

College of Arts and Sciences – Departments

tutor. Individual Study contract forms must be completed and approved by the faculty member, the department chair, and the dean of the College prior to registration. These courses may, with approval of the department chair, be used to fulfill the 400-level requirement for the major.

Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor and the department chair

Catholic Studies (CATH)

Thompson (chair), Joncas, Jordan, R. Kennedy, Reichardt, Ruddy; Boyle (THEO), Lemmons (PHIL), Naughton (THEO), Wojda (THEO)

The Department of Catholic Studies is designed to allow students to encounter the broad and diverse expressions of Catholic culture. While grounded in Catholic philosophy and theology, the curriculum engages students with the imaginative and sacramental expressions of Catholic life in literature, the arts, social systems and personal experience. The interdisciplinary dimension gives students insight into the Church's dynamic interaction with and interpenetration of cultures, traditions, and intellectual life throughout history. By examining the role the church has played in various cultures, students are challenged to take seriously Catholicism's transforming power in every aspect of intellectual, spiritual, and social life.

Faculty are united by a profound respect for Catholicism, and are committed to a high degree of interaction among themselves as well as with students. Students thus enter into a community at once faithful and intellectual.

The curriculum can appeal to students of any faith tradition who seek to deepen their knowledge of Catholicism's rich and living heritage. Its interpersonal approach and opportunities for sustained reflection on important issues invite students to a more profound and mature experience of faith.

Students graduating with a major in Catholic Studies will have a knowledge of the living Catholic tradition, and will be conversant with resources from the Catholic intellectual tradition that will permit them to explore critically the history and contemporary significance of Catholicism. They will be familiar with major Catholic figures from a variety of cultural and historical settings, and will be able to demonstrate a knowledge of the complex and broad history of the Catholic intellectual tradition.

The major consists of 32 credits: 20 credits in core courses and 12 credits in electives (eight elective credits for double majors). The minor consists of 16 credits: 12 credits in core courses and four elective credits. Many courses are cross-listed with another department. Students majoring or minoring in other disciplines are invited to take an occasional course in the program at any time.

Please consult the on-line catalog or the department chair for up-to-date major/minor requirements.

Major in Catholic Studies

240 Faith and Doubt
301 The Catholic Vision
312 Catholic Social Thought
334 Literature from a Christian Perspective
one additional CATH course

Plus:

Twelve credits in electives chosen from three of the following four categories:

CATH 222 The Catholic Literary Tradition: Medieval to Modern

THEO 310 Christian Worship

An historically-based course from the Catholic Studies curriculum or a course approved by the chair

An aesthetics course from the Catholic Studies curriculum or a course approved by the chair

Minor in Catholic Studies

240 Faith and Doubt
301 The Catholic Vision
334 Literature from a Christian Perspective

Plus:

Four credits chosen from the following five categories:

CATH 222 The Catholic Literary Tradition: Medieval to Modern

CATH 312 Catholic Social Thought

THEO 310 Christian Worship

An historically-based course from the Catholic Studies curriculum or a course approved by the chair

An aesthetics course from the Catholic Studies curriculum or a course approved by the chair

222 The Catholic Literary Tradition: Medieval to Modern (ENGL 222)

This course surveys literary works with theological or spiritual themes that have contributed to the vitality of Catholic culture. The purpose of the course is to help students realize that Catholic culture has fostered a variety of literary expressions and has produced works that speak compellingly of human experience and sacramental life.

Prerequisites: ENGL 111 and 112 or 190

234 Love, Sex and Friendship (PHIL 234)

A philosophical examination of the nature of human love. Possible topics include reciprocity and permanence, fidelity, romantic love, human sexuality, kinds of friendship. Special attention will be given to the thought of John Paul II.

Prerequisite: PHIL 115

240 Faith and Doubt (PHIL 240)

Philosophical arguments for and against the possibility of divine revelation. Special attention will be given to the claim that the faith of the Catholic Church is revealed. Possible topics include tests of alleged revelations and miracles, evil as a barrier to belief in revelatory claims, the compatibility of science and religion, the role of reason and faith in religious commitment, and personal decision-making in a state of doubt about evidence.

Prerequisite: PHIL 115

250 Christian Mysteries from a Philosophical Viewpoint (PHIL 250)

A consideration of philosophical problems associated with Catholicism. Possible topics include divine providence, creation, the soul, freedom of the will, faith, the Eucharist, the Incarnation, and the variety of religious beliefs.

Prerequisite: PHIL 115

272 Evolution and Creation (PHIL 272)

A philosophical examination of the relation between the doctrine of creation and theories in the evolutionary sciences. The course will consider arguments concerning evolution and creation from a variety of disciplines (including philosophy, theology, and natural science). The course will also examine historical and philosophical aspects of the relation between science and religion on the origins of the material world and the human race.

Prerequisite: PHIL 115

295, 296 Topics

2 credits

297, 298 Topics

The subject matter of these courses will vary from year to year, but will not duplicate existing courses. Descriptions of these courses are available at www.stthomas.edu/registrar/onlineschedule.html.

