

UNDERGRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTION

Term: **Spring 2010**
Instructor: Fr. Thomas Hughson, SJ
Course #: THEO 2400
Section: 101
Course Title: **Christian Discipleship**

Description:

The English word 'disciple' comes from the Latin word *discere*, [to learn] translated from a frequent New Testament Greek term, *mathetes*, '[learner]'. A 'disciple' in the New Testament is someone who, after conversion to the gospel, learns to live in the Christian way. The Christian way stems from and revolves around Jesus the Messiah, Who represents the Father and acts in the power of the Holy Spirit. Discipleship involves faith, worship, morals, and practice. Theology 2400 brings students from nodding familiarity to deeper understanding of discipleship in today's context.

Part I presents the basic elements of discipleship: 1) biblical meanings of 'disciple' and 'discipleship'; 2) the Trinitarian vocation and mission of every post-biblical believer; 3) the moral content of discipleship. The goal of Part I is for students to acquire articulate comprehension of these elements.

Christians have believed in Christ and borne witness to the gospel in nations and cultures through many centuries. Part II of Theology 2400 takes account of this contextual side of discipleship, with attention to postmodern America. Part II aims at students acquiring articulate comprehension of discipleship lived in contemporary America.

Required texts:

- Michael J. Wilkins, *Following the Master: A Biblical Theology of Discipleship*
- John Paul II, *The Vocation and Mission of the Lay Faithful*
- Timothy O'Connell, *Making Disciples*
- Craig Detweiler & Barry Taylor, *A Matrix of Meanings: Finding God in Pop Culture*
- Kathleen M. Weigert, Alexia Kelly, editors, *Living the Catholic Social Tradition*