



**SPRING 2012 COURSE /TRIP
SPONSORED BY THE CENTER FOR CATHOLIC STUDIES**

CAST 3994

THE FOUNDATIONS OF CHRISTIAN CULTURE: ROME

History, Literature and Philosophy – 3 credits

Including Course Trip to Rome: March 8 (Thursday) to 17 (Saturday), 2012

(CAST 3994; CORE 3748 – for those who have taken Core 1 and 2)

Msgr. Richard Liddy

This 3-credit course/trip will study historical, cultural, literary and religious foundations of the Christian Church in Rome. After considering the Christian view of history, this course/trip will study the monuments of ancient Rome (the Roman Forum, the Coliseum and the Pantheon), as well as the early Jewish settlements and the signs and symbols of the first Christians in the city. Our guide in Rome will be Professor Robert White, who has previously guided many groups through the Rome. We will also be accompanied by Professor Melinda Papaccio of the English Department, who will help us with our presentations and our papers. We will visit the catacombs and consider the “scavi” under St. Peter’s, the monuments of Peter and Paul, and the first “house-churches.” We will study the New Testament record on Rome and the earliest Christian literature as well as the persecutions and first Christian martyrs. We will also study the first bishops of Rome and the new situation under Constantine with the basilicas, mosaics and the emergence of Christian architecture in Rome. Other Roman sites will also be visited, including the Basilica of St. Peter’s and the Vatican Museums.

This course/trip may be taken for CAST or CORE 3 credits, for those who have already taken the first two Core Curriculum courses, *“The Journey of Transformation”* and *“Christianity and Culture in Dialogue.”*

Prior to leaving for Rome, the group will meet for three two-hour sessions on the methodology for studying the origins of Christianity in Rome. A common set of readings will be provided. In addition to these general readings, specific articles will be distributed as a background for student “presentations” during the trip – short presentations and/or PowerPoints. Students are required to keep a daily academic journal during the trip and to write a research paper on what they have learned.

SPRING BREAK EXCURSION TO ROME:

Passports, etc.: Each student is responsible for obtaining an up to date passport and any other documents required to travel to Rome.

Code of Conduct: Students are expected to honor the rules of conduct which will be provided prior to the trip. We are part of each other and the success of the course/trip depends on our cooperation with each other – punctuality, participation, etc.

LECTURES PRIOR TO TRIP TO ROME (Location TBA):

- Wednesday, February 8: 6-8 PM, Bringing Questions to Rome
- Wednesday, February 15: 6-8 PM, Critical Thinking and the Experience of Rome
- Wednesday, February 22: 6-8 PM, Final preparations for Rome....

COURSE OBJECTIVES: To familiarize students with --

- Ancient Rome as the context for the emergence of Christianity in the West.
- The iconography and art of the first Christians in Rome.
- The emergence of Christian architecture in Rome.
- The general history of early Christianity in Rome.
- The literature of early Christianity in Rome.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- Joseph Fitzpatrick, “The Structure of Cognition”
- *The Holy Bible*: students will be expected to read *The Acts of the Apostles* and St. Paul’s *Letter to the Romans* prior to the trip
- A source book of readings on Rome and ancient Christianity will be given to students prior to the trip;
- Readings will also be available for student presentations on individual site visits during the trip.

REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Response Papers to Preliminary Individual Lectures on Wed., Feb 8-15-22
2. Student Presentation in Rome:
 - A topic will be chosen by each student at the Feb 8 Meeting and will be the basis for an individual presentation during the trip and will be assigned ahead of time;
 - (10-15 minutes) in the classroom at the Lay Centre in Rome – according to the “Daily Schedule” section of the syllabus
 - Power Point may be used
 - Final Copy Due at Feb 22 Meeting – faculty will then review
3. Academic Journal:
 - to be kept during trip
 - questions will be given before the trip and will concern what you have **experienced** during the trip, what you have **understood** and the **judgments** you have arrived at on the basis of the course/trip. These learnings will be in line with the themes of

- CORE 1, “The Journey of Transformation,” and CORE 2, “Christianity and Culture in Dialogue”

4. 5 Page Term Paper

- On the key understandings and judgments arrived at on the basis of the course/trip - using experiences as well as the sources and lectures from the trip.
- A preliminary draft will be required by April 1;
- Final Copy Due May 1

GRADING:

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Response Papers: | 20% |
| 5 Page Paper: | 30% |
| Student Presentation: | 20% |
| Participation: | 15% |
| Academic Journal: | 15% |

