Liturgical Studies
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Sacred Heart Theological Seminary

Liturgical Studies

Goal:

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to a historical, theological and pastoral dimension of the body of rites prescribed for public worship.

Learning Objectives:

1. Raise student’s awareness and familiarity with the content and language of liturgical theology.
2. Discuss how first-century Judaism help to form early Christian worship.
3. Understand the historical development of the liturgy.
4. Discuss the liturgical structures and rites of the “Catholic” approach to worship.
5. Compare and contrast the cultural, social, historical and theological factors that influence the development of liturgy.
6. Discuss the Rites of Christian Liturgy, Initiation, Eucharist, Confirmation, Ordination, Office and Calendars of the Church.
7. Discuss the purpose and methods of liturgical theology.
8. Explain the Church as Sacrament and the importance of its sacramental life.
9. Distinguish signs and symbols in a Sacramental celebration.
10. Explain the influence of music in worship.
11. Explore the differences between the traditional and fundamental categories of worship.
12. Complete written weekly assignments successfully.
13. Write a midterm paper on a selected topic in liturgical studies.
14. Successfully pass a written comprehension examination.

Why Study Liturgy?

Liturgy is perhaps the most important feature of Christian life over the twenty centuries of Christian history. The regular meeting together of believers in Jesus Christ to worship Him is of utmost concern that the minister and those who worship understand the history and issues about liturgy. The study of Christian Liturgy within theology helps us better understand how Christians have worshiped in the past, coupled with guided progress for the future. A disregard for the historical and cultural aspects of liturgy can result in theological mistake and application of misguided information.
1. Describe Liturgy as a religious phenomenon.
2. What term is sometimes rendered by its English translation?
3. Name other methods of practices that are considered liturgical activities.
4. Identify the names of formal ritual for the Eastern Orthodox, Catholics Muslim and Jewish services.
5. Name the life events Ritualization may be associated with.
6. Discuss the significance of the ancient Greek term “LETITOURGIA.”
7. Discuss the distinction between “liturgical” and “non-liturgical” in Christianity.
8. “What is the liturgy of silence?”
9. Define the Christian term liturgy and what it refers to in religious services.
10. Explain the meaning of the term liturgy in the Catholic tradition.
11. Discuss the liturgical principles of the Catholic Church.
12. Explain why the Catholic Church is fundamentally liturgical and sacramental in its public life of worship.
Mass (liturgy)

Assignment # 2

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mass (liturgy)
PP 1-5

1. Name the various churches that use the term “Mass” as their Eucharistic celebration.
2. Name the term for Mass used by the Eastern Churches including those in full communion with the Holy See.
3. Discuss the Late Latin origins of the term Mass.
4. Discuss the deeper meaning of the term “Ite missa est”.
5. Describe in what way the Council of Trent reaffirmed the traditional Christian teaching about the Mass.
6. Explain why the Catholic Church sees the mass as the most perfect way to offer adoration to God.
7. Explain the purpose of the “Lectionary” and where it is used.
8. Explain the content of the Roman Missal.
9. What is the name of the text that contains the Gospels?
10. Discuss the usual approved introductory rite in the Catholic Church.
11. Identify the final reading and high point of the Liturgy of the Word?
12. Identify the minister who reads the Gospel when present.
13. Identify what takes place to end the Liturgy of the Word?
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Liturgy of the Eucharist (Roman Rite)

Assignment # 3

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mass_(liturgy)

PP 5-10

1. Summarize the entire Liturgy of the Eucharist
2. List the various events in the Communion rite
3. List the major parts of the Liturgy
4. What is the time of celebration of the Liturgy since the Second Vatican Council?
5. Discuss the frequency a priest may celebrate Mass including the exceptions.
6. Identify the only Sacrament not celebrated with a Eucharistic framework.
7. Identify the type of Mass celebrated for the sacrament of Holy Matrimony.
8. Summarize the restrictions on celebrating Mass and receiving communion for non Catholics.
9. What did Saint Alphonsus Liguori have to say about any priest who finishes Mass in less than forty-five minutes?
10. Discuss the specific conditions of a baptism for a non Catholic in a marriage within a Mass.
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Mass in Anglicanism

Assignment # 4

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mass_(liturgy)
PP 10-16

1. List the various terms used to describe the Eucharist in the Anglican tradition.
2. Identify the source of the various Eucharistic liturgies used by national churches of the Anglican Communion.
3. Discuss the structure of the liturgies and how they were crafted to allow a variety of theological interpretations.
4. Summarize the overall structure of the Anglican Rite for worship.
5. Discuss the minor differences between the Anglican and Roman Rites.
6. Identify the text used in celebrating Mass in the Catholic context in the Anglican Church.
7. Discuss the various books and missal in the Anglican Eucharistic theology.
8. Identify the two parts that divide the Anglican liturgy.
9. Identify the term for public worship used by the Anglo-Catholics.
10. Explain the Anglican tradition use of special masses.
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Liturgy (Continued)
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mass_(liturgy)

Exercise # 5

1. Describe the Services of the Eucharist for the Celebration of the Lutheran Mass.
2. Explain how the Lutheran Mass differs from that of the Catholic Church.
3. How is the Methodist communion service structured in the Lutheran Church?
4. What is the liturgical saying for those who want to receive communion in the Methodist Church?
5. Compare and contrast the major differences between Methodist, Roman Catholic and Lutheran Masses.
6. Discuss what the Book of concord Article XXIV had to say about the Mass.
7. What parts of the Roman Rite did Martin Luther reject?
8. Identify the terms used for Mass in most English-speaking churches.
9. Discuss the terms “Tridentine Mass” and “Trentine Missal.”
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Discussion Paper

Exercise # 6
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of-the_Catholic_Church
PP 3-21

1. Identify the scriptural, historical and chronological evidence that Peter was in fact the Bishop of Rome.
2. What evidence does Oscar Cullmann claim that Peter was not the founder of any visible church succession?
3. What was the identity of the Apostles and other believing Christians who traveled from Jerusalem to northern Africa, Asia Minor, Arabia, Greece and Rome?
4. Discuss the doctrine of apostolic succession and why the succession starts with Simon Peter.
5. Discuss the (readings) concerns about Peter being the Bishop of Rome.
6. Summarize your readings about the Roman Catholic Church’s beginnings through Catholicism today.
7. Evaluate the available evidence that suggests that Jesus gave Peter the keys to heaven and that the Church would be built on him?
8. Discuss why the terms Roman Catholic or Pope do not appear in the Holy Scriptures?
9. Independently research and discuss the role of the Catholic Orthodox Church.
10. What role, if any, did Paul have in establishing an organized religion?
1. Identify the various names used for the Eucharist.
2. Define the term “Eucharist.”
3. Identify where the term Eucharist originates.
4. List the biblical basis for the term Eucharist.
5. Which of the apostles give us the earliest recorded description of Jesus’ last supper?
6. Describe how John’s gospel differ from the rest of the synoptic gospels.
7. Where is the biblical reference for the expression The Lord’s Supper?
8. Identify what some Protestants prefer to call the Eucharist.
9. Define the term “transformation.”
10. Summarize the meaning of the ritual and liturgy in the Roman Catholic Church.
11. Summarize the traditions and understanding of the Eucharist in the various denominations cited in the readings.
12. What are the concerns about the way the communion host is made?
13. What substance is used in place of wine in some denominations?