 2018).

40: Wednesday, December 11: Last Class

Final Examination: Wednesday, December 18, 4:15-6:5pm.