COURSE POLICIES:

1. Someone once said, “Ninety percent of life is showing up.” Students are expected to show up punctually for the pre-trip lectures and the specific guided tours and group meetings during the trip.
2. Learning is a dynamic activity. We learn not only from teachers but from one another. Interaction, questioning, sharing in discussion sessions are important and will contribute to 15 % of the final grade.
3. Papers must be submitted in Times New Roman 12 pt font, double spaced, using MLA style for formatting and documentation.
4. Academic Integrity is expected. You are responsible for reading and understanding the university plagiarism policy and for submitting all papers on or before the due date.
5. During the trip there will be an ecumenical Night Prayer at 10 pm (except for our first day when it will be at 9 pm) which will also be an opportunity to review the day and plan for the following day.
6. The Catholic Mass will be available during the trip.

A Note for Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability, or think you might have one, you may be eligible for accommodations in academic classes, the residence halls, food service areas, etc., under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Disabilities may include those that are permanent or temporary and include, but are not limited to: learning disabilities, ADHD, medical issues, psychological or psychiatric problems, limited mobility, low vision or blindness, and hearing impairments. Students are not permitted to negotiate accommodations directly with professors. To receive special accommodations or assistance, please self-identify at the Office for Disability Support Services (DSS), Duffy Hall, Room 67 at the beginning of the semester. For more information or to register for services call (973) 313-6003.

DAILY SCHEDULE March 8 – 17, 2012

Travel information:

DEPARTURE: March 8, Thursday, meet at Seton Hall app. 1 pm, bus transfer to JFK airport for flight at 5:35 pm, Alitalia 609.

ARRIVAL: March 9, Friday, 8:10 am, Rome - Fiumicino Airport

TRANSFER to hotel: Villa Irlanda, Via di Santi Quattro, 7 (www.villairlandaroma.com)

Tel: (+39)06 77263 501; Fax: (+39)06 77263 520

RETURN: March 17, Saturday, Alitalia 642 – Depart Rome 10:10 am; arrive Newark 3:15 pm

Course/Trip begins:

DAY ONE: (Friday 3/9) Pre-Christian Rome

12 N – Lunch at Lay Centre at Foyer Unitas, followed by:

Lecture on Pagan Religion, Culture and Politics

Required Reading: “The Eagle and the Cross” in Novak, *Christianity and the Roman Empire*, pp 10-42

Presentation 1: "Political History" in Ferguson, *Backgrounds of Early Christianity*, pp 5-48

Presentation 2: "Society and Culture" in Ferguson, *Backgrounds of Early Christianity*, pp 55-113

Presentation 3: “Hellenistic-Roman Religion” in Ferguson, *Backgrounds of Early Christianity*, pp 148-213

Guided Visit to the Roman Forum, Palatine and Coliseum

Evening free; dinner on your own

9 pm Night Prayer at Villa Irlanda

DAY TWO: (Saturday 3/10) An Apostolic Church

Morning free; lunch on your own

Afternoon: Guided Visit to the Basilica of San Pietro, Vatican City

Return to Lay Centre: Lecture on the Apostolic Foundations of the Church in Rome

Required Reading: “Christian Organization” in Grant, *Augustus to Constantine*, pp 145-162

Presentation 4: “Founded on the Cross of Christ” in Wilken, *The Spirit of Early Christian Thought*, pp 1-24

Presentation 5: "Paul and the First Expansion" in Frend, *The Rise of Christianity*, pp 85-117

Presentation 6: "The Christian Synagogue" in Frend, *The Rise of Christianity*, pp 119-160

8 pm Dinner at Lay Centre

10 pm Night Prayer

DAY THREE (Sunday 3/11) A Domestic Church

Morning Free; lunch on your own

12:30pm Mass at the Pontifical Irish College

2 – 4 pm Guided Visit to the Basilica of San Clemente

Return to Lay Centre for Lecture and Presentations

Lecture on the Early Shapes of Christian Worship

Required Reading: “The Problem of Growth” and “Christian Worship” in Grant, *Augustus to Constantine*, pp 173-178, 284-312

Presentation 7: “An Awesome and Unbloody Sacrifice” in Wilken, *The Spirit of Early Christian Thought*, pp 25-49

Presentation 8: “Church and People in the Third Century” in Frend, *The Rise of Christianity*, pp 397-437

