

# Fall Semester – 2023

## *Academic Bulletin*

### MA (Theology) and Continuing Education Students



#### **Saint Mary Seminary**

and Graduate School of Theology

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# Fall 2023 Academic Bulletin

## REGISTRATION FOR FALL 2023 OPENS APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup>

Welcome to the Fall 2023 semester! The pages that follow include the courses that are open to the Master of Arts (Theology) and Continuing Education students. Please note: Courses have been scheduled based on the availability of faculty and responses to the earlier surveys sent to current students. Please be strategic in your selection of courses, especially if you plan to graduate in 2024, and make every effort to further your degree requirements. Also, please pay attention to the **pre-requisite courses** and be sure you have these first. If you have any questions about your academic program, please contact Sister Brendon. Online registration for current students for Fall 2023 is available on the "Students" page on the seminary website: [www.stmarysem.edu](http://www.stmarysem.edu).

IMPORTANT: Students expecting to graduate in May 2024 must register for the MA 700 Capstone Preparation to begin the development of your degree symposium to be presented in the Spring.

Further information regarding the Fall semester will be sent to students via your *Populi* student account throughout the summer.

Regarding Summer 2023, there will be one MA core course taught as an intensive. See page 3 of this bulletin for details. Please register for this summer course on the Summer 2023 online registration link on the "Student" page of the Saint Mary Seminary website.

For questions or assistance regarding registration or the progress of your MA degree, please contact Sister Brendon.

Thank you.

## FALL 2023 CALENDAR (*Tentative: Subject to change*)

August 15	Last Day to register without \$25 late fee.
August 25	Classes begin.
September 4	Labor Day – NO CLASSES
September 5	Classes resume
October 12	Mid-term break begins after last class (Classes resume October 16)
November 21	Thanksgiving recess begins after last class. (Classes resume November 27)
December 8	Patronal Feast – NO CLASSES
December 11	Last day of classes
December 12	Study Day
December 13-14	Exams
December 15	Christmas recess begins.
December 27	Grades Due
January 16	Spring 2024 semester begins.

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**\* = Required MA Core Course**

**E = Elective option for MA degree (4 electives of student's choice required for degree)**

## SUMMER, 2023

Please register for this summer course on the Summer 2023 online registration link on the "Student" page of the Saint Mary Seminary website

**\*SC 515 PAULINE LITERATURE AND CATHOLIC EPISTLES**

**Sr. Lisa Marie Belz, OSU, PhD**

**2 credits**

**Tuesdays & Thursdays**

**5/23 to 6/29, and Project due 7/21**

**First class time: 6:00 to 8:50 p.m.**

**Times of remaining class sessions will be discussed in the first session.**

This course begins with an overview of Paul's background, encounter with Jesus, missionary activity, letter writing, and theological perspectives. The course continues with an in-depth examination of the undisputed letters of Paul with exegesis of select texts of doctrinal and liturgical import. This course includes an introduction and exegesis of selected passages of James, I and II Peter, Jude, and Hebrews (**Pre-requisite: SC 510 Biblical Hermeneutics**)

**E PAS 562 CANON LAW FOR PASTORAL MINISTERS**

**Lynette Tait, JCL**

**2 credits**

**Information Session April 14, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.**

**SAC 109 / Class dates to be determined.**

Canon law is a useful source of information and guidance for people engaged in ministry in the Catholic Church. The course will focus upon the development, interpretation, and application of canon law. The nature and structure of the local and universal Church will be studied. Special emphasis will be given to topics that pertain to parish ministry and structures, including the sacraments. (Class times to be determined at the Information Session.)

## FALL, 2023

### BIBLICAL STUDIES

**\*SC 510 BIBLICAL HERMENEUTICS**

**Rev. Mark Ott, SSL**

**2 credits**

**Friday, 9:40 – 11:30 a.m.**

This course introduces the history, methods, and philosophical groundings of scriptural interpretation. The course will attempt to make conscious and explicit a sampling of the available avenues of interpretation by which understanding a scriptural text is possible. Both historical and post-critical methodologies will be explored. A survey of the attempt to understand the historical Jesus will be included.

