

SS. CYRIL & METHODIUS SEMINARY

3535 Commerce Road
Orchard Lake, MI 48324

Introduction to Canon Law – CL 611

Fall 2017 **3 credits hours – Thursday 9:00-11:50 AM – CAC 108**

Instructor: **Fr. Paweł Piotr Lis, S.T.M., S.T.L., J.C.L., J.C.D. (cand.)**
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Orchard Lake, MI 48324

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I. Course Description:

An introduction to the nature and function of law in the Catholic Church with the focus on the *1983 Code of Canon Law* and post 1983 legislation.

II. Learning Objectives:

- 1) Critical reflection on individual canons of the *Code of Canon Law 1983*.
- 2) Precision in thinking about individual canons.
- 3) Understanding the law as serving the Church and protecting rights of individuals and juridic persons.
- 4) Pastoral approach to the requirements of law and their practical application.

III. Required Texts:

Code of Canon Law, Washington D.C., Canon Law Society of America, 2012.

Beal, John P., James A. Coriden, and Thomas J. Green, eds. **New Commentary on the Code of Canon Law**. Study Edition. New York/Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist Press, 2002.

Other texts as indicated by the instructor.

IV. **Optional texts:** None

V. **Church documents:**

Motu Proprio Mitis Iudex Dominus Iesus

VI. **Course requirements:**

Participation in class discussion.

All are expected to be familiar with the *Code of Canon Law 1983* and Commentary as well as participate in the discussion.

VII. **Course Calendar/Outline**

9/07/2017	Introduction to the course/	Book I General Norms
9/14/2017	Book I	General Norms
9/21/2017	Book I	General Norms

The above classes will introduce the content of Canons 1-203. The students will learn about the “basic” concepts of canon Law- types of law, dispensations, interpretation of law, custom, physical and juridic persons, power of governance, types of power, ecclesiastical office, etc.

9/28/2017	Book II	People of God
10/05/2017	Book II	People of God
10/12/2017	Book II	People of God
10/19/2017	Book II	People of God

The above classes will introduce the content of Canons 204-746. The students will learn about the rights and obligations of the People of God, the rights and obligations of a pastor, the rights and obligations of clerics, incardination/excardination, consecrated life, the structure of the Diocesan Curia, Bishops, College of Cardinals, consultative bodies-Finance Council, Presbyteral Council, College of Consultors, Diocesan Pastoral Council, parishes, deacons, etc.

10/26/2017 Book III Teaching Function

The above class will introduce the content of Canons 747-833. The students will learn about the laws concerning preaching, catechetical instruction, Catholic Education, schools, instruments of social communication, etc.

11/02/2017 Book V Temporal Goods **Papers are due**

The above class will introduce the content of Canons 1254-1310. The students will learn about the laws concerning the administration and use of the temporal goods of the Church.

11/09/2017 Book VI Sanctions

The above class will introduce the content of Canons 1311-1399. The students will be introduced to the penal law of the Church.

11/16/2017 Book VII Processes

11/23/2016 Thanksgiving Break –no class

11/30/2017 Book VII Processes

12/07/2017 Book VII Processes

The above classes will introduce the content of Canons 1400-1752. The students will be introduced to the law concerning trials, administrative recourse, the workings of Tribunals. etc.

12/14/2017 Final Examination

VIII. **Learning methodologies used:**

Lecture
Laboratory
Presentation, student-led instruction

IX. **Grading/evaluation:**

Students will be graded on their participation, preparation as well as the final oral exam.

- 1) All assigned reading 10%
- 2) Class participation 10%
- 3) No more than 2-page paper on a topic designated by the Instructor 20%
- 4) Final oral exam 60%

X. Grading Criteria

Grade Interpretation

Grade	Honor Points	Percent	Interpretation
A	4.0	100-94	Exceptional/Outstanding performance
A-	3.7	93-90	Superior
B+	3.3	89-87	Very Good
B	3.0	86-83	Good/Graduate level performance
B-	2.7	82-80	Average
C+	2.3	79-76	Below Average/Below graduate performance
C	2.0	75-70	Minimum Acceptable
C-	0	69 and below	Fail
F	0		Failing - In Pass/Fail courses no honor points
P	0		Passing - In Pass/Fail courses; no honor points
W	0		Withdrawal - No credit or honor points
I	0		Incomplete - No credit or honor points

Incomplete Grades - An Incomplete, "I," grade is given in exceptional situations to a student whose course work has been satisfactory, but who because of illness or other unforeseen circumstances has been unable to complete all course requirements. The student must request the "I" from the instructor before the final class of the course. *A Petition for an "I" Grade* is filed with the Academic Dean's Office and Registrar's Office. The work is to be completed no later than eight weeks from the end of the term. If an "I" is not removed by the final designated date, it automatically becomes an "F."

Drop/Add Withdrawal - A student may drop, add or withdraw from this course only after having complied with all the procedures outlined in the current Catalog.