Dinner at Lay Centre

10 pm Night Prayer

DAY FOUR: (Monday 3/12) A Persecuted Church

9 - 11 am - Guided Visit to the Catacombs of San Sebastiano

Return to Lay Centre

Lecture on Martyrdom in the First Three Centuries

Required Reading: “Rome and the Christians” in Grant, *Augustus to Constantine*, pp 77-100, 165-172, 225-234

Presentation 9: “Martyrdom and Virginity” in Ramsey, *Beginning to Read the Fathers*, pp 122-135

Presentation 10: “The Age of Diocletian” in Frend, *The Rise of Christianity*, pp 439-472

Presentation 11: “Christianity in the Ancient World” in Frend, *The Rise of Christianity*, pp 464-497

Lunch at Lay Centre

Afternoon Free; dinner on your own

10 pm Night Prayer

DAY FIVE: (Tuesday 3/13) An Emancipated Church

9 - 11 am - Guided Visit to the Basilica and Battistero of San Giovanni in Laterano

Return to Lay Centre

Lecture on the Gift of Constantine and Public Profession of Faith

Required Reading: “The Constantinian Revolution” in Frend, *The Rise of Christianity*, pp 473-517

Presentation 12: “Constantine and the Church” in Grant, *Augustus to Constantine*, pp 235-249

Presentation 13: "The Christian in the World" in Ramsey, *Beginning to Read the Fathers*, pp 197-212

Presentation 14: "Toward Byzantium" in Frend, *The Rise of Christianity*, pp 522-557.

Lunch at Lay Centre

Afternoon free; dinner on your own

10 pm Night Prayer

DAY SIX: (Wednesday 3/14) An Imperial Church

9 - 11 am - Guided Visit to the Basilica of San Paolo fuori le mura

Return to Lay Centre

Lecture on the Proclamation of Christianity as the Religion of the Empire

Required Reading: "The Cross Triumphant" in Novak, *Christianity and the Roman Empire*, pp 180-227

Presentation 15: "From Pagan to Christian Society" in Frend, *The Rise of Christianity*, pp 553-591

Presentation 16: "New Perspectives in West and East" in Frend, *The Rise of Christianity*, pp 615-650

Presentation 17: "Happy the People Whose God Is the Lord" in Wilken, *The Spirit of Early Christian Thought*, pp 186-211

Lunch at Lay Centre

Afternoon free; dinner on your own

10 pm Night Prayer

DAY SEVEN (Thursday, 3/15): The Emerging Papacy

9 - 11 am - Guided Visit to the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore

Return to Lay Centre

Lecture on the Developing Role of the Church of Rome in Christianity

Required Reading: "Christianity and Barbarism" in Frend, *The Rise of Christianity*, pp 699-729

Presentation 18: "Not My Will but Thine" in Wilken, *The Spirit of Early Christian Thought*, pp 110-135

Presentation 19: "The Road to Chalcedon" in Frend, *The Rise of Christianity*, pp 741-785

Lunch at Lay Centre

Afternoon free; dinner on your own

10 pm Night Prayer

DAY EIGHT (Friday, 3/16) : Christian Rome

9 - 11am - Guided Visit to the Basilica of Ss Cosma e Damiano

Return to Lay Centre

Lecture on the Merging of Identity: Roman and Christian

Required Reading: "The Catholic Recovery in the West" in Frend, *The Rise of Christianity*, pp 870-892

Presentation 20: "The Glorious Deeds of Christ" in Wilken, *The Spirit of Early Christian Thought*, pp 212-236

Presentation 21: "Making this Thing Other" in Wilken, *The Spirit of Early Christian Thought*, pp 237-261

Presentation 22: "And East is East" in Frend, *The Rise of Christianity*, pp 870-892

Lunch at Lay Centre

Afternoon free; dinner on your own

10 pm Night Prayer

RETURN: Saturday, March 17

Depart hotel 7 am

10:10 am - flight from Rome Fiumicino airport, Alitalia 642

3:15 pm - arrive Newark airport; bus transport to Seton Hall University

5:00 pm app. - Arrive Seton Hall

Notes:

1. Breakfast provided daily at hotel, Villa Irlanda. One meal a day, lunch or dinner, is on your own.
2. Be sure you have a current US passport.
3. Weather is likely to be mild, but bring a coat and/or raincoat. Pack light, with comfortable shoes for walking, and one or two outfits dressier than jeans. No shorts, bare shoulders, excessive exposure allowed in most religious sites.
4. You may obtain euros ahead of time from your bank or use your ATM debit cards (for cash) and credit cards in Rome. You should call your bank ahead of time to let them know you are travelling to Rome.