**(Note: This course is the prerequisite for all Scripture courses.)**

**\*SC 511 PENTATEUCH AND HISTORICAL BOOKS**

**Sr. Lisa Marie Belz, OSU, PhD.**

**3 credits**

**Wednesday, 1:30 – 4:20 p.m.**

The course introduces students to both the Pentateuch (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy) and the two Old Testament "histories," the so-called Deuteronomistic History (Joshua, Judges, 1-2 Samuel, and 1-2 Kings), and Chronicler's History (1-2 Chronicles, Ezra, and Nehemiah). These books will be treated with attention

to their historical and cultural backgrounds as well as to their literary, theological, canonical, and contemporary dimensions. **(Pre-requisite: SC 510 Biblical Hermeneutics;)**

**E SC 513 PSALMS AND WISDOM**

**2 credits**

**Sister Lisa Marie Belz, OSU, Ph.D**

**Thursday 9:40 - 11:30 a.m.**

This course will first examine the formation, use, and significance of the book of Psalms. A number of individual psalms will then be studied, with special attention not only to their literary genre but also to their poetic design, location within the Psalter, theological value, and reinterpretation in Israel and in the Christian Church. Attention will next turn to the Wisdom literature (Proverbs, Job, Qohelet, Sirach, Wisdom, and the Song of Songs) for a consideration of their origin, literary structure, and theological significance.

**(Pre-requisite: SC 510 Biblical Hermeneutics;)**

**E SC 516 JOHANNINE LITERATURE**

**2 credits**

**Rev. Mark Ott, SSL**

**Monday, 1:30 – 3:20 p.m.**

The course offers an introduction to the letters of John and a discussion of their location within developing Johannine Christianity. Attention is given to the distinctiveness of Johannine Literature among the Gospels, to its literary and theological structure, and to selected texts. The course concludes with a study of the book of Revelation, especially its literary genre, its interpretation and enduring value, and a few chosen texts.

**(Pre-requisite: SC 510 Biblical Hermeneutics;)**

**E SC 505 THE BASICS OF BIBLICAL GREEK**

**2 credits**

**Rev. Mark Ott, SSL**

**Tuesday, 6:45-8:35 p.m.**

This course will introduce the students to a few basics of Koine Greek grammar, with a special emphasis on vocabulary words that are important for theological studies. Although full reading proficiency is beyond the scope of this course, by the end of the semester the student will certainly be able to easily read and pronounce Greek words, look them up in a lexicon or theological dictionary, and understand their usage with the help of a computer bible study program. **(No pre-requisites)**

## PASTORAL THEOLOGY

**E PAS 552 PASTORAL COUNSELING**

**3 credits**

**Luke Brown, LPC**

**Wednesday, 6:45 – 9:35 p.m.**

This course will employ presentations, discussions, case studies, and role-playing to assist the students to integrate counseling theory and techniques. Topics of boundary issues, grief counseling, addiction and family counseling will be considered. This agenda provides exposure to the various pastoral issues, allows for limited exploration of how to initially handle conversation, analyze the issue, and make referral.

**E PAS 553 INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY**

**3 Credits**

**Rev. Edward Estok, MDiv, MA**

**Thursday, 1:30 – 4:20**

This course introduces the student to the beauty and depth of Christian spirituality. Some of the aspects of Christian spirituality to which the student will be introduced are the nature of Christian spirituality, asceticism, mysticism and pastoral spirituality; mystical insights by some of the great Catholic "Doctors" of the Church, prayer, and forgiveness; St. Ignatius' Rules for the Discernment of Spirits.

