COURSE SYLLABUS

SS CYRIL AND METHODIUS SEMINARY

ORCHARD LAKE, MICHIGAN 48324

ST 851: ECUMENISM AND INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE
Fr. Louis Madey;
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T 10:00-11:50
CAC 109 2CR

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In a world of many religions, how do Christians understand other religions in light of Christ? Key to the investigation will be the exegesis of scriptural passages on the uniqueness of Christ, the history of the dictum “outside the Church there is no salvation,” attempts at a universal theology of religions, and contemporary theologies of exclusivism, inclusivism and pluralism. Present-day discussions among Christians, Jews, Moslems, and religions of the East.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

To understand the nature of religion as such in the context of cultural anthropology and the Church’s mission “ad gentes.” Natural and supernatural meaning of religion.

To come to know and to understand the religions of the world and the foundation of their interrelationship.

To understand the importance of interreligious dialogue and ecumenism. Why religion matters to every human person.

To grasp the history of Magisterial teaching and theological reflection on other religions and other Christians.

To gain insight into contemporary theologies and interreligious dialogue and ecumenism.

To explicate and critique one’s own theological position on other religions and other Christians.
To be capable of entering into interreligious and ecumenical dialogue with respect and understanding for every human person. Any coercion and violence is contrary to an authentic religion.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Vatican II:

*Dei Verbum*

*Gaudium et spes*

**Unitatis redintegratio**

*Ad gentes divinitus*

*Nostra aetate*

**Dignitatis humanae**

Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith: **Dominus Jesus**


Pope Paul VI: *Evangelii nuntiandi*

Pope John Paul II: *Redemptor hominis*

*Redemptoris missio*

*Ecclesia in Asia*

*Ecclesia in America*


Instruction on *Varietates legitimae* (Vatican Document)


Ludwik Madej, *Ekumenizm We Wspolczesnych Publikacjach Polskich*, KUL Library (Manuscript), Lublin 1968


COURSE THEMATIC OUTLINE


2. Writing-to-learn method. Topics assignment.


5. Taoism and the Light of Christ.
7. Mid-Term Exam
10. Christ, Christianity and its Branches.
11. Term-Paper Due.
15. Engaging the Modern World in its Secularism and the Political and Ideological “substitutes” for authentic religion.
16. Self-knowledge, the Principle of Transcendence and the on-going need for conversion – the essence of the interreligious and ecumenical dialogue.
17. FINAL COMPREHENSIVE EXAM.

GRADE REQUIREMENTS

1. Regular attendance, attentiveness and active participation in class discussion.
2. Intelligent note taking.
3. Term/Research paper and its public defense.
4. Mid-term Exam
5. Written review of the studied material.
6. Final Comprehensive Exam.

Grading method follows the Seminary Catalogue.

Research paper ought to present:

1. Student’s academic research abilities with the use of library resources.
2. Independent reasoning oriented toward an intellectual discovery.
3. Moral intellectual integrity and honesty (No Plagiarism).
4. Ability to apply the Generalized Empirical Method (Lonergan) for the paper’s inner order and conclusion orientation.
5. Depth of understanding.
6. Student’s written language that leads to effective communication.