

Catholic Classics

2009 Syllabus

Overview

Catholic Classics is a Junior/Senior elective course at Lumen Christi Catholic School. It is a directed reading course in spirituality, and explores the great Catholic books. Each version of Catholic Classics will focus on one to three great books, as the list below suggests. The course is one semester, for one credit. Students will be given a reading plan and assignments, and there will be one to two days of lecture and discussion per week. Students will read on their own at least two to three days a week. Assignments such as journals, papers, or tests will be determined by the teacher.

Series/Texts

(others can be added)

1. Introduction to Spiritual Classics; Saint Teresa of Avila and Thomas Merton
2. Saint Faustina's *Divine Mercy in my Soul*
3. Saint Augustine: *Confessions* and *City of God*
4. The Franciscans: Francis, Clare, and Bonaventure
5. Blessed Julian of Norwich and Saint Catherine of Siena

Catholic Classics I: Teresa of Avila and Thomas Merton

- Introduction to Spiritual Writing: Text—*The Journey Toward God*. Benedict J. Groeschel, CFR. (Selections)
- *The Interior Castle*. Theresa of Avila.
- *The Seven Story Mountain*. Thomas Merton

Course Schedule

Monday—organization & assignments

Tuesday--Reading

Wednesday—Lecture

Thursday--Reading

Friday—Discussion, assessment

Tentative Schedule:

January 5-9	Introduction to Catholic Spirituality, Fr. Groeschel
January 12-16	Introduction to Teresa and Interior Castle
January 20-23	(Tuesday only class this week) 1st mansion
January 26-30	1 st & 2nd mansion
February 3-6	(no Monday) 2nd mansion
February 9-13	3rd Mansion
February 17-20	(no Monday) 4th Mansion
February 23-27	4th Mansion
March 2-6	5th Mansion
March 9-13	6th mansion
March 16-20	7th mansion
March 23-27	“Walking with Teresa today”

Students: Journals are due before Spring Break.

Next Classic: Thomas Merton’s *Seven Story Mountain*

April and May