



## THEOLOGY & ETHICS

Teacher: Mr. David Grunner  
Year Offered: Fall 2014-Spring 2015

### ☞ Course Description

Junior year Theology builds on and develops the doctrine, history, practice, scripture and moral formation begun in freshman and sophomore year. As the course which caps the formal structured Theology curriculum at Regis, it focuses on a systematic presentation of ultimate questions regarding life's meaning(s) with an intensive exposure to the development of moral doctrine, moral decision making and the demands of virtuous living.

### ☞ Course Objectives

By the end of the academic year, students will ideally be able to:

- Express clear and intelligent responses to ultimate questions including the existence and the nature of God, the nature of reality, the nature of the Good and the meaning of life.
- Demonstrate an appreciation of the variety of moral issues and perspectives facing contemporary society.
- Demonstrate moral imagination in his formation of conscience in the Church.
- Develop his ability to analyze and evaluate moral case-scenarios and respond with principled conviction.
- Demonstrate a growing ability and willingness to tolerate and appreciate moral diversity and ambiguity, and to engage in faith-informed civil discourse.
- Demonstrate an enhanced sense of moral obligation and commitment to service and intentionally virtuous living.

### ☞ Course Texts

A variety of selected primary and secondary philosophical and theological texts, Biblical passages and various pieces of contemporary scholarship shall serve as the texts for our course. I will make them all available electronically, either via email or on Moodle, throughout the course of the year.

### ☞ Number of Class Sessions

Our class will meet for 40 minutes, 3 times per cycle.

### ☞ Assessments

Your trimester grades will be calculated according to your performance on the following forms of assessment:

- 2-3 essay exams per trimester (50%)
- 3-4 quizzes per trimester (35%);
- Class participation (15%).

### ☞ Methodology

We are here to have a conversation. So, students are **required** to be completely familiar with the assigned readings and **ACTIVELY** participate in class discussions.

**Good** participation consists not only of the basics: Students should be focused, prepared for class, and bring a positive attitude. Good participation also consists of demonstrating the ability to understand, analyze, and synthesize the material assigned in class.

**Excellent** participation fulfills all of the above, **and also requires** that students demonstrate the willingness to genuinely “wrestle” with the topic and to (actively and positively) engage your classmates in discussion, posing thoughtful questions for further reflection.

**Any and all** points of view are welcome in the classroom. This is critical to learning. Thus, everyone in the class should feel comfortable expressing their own views and engaging the views of others. Each of you must be prepared to listen to each other and allow yourself to be challenged by opinions that you may not agree with. There is no room for disrespect. Knowledge occurs through an open mind!

### ☞ Teacher Availability after School

Thursdays, 3:00-4:00 PM (or by appointment)

### ☞ Teacher Contact Information

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