301 The Catholic Vision

At the center of the Catholic vision are the two great works of divine love: creation and salvation. This course considers the implications of these divine works for a radical reconsideration of the world and the human person. Readings are drawn from sacred Scripture, councils, and theologians throughout the tradition with specific attention given to the intellectual and spiritual consequences of Catholic doctrine. Possible authors studied include Augustine, Basil, Francis, Ignatius, Teresa of Avila, Pascal, Newman, Maritain and de Lubac. In addition, the visual arts and works of literature by such figures as Dante, Hopkins, O'Connor and Percy will provide important illustrative examples.

Prerequisite: THEO 101 (or 102 and 103)

306 Christian Faith and the Management Professions (THEO 306)

What is a good manager and how does he or she contribute to the common good? This course pursues these questions within the Christian social tradition broadly understood through an exploration of the theological relationship between work as a vocation and leisure as contemplation. Within this theological context, the course examines the financial, organizational, technological, and cultural forces that managers and organizations encounter daily.

Prerequisites: THEO 101 (or 102 and 103) and one 200-level THEO course

308 Woman and Man

This course examines the definition of "woman" and "man" from both the historical and the philosophical perspective. Readings and discussion center on the question of (1) whether there are important philosophical differences between women and men and (2) whether such differences are natural or socially constructed. The implications of various answers to those questions are then examined, with special attention given to the Catholic tradition's reflections on the nature and ends of marriage, the character of priestly ordination, friendship between women and men, and human sexuality. This course fulfills the core curriculum requirement in Human Diversity.

Prerequisite: PHIL 115

312 Catholic Social Thought

Rooted in Scripture, Catholic thought on social questions has always constituted a challenge to communities to protect human dignity from the concrete threats of the day. As it matured, Catholic social thought developed both a theoretical framework as well as a set of principles and guidelines for structuring communities in ways that protect and advance human dignity. The purpose of this course will be to explore both dimensions of Catholic social thought in their historical origins and in their contemporary expressions. Although the course presupposes a theological context, the principal focus will be on the interdisciplinary contributions to and implications of Catholic social thought.

Prerequisites: THEO 101 (or 102 and 103) and PHIL 115

College of Arts and Sciences – Departments

334 Literature from a Christian Perspective (ENGL 334)

This course examines methods of reading and literary texts from a Christian perspective. The general question of the course is, “how does a reader engage works of imaginative literature from an intellectually serious Christian perspective?” The course studies works of criticism representing a variety of Christian viewpoints and applies them to literary texts that are explicitly Christian in themes as well as those which invite, or are enriched by, a Christian perspective.

Prerequisites: ENGL 111 and 112 or 190

346 Christian Faith and the Education Profession (THEO 346)

This course explores education through its grounding in the Christian understanding of God and the human person. Theological topics relevant to education include: the nature of truth, the relationship between faith and reason, and freedom in moral and intellectual formation. We will also examine questions about faith-based education in a pluralistic context and the relevance of an interdisciplinary search for truth. In light of the growing trend toward academic specialization, this course aims to help students learn how various disciplines are integrated in the search for wisdom.

Prerequisites: THEO 101 (or 102 and 103) and one 200-level THEO course

356 Music and the Bible (THEO 356)

This course explores the social, cultural and religious contexts for music-making among biblical peoples and the primitive Christian communities. Students will learn to do detailed analysis of psalm and canticle texts in the Old Testament and acclamations, infancy canticles, God-hymns, Christ-hymns and psalmody in the New Testament. Implications for present-day worship and spirituality will also be addressed.

Prerequisites: THEO 101 (or 102 and 103) and one 200-level THEO course

357 Sacred Music of the Catholic Heritage (THEO 357)

Music both expresses and shapes religious experience. This course explores the practice and theory of music-making in Catholic worship and devotion. Special emphasis will be given to the study of Gregorian chant as foundational for Roman Rite worship music, the historical development of other forms of Catholic church music, and contemporary issues of music, culture and spirituality.

Prerequisites: THEO 101 (or 102 and 103) and one 200-level THEO course

364 Science and Christian Theology (THEO 364)

This course is an introduction to the interrelationship between Christian theology (the understanding of the Christian faith), and the natural sciences. It explores the relationship between scientific and theological methods and modes of knowledge, and considers some of the central topics of Christian theology – God, creation, providence, resurrection, and afterlife – in the light of modern scientific evidence and theories.

Prerequisites: THEO 101 (or 102 and 103) and one 200-level THEO course, PHIL 115, some college-level background in science, preferably biology, physics, or chemistry

366 Psychology and Moral Theology (THEO 366)

Although the fields of psychology and moral theology are in some ways similar in that they each address questions of human nature and human growth, they are also quite distinct in their conceptions of the human person. This course will explore some of the relationships between psychology and moral theology, especially in matters of human wellness and personal well-being. Areas of disparity between the disciplines as well as points of commonality and fruitful exchange will be discussed.

