Short Courses

IN

THEOLOGY

2016-2017

All are Welcome

No specific entry requirements & no assessments

Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Trionóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin
Why choose the Loyola Institute?

Our purpose as an Institute is to reflect academically on Christian faith, social justice and contemporary culture in the context of the Catholic tradition.

All our courses are designed to provide an enriching opportunity to explore important theological themes and critical issues in today’s world.

The Loyola Institute’s short courses are an opportunity to experience what we have to offer, without having to undergo formal assessment.

Come and learn with us in the wonderful ambience of Trinity College, at the heart of Dublin city.

This booklet is a sample of what we have on offer. For more information, visit the web pages listed below:

https://www.tcd.ie/loyola-institute/extramural/
https://www.tcd.ie/loyola-institute/undergraduate/

Please be environment friendly and pass this booklet on when you have finished with it.

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For more comprehensive information consult our Website: https://www.tcd.ie/loyola-institute/ & find us on Facebook, YouTube and Twitter
The Book of Kells
A Theological Reading

The Book of Kells is one of Trinity’s greatest treasures. This course offers an opportunity to learn about the magnificent Book of Kells in the company of others.

In particular explore:

- The iconography of the manuscript
- The theological significance of the imagery
- The manuscript tradition
- Recent scholarship on the Book of Kells

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The Making of Catholic Theology
The Modern Period (c. 1900-2000)

Survey the political, cultural and religious contexts which influenced the changes and developments in modern Catholic theology.

Study:

- The political, cultural and religious context
- Profound changes in Catholic theology
- Anti-modernist regime
- Second Vatican Council

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Ethics and Society

Learn the role and value of the tradition of Catholic Social Thought.

The study includes:

- A reading of the social encyclicals of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries

- Key concepts
  - The common good
  - Religious liberty
  - Solidarity
  - Economic justice
  - War and political conflict
Mission, Culture
and
Diversity in a Global World

This course will explore the general trends in Christian mission history from the European age of exploration to the present day. There will be a particular emphasis on the Irish missionary movement.

The study includes:

- The theology of mission to the present day
- Inter-cultural awareness in theology
- An emerging ecumenical paradigm of mission

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In the Beginning: An Introduction to the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament

An opportunity to explore the richness of the most ancient library of our faith, including:

- Israel’s own account of its earliest history
- The wisdom of Proverbs and Job
- The power of the Prophets
- The poetry and prayer of the Psalms

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Eucharistic Theology

Vatican II described the Eucharist as the “source and summit of the Christian life”. This course provides an opportunity to study, in some depth:

- The origins of the Eucharist
- Development of understanding through the ages
- Contemporary issues and directions in Eucharistic theology and practice

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The Making of Catholic Theology

The Patristic Period

Study the foundations of Christian thought in its early centuries.

- The study will focus on the early centuries of the Church’s history

- There is a special emphasis on introducing the students to the different genres of patristic writings

- You will be led in detailed study of primary texts from a great wealth of sources

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Classic Spiritualities

This course provides an introduction to the main monastic and ecclesial schools of spirituality in the Catholic tradition, all studied from a specifically theological perspective.

Study:

- The diversity of Christian spiritualities
- The differences between Irish and other forms of spirituality
- Women mystics and their contributions to Christian theology
- Major and minor texts of Christian Spirituality.

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The Making of Catholic Theology
The Medieval Period

This period was particularly fruitful in the formation of theology in the Catholic tradition. The course will study:

- The theology of the Monastic and Cathedral schools
- The emergence of the University
- The significance of Aquinas’ work
- The role of women in the medieval period

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Ecclesiology: Unity & Diversity in Catholic Christianity

Ecclesiology concerns itself with the theology of Church, its self-understanding, its governance and its ministry. The course will study:

- Key texts in contemporary Catholic self-understanding
- Relevant documents of the Second Vatican Council and of the World Council of Churches
- The relation between local Church and universal Church
- Church governance and ministry
- Significant and contested issues in the theology of the Church

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Foundations for Theological Ethics

Numerous key debates that affect contemporary society come up for study in theological ethics. These include:

- What is meant by ‘natural law’
- The nature and role of conscience
- Moral authority of church teaching
- Historical and current perspectives on fundamental and contextual ethical debates

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Christology and Eschatology

This course studies the identity and significance of Jesus of Nazareth from a biblical, historical and theological perspective.

Alongside it studies the birth and the range of Christian hope – eschatology.

Its topics will include:

- The early Councils of the Church
- Contemporary Catholic Christologies
- The theology of the Holy Spirit
Theological Anthropology

What does it mean to be human? What does it mean to flourish humanly, from a Christian perspective?

The topics will include:

- Being human as *imago Dei* (being in the image of God)
- Sin and human alienation
- Graced humanity – this is central!
God: One and Three

The ‘God question’ of such wide and contemporary interest is studied in this course.

The topics include:

- The understanding of God as found in the Scriptures of the Old and the New Testament
- The texts of the early councils of the Church
- Trinitarian theology of major Western theologians, e.g. Augustine, Aquinas
- Contemporary theologians, such as Karl Rahner, Herbert McCabe, Catherine LaCugna, Elizabeth Johnson, Rowan Williams

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Theology in the Reformation and Counter-Reformation

The Reformation period has had a decisive influence in the shaping of Christianity and modern politics, right up to the present era. This course will study major figures, key texts, and the social and political contexts of this period.

Key topics include:

- The debates about salvation
- The interaction of Church and State
- Misunderstandings revisited – the contemporary era

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Catholic Theology in a Secular Age
A Critical Introduction

Do we live in a ‘secular age’? What do we mean by a ‘secular age’? Can religious faith survive and flourish in such an era?
This course will study these and other questions.

Topics will include:

- Theological narrative in Western culture
- The concept of secularity and post-secularity
- Revelation and its relevance

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Term Dates

**Michaelmas term (Autumn):**
Monday 26th September - Friday 16th December 2016.

**Hilary term (Spring):**
Monday 16th January - Friday 7th April 2017.

**Reading Week (no lectures):**
7th-11th November 2016
27th February – 3rd March 2017

These are daytime courses. They comprise two lectures a week for an eleven week term.

The cost per module is €150. [Cheque / money order made payable to: *Trinity College number 1 account*]

**Contact**

The Executive Officer,
The Loyola Institute,
Irish School of Ecumenics-Loyola Institute
Building, Trinity College, Dublin 2.

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We invite you to join our mailing list for information of forthcoming

- OCCASIONAL EVENING LECTURES
- CONFERENCES

Simply e-mail - loyalty@tcd.ie

OUR LOCATION ON TCD CAMPUS

We are located in the building currently listed on maps across the campus as Physiology, building No. 38. It is in the East end of campus, past the rugby pitch. The main entrance to the Loyola Institute is via the black side door, which has a wheelchair accessible lift.

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