General Guidelines *These are taken from the Catalog or the Web site except where indicated*

Guidelines for Academic Study - Students are expected to devote at least 2-3 hours of study per week, per credit. A normal reading load is about 500 pages per credit and research writing of about 5 pages per credit.

Standards for Written Assignments - Class assignments must be submitted electronically and in hard copy, unless otherwise indicated by the instructor, and proofread for proper grammar, spelling, punctuation, and form. In preparing research papers requiring documentation, students are to follow the guidelines in Kate L. Turabian's *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, (latest edition). The manual is available in the Campus Bookstore and Library.

Students are required to reference the *Student Writing Guide* posted on the Seminary Web Site. The Writing Center is available to aid students in preparing written and/or oral assignments.

Disabilities Accommodation – Students enrolled in this course who have documented disabilities should contact the professor at the first class session. Reasonable accommodations will be made to ensure that students with disabilities have access to course materials and interaction in modes in which they can receive them.

Class recording – Prior permission to record class lectures must be obtained. A signed affidavit may be required. Consult the professor before any recording takes place.

Class Attendance – Seminarians are required to be punctual and regularly in attendance at class sessions. Non seminarian students enrolled in online courses may choose, at their discretion, to attend classes in person or online in real time or time shifted. At the opening of a term, instructors will inform students of any specific policies governing attendance. Frequent absences may result in an academic penalty and/or failure in the course. Students should confer with the instructor concerning foreseen absences.

Inclement Weather - Students are expected to exercise good judgment and precaution in determining the safety of travel from their areas. Classes that have resident faculty and students exclusively will meet.

Academic Integrity - Students are expected to maintain personal honesty and professional integrity in examinations, assigned papers, and research projects. Source materials and citations used in the preparation of papers are to be indicated by proper documentation. Copyright laws should be honored when duplicating materials. Plagiarism and cheating are a breach of academic integrity. Plagiarism is defined as: “to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own: use (a created production) without crediting the source: to commit literary theft: present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source” (*Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary 9th ed*, Springfield, MA: Merriam, 1981, p. 870). Violations in this area are considered a serious offense. If a student is suspected of plagiarism, the following procedure is to be followed:

1. When the instructor *suspects* a student has plagiarized an assignment, the instructor may confront the student.
2. If the instructor has *evidence* that a student has plagiarized an assignment, the instructor should confront the student with the evidence. The student has an opportunity to explain what happened.
3. If the instructor is convinced that plagiarism has occurred, the instructor may suggest a course of action: e.g. rewrite the assignment and receive a grade or the student may take a “0” for the assignment and not rewrite the assignment.

4. The Academic Dean should be informed of the outcome of this discussion and a note will be placed in the student's file. The respective formation mentor is informed by the Academic Dean.
5. If there are repeated offenses, the student will fail the course.
6. The student who fails a required course must repeat it.
7. A student who plagiarizes or cheats consistently in the academic program will be dismissed from the program.
8. For dismissal from the academic program, a board consisting of the Rector, Academic Dean, the student's mentor, the faculty member(s) affected by the student's plagiarism and a faculty member of the student's choosing will be convened and a decision rendered. This decision will be communicated to the student by the Rector.

Cheating is defined as “to deprive of something valuable by the use of deceit or fraud; to influence or lead by deceit, trick, or artifice; to elude or thwart by or as if by outwitting <cheat death>*intransitive verb*: to practice fraud or trickery; to violate rules dishonestly <cheat at cards><cheating on a test> (“cheat.” Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary. 2010. Merriam-Webster Online. 5 May2010 <http://www.merriamwebster.com/dictionary/cheat>). In short, “cheating is defined as the intentional act of breaking the rules, or attempting to achieve personal gain through fraud or deceit. With children, cheating usually refers to academic fraud, such as copying answers from another student while taking an exam, or breaking the rules in a game” (Dianne K. Daeg de Mott, Thomson Gale, Detroit, Gale Encyclopedia of Childhood and Adolescence,1998).

Examples of cheating in an academic setting include, but are not limited to:

- a. copying answers for an exam from another student;**
- b. writing out the answers to an exam beforehand and turning them in at the time of the exam;**
- c. obtaining the answers to an exam prior to the exam and using them during the exam in some way;**
- d. having another person take an exam or write a paper for you;**
- e. continuing to write answers to an exam after the time has expired (timed examinations);**
- f. obtaining copies of an exam or answer key to aid in studying for the exam or preparing an assignment;**

g. passing notes to another student during an exam;

h. asking another student for help during the writing of an exam;

i. using another person's paper, presentation, reflection, etc. and handing it in as your own work;

j. using electronic devices such as computers or mobile phones to obtain answers during an exam.

(The term "exam" may be substituted with "quiz," "paper," or "presentation" as the case may be.)

Notice of Change: The information in this syllabus is subject to change. The professor reserves the right to make any necessary changes.