Prerequisites: THEO 101 (or 102 and 103) and one 200-level THEO course

378 Christian Faith and the Legal Profession (THEO 378)

If to work is to share in the creative activity of God, then what specific challenge does this pose for an attorney given the grinding realities of the legal profession? If to be a professional is to live out a tripartite relationship between self, client, and a higher standard, then how does an attorney determine, much less respond to such a standard? Through a close reading of a variety of theological texts, treatises, case studies and rules of professional conduct, this course will address these questions and, in so doing, attempt to fashion a paradigm for the Christian practice of law. Within this paradigm, emphasis will be placed on the meaning of justice, law, rights and responsibilities. An ethic of care that fosters the development of a compassionate world and a common life will be emphasized.

Prerequisites: THEO 101 (or 102 and 103) and one 200-level THEO course

379 Christian Faith and the Medical Profession (THEO 379)

What is a good doctor? This course pursues this question and possible answers to it, from a historical, moral, and theological point of view. Reading and discussion will be guided by a detailed investigation of the scientific/technological, economic, and cultural forces that are presently complicating our traditional understanding of medical practice. Emphasis throughout will be on the Christian tradition of moral inquiry as a resource for responding to this question.

Prerequisites: THEO 101 (or 102 and 103) and one 200-level THEO course

397, 398 Topics

This course will examine in detail a small focused set of questions arising from one or more areas of the interdisciplinary program in Catholic Studies. Topics will vary from year to year but will not duplicate existing courses. The selection in any given semester will depend upon the interest of the students and instructors and on the availability of community resources (for example, guest lecturers). Some examples of subject matter include: Is Christian tragedy possible? Does Catholic belief conflict with the findings of modern science? What is the relationship of Catholicism to various economic systems? The odd number is used if the course fulfills a core curriculum requirement.

483, 484 Seminar

2 credits

485, 486 Seminar

See the description of these courses at the beginning of the "Curricula" section of this catalog.

487, 488 Topics

2 credits

489, 490 Topics

The subject matter of these courses will vary from year to year, but will not duplicate existing courses. Descriptions of these courses are available at www.stthomas.edu/registrar/onlineschedule.html.

491, 492 Research

2 credits

493, 494 Research

See the description of these courses at the beginning of the "Curricula" section of this catalog.

495, 496 Individual Study

2 credits

497, 498 Individual Study

See the description of these courses at the beginning of the "Curricula" section of this catalog.

Chemistry (CHEM)

Boyd (chair), Bilek, Borgerding, Brom, Glorvigen, Hartshorn, Ippoliti, Mabbott, Marsh, Olson; Cain, Krueger, Ojala, Ovechka

The Department of Chemistry offers two degree programs in the field of chemistry: a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree and a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree. The department is on the list of schools approved by the American Chemical Society (ACS) for the professional training of chemists, and the B.S. degree is certified by the American Chemical Society. The B.S. has either a chemistry or a biochemistry concentration option. This degree is recommended for students who plan to pursue graduate study in chemistry in preparation for college teaching or advanced research in academic, industrial or government laboratories.

The B.A. degree requires fewer chemistry courses and offers the possibility of completing a double major if students have a strong interest in another field. Both degrees offer some latitude in the selection of upper level courses, thus allowing the student some flexibility to pursue an interest in a particular area of chemistry. Students graduating with either the B.S. or the B.A. may also qualify for departmental honors.

Students graduating with a major in chemistry will have the necessary knowledge to prepare them for a career in chemistry or for graduate school, and the confidence and skill to succeed. They will have the ability to read, understand, write and speak with clarity and understanding in technical areas. They will constantly apply critical thinking to their readings in the technical literature. They will have developed good laboratory skills and be familiar with modern instrumentation and with the use of computers in technical fields. They will have developed the skills necessary to analyze their data and to draw conclusions from it.

Chemistry is an excellent major for students interested in biochemistry, food science, forensic science, medicine, medicinal chemistry, dentistry, pharmaceutical chemistry, pharmacology, pharmacy, patent law, polymer science, chemical engineering, environmental science, materials science and other interdisciplinary fields. The major is also suited to students with a complementary interest in other sciences, or in computers, education, economics or business.

Students interested in teacher licensure should consider the various combinations of science education in the Department of Teacher Education in this catalog.

The Departments of Chemistry and Biology jointly offer a B.S. degree in biochemistry. The curriculum for this degree may be found under "Interdisciplinary Programs" in this catalog.

All graduating senior majors are required to take an achievement test for purposes of assessment of the major and College accreditation.

In order to receive a degree in chemistry from the University of St. Thomas, transfer students must complete a minimum of sixteen credits in chemistry at the university in addition to the two-credit seminar sequence.

The department offers a number of courses for non-majors to fulfill the laboratory science component of the core curriculum.

Graduation with Honors in Chemistry

Students graduating with a B.A. or B.S. degree in chemistry may also qualify for departmental honors. Students interested in this designation must consult with the department chair one year (or more) prior to their graduation date. Requirements include: