UNDERGRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTION

Term: Spring 2012
Instructor: Susan M. Mountin, Ph.D.
Course #: THEO 2400
Sections: 104 and 105
Course Title: Christian Discipleship
Course Sub-Title: Dorothy Day

Description:

These sections are restricted to students who are in the Dorothy Day Social Justice Living Learning Community.

Course overview
What does it mean to be a Christian disciple? What does it mean to follow Christ? Who is (was) Jesus in time and history? How can a contemporary believer follow the life of Jesus? What does it mean to be a Christian disciple in a world of many faiths? How is discipleship connected to a quest for justice?

This course will help students explore these questions in the light of the Gospel and in the lives of key individuals, including Dorothy Day, who have shown courage and deep faith as they took on the mantle of discipleship by addressing social injustice just as Christ did 2000 years ago. Students will also be grounded in Catholic Social Teaching which provides a framework for discipleship today.

Students will be involved in a unique pilot undergraduate community research project (service learning) doing ethnographic research in Milwaukee faith communities. Expect a very active learning environment in which the students will take responsibility for their own learning in a variety of learning modalities.

Learning objectives
At the end of this class students will be able to:

- Analyze stories and parables of Jesus Christ in the Gospels
- Identify the qualities and characteristics of Christian discipleship based on their knowledge of Jesus
- Grasp the important role that Dorothy Day and Peter Maurin had in addressing social justice concerns
- Connect Catholic Social Teaching, the Gospel, and Christian discipleship
- Understand how theological reflection on one’s experience becomes the foundation for choices of discipleship
- Integrate their service experience with the call to discipleship in a multi-faith world
- Analyze the relationship between Christianity and other faith traditions