**E PAS 556 EVANGELIZATION AND CATECHESIS**

**2 credits**

**Sr. Mary Brendon Zajac, SND, DMin**

**Thursday, 9:40 – 11:30 a.m.**

This course surveys the principles of Evangelization and Catechesis in light of the Church's missionary mandate, the new evangelization, and the pedagogy of God. An ecclesial approach to catechetical methodology will be

rooted in Sacred Scripture and in the Catechism of the Catholic Church and selected aspects of educational theory. A special segment of the course will focus on the unique mission of the Catholic School.

**E PAS 560 CANON LAW I**

**3 credits**

**Rev. John Keehner, JCL**

**Thursday 1:30 p.m. – 4:20 p.m.**

A general introduction to Church law, its relationship to theology, and its role in the Church is offered in this course, including principles of interpretation as well as basic canonical concepts of Book I. Topics from Book II include rights and responsibilities of laity, religious, and clergy, ecclesial structures of collegiality and shared responsibility at the parish, diocesan, supra-diocesan, and universal levels, with special focus on the local Church. A brief introduction is given to the power of governance, the Church's teaching office, and the sacraments of initiation.

## LITURGICAL & SACRAMENTAL THEOLOGY

**E LIT 583 MARRIAGE: LITURGY AND SACRAMENT**

**1 credit**

**Rev. Scott Detisch, PhD**

**Wednesday 1:30 – 3:20 p.m. Weeks #8 – 15 (Oct 19 – Dec 7)**

This course defines the Sacrament of Marriage within the mission and ministries of Christ and His Church. The course considers the theology of this sacrament, its historical development, and its liturgical celebration. It examines the vocation of marriage from the perspective of its mission and witness to the Christian community. The course explores some contemporary issues related to marriage in light of the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. **(Pre-requisite: LIT 560 Liturgical-Sacramental Theology)**

**E LIT 588 BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION**

**2 credits**

**Rev. Christopher Trenta, SLL**

**Wednesday 9:40 – 11:30 a.m.**

This course presents theological and pastoral consideration of the Roman Catholic Church's rituals of initiation, taking as its normative point of departure the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults as the focus. Included will be an examination of the sources and development of the Church's initiatory practice and discussion of pertinent contemporary pastoral issues. **(Pre-requisite: LIT 560 Liturgical-Sacramental Theology)**

## SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

**\*TH 530 FUNDAMENTAL THEOLOGY**

**3 credits**

**Dr. Andrew Staron, PhD**

**Wednesday, 8:40 – 11:30 a.m.**

The concepts of revelation, faith, tradition, inspiration, canonicity, inerrancy, theology, and the meaning of dogma and its development are treated in relationship to the normative role of Scripture, tradition, and the magisterium. The *sensus fidelium*, pluralism, and theological hermeneutics will be considered. 3 Credits **(Note: TH 530 is the pre-requisite course for all other Systematics requirements.)**

**\*TH 533ma CHRISTOLOGY**

**3 credits**

**Dr. Andrew Staron, PhD**

**Monday, 8:40 – 11:30 a.m.**

The ongoing theological interpretation of Jesus the Christ will be studied especially as the Church has come to understand the profound interrelationship between the human and divine through the Scriptures, the texts of the great Christological Councils, and its ongoing life of faith. **(Pre-requisite: TH 530 Fundamental Theology)**

**E TH 538 BIOETHICS**

**2 credits**

**Rev. Joseph M. Koopman, STD**

**Tuesday 9:40 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**

This course investigates various issues in the field of biomedicine considered in light of present magisterial teaching, ethical principles and contemporary reflection. Fundamental principles of moral action are applied to some of the pressing contemporary issues concerning the beginning and ending of human life, such as "high tech" reproductive procedures, genetic engineering, withholding, or withdrawing artificial life-support systems, artificial nutrition and hydration, euthanasia, and assisted suicide. **(Pre-requisite: TH 532 Fundamental Moral Theology)**

**\*TH 545: GOD: ONE AND THREE**

**2 credits**

**Sr. Mary McCormick, OSU, PhD**

**Tuesday, 9:40 – 11:30 a.m.**

This systematic study of the doctrine of the Trinity will explore the biblical, historical and magisterial foundations of the nature of God as it was defined amid the early Christological controversies and councils. Current developments in Trinitarian theology will be handled in light of modern understandings of language, methodology, symbols and faith experience.

## HISTORICAL STUDIES

**\*HIS 522 CHURCH HISTORY I**

**3 credits**

**Rev. J. Patrick Manning, Ph.D.**

**Monday 1:30 – 4:20 p.m.**

This course surveys the Church's growth and development from sub-apostolic times to the year 1300 C.E. The course will examine the Patristic Age through readings from the Apostolic Fathers, the Apologists, and the theologians of the third and fourth centuries. Special focus will be given to the Golden Age of the Church Fathers and to the major councils of the Church in that period. Developments, trends, and events of medieval times will be discussed, including the papacy, monasticism, the formation of Europe, the Dark Ages, relationships between Eastern and Western expressions of Christianity, Islam, the Crusades, Cluniac Reforms, the Investiture Controversy, and the Inquisition.

**E HIS 625 BLESSED JOHN HENRY CARDINAL NEWMAN: ON THE BAPTIZED, CONSCIENCE, AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF DOCTRINE**

**2 credits**

**Rev. J. Patrick Manning, PhD**

**Friday 9:40 – 11:30 a.m.**

The contemporary issues of Conscience, the presence of the Holy Spirit in the Laity, and the Development of Doctrine, are all issues just as important in the Church today as when they were addressed by Blessed John Henry Cardinal Newman in mid-Victorian England. Convert to Catholicism and a central figure in the Oxford Movement, Newman is a champion in the Roman Catholic conviction of the compatibility of faith and reason. This course will briefly examine his life and conversion, as well as the aforementioned issues as we concentrate on three of his seminal and historically significant works: *An Essay on the Development of Christian Doctrine*, *On Consulting the Faithful in Matters of Doctrine*, and *A Letter Addressed to the Duke of Norfolk*

# DEGREE 2023 COMPLETION

**\*MA 700 THE MASTER OF ARTS (THEOLOGY) CAPSTONE PREPARATION**

**1 credit (no charge)**

**Faculty Advisor**

**Arranged with Advisor**

Students expecting to graduate in **May 2024** must register for the MA Capstone Preparation in the Fall semester to begin the development of the required degree symposium. Near the completion of all course work or in the final academic year of their degree program, the student is required to select a theological topic and complete a symposium that demonstrates the integration, aptitude, and competence in the respective fields. Further information will be presented at the required orientation to be scheduled early in the fall semester.

## **FALL SEMESTER BEGINS FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 2023**

**(Last day to register without incurring \$25 late fee: Monday, August 15, 2023)**

- Tuition: \$355.00 per semester credit hour
- A special tuition of \$265.00 per credit hour is granted to Roman Catholic clergy, religious, and certified Lay Ecclesial Ministers serving in the Diocese of Cleveland and those accepted into the Lay Ecclesial Ministry Certification process of the Diocese of Cleveland.
- A deposit of \$100 per credit hour is suggested when invoiced, with the balance paid before the end of the semester.
- Auditors pay \$220.00 per course.
- Billing will be done through your *Populi* student profile. Payment may be made by credit card through the secure payment portal on the financial tab on *Populi*, or by calling Theresa in the Accounting Office: 440-943-7668. Checks payable to Saint Mary Seminary are also accepted.

**Online registration begins on April 17, 2023.**

**Returning students can register for classes on-line at: [www.stmarysem.edu](http://www.stmarysem.edu)**

**Click on the "Students" menu in the top navigation.**

**Fall 2023 Booklists will be posted on *Populi* around July 1st.**

**For general information regarding admission to the  
Master of Arts program, or for application and registration assistance  
contact:**

**Sr. M. Brendon Zajac, SND, DMin, Registrar, Assistant Academic Dean  
(440) 943-7667 e-mail: [registrar@stmarysem.edu](mailto:registrar@stmarysem.edu)**