

**THE CATHOLIC WORLDVIEW**  
**Culture Change and Catholic Leadership from the Standpoint of Faith**  
*Syllabus 2018*

**General Description**

The course is embedded within the Catholic Worldview Fellowship, which seeks to form, network and empower talented students to evangelize culture. It elaborates and transmits the Catholic Worldview through an interdisciplinary study of culture change throughout history and today. Concretely, it consolidates this Catholic *Weltanschauung* in the students by looking on culture changes in history from the perspective of faith. Through this, they acquire a comprehensive orientation to interpret cultural change and even *Kulturkampf* as a theme of Western culture.

The students learn to appreciate the roots of Western culture; by analyzing the current situation of our society they learn to understand the religious, ethical and philosophical context of culture; and by projecting the responses to future challenges they apply that knowledge to the reality of their own life.

Classes by different experts take historical, religious, philosophical and ethical perspectives to focus on the role of leaders in the constantly evolving culture. Through numerous occasions for field-study and cultural outings, those figures are not only studied from a theoretical perspective but experienced on the very historical sites where they lived and acted (Rome, Aachen, Cologne, Düsseldorf, Trier, Xanten, Kevelaer, etc.). In order to acquire a unifying comprehension, a series of eleven conferences entwined into the program seek to interpret the multifaceted insights from the standpoint of the Catholic Worldview (henceforth abbreviated “CW”).

**Teachers**

John Bartunek, L.C. (S.Th.D), Gabriel von Wendt, L.C. (Ph.D. cand.), Michael Baggot, L.C. (Ph.D. cand.), guest speakers.

**Requirements**

Qualify for the application and participate in the *Catholic Worldview Fellowship* ([www.catholicworldview.com/application](http://www.catholicworldview.com/application)).

**Language**

English

**Learning Outcomes**

1. Acquire a general understanding of major developments in European History, focusing on the relationship of religion and culture (*content*).
2. To identify and describe forces and patterns that drive culture change (*context*).
3. To interpret reality of society through Catholic *Weltanschauung* and to respond to cultural challenges according to it (*application*).

## Methodology

The didactical concept of the course provides an interactive methodology, combining lectures, workshops and outings. This enables students to be the protagonists of their own formation. In order to make this possible, mandatory readings are assigned in preparation for the course. Since the course is part of a broader program, its components are complemented by additional formation modules such as mentoring and coaching sessions, fieldwork, community building, social outreach and spiritual experiences.

The learning experience of the course culminates in creative responses to a catalogue of questions about actual cultural challenges that the students have to deliver in form of group projects (such as essays, audio-visual presentations, cultural startup initiatives, etc.).

## Examination

- Class Participation (25%)
- Group Project (25%)
- Oral exam (50%)

## Credit Distribution

6 ECTS (*European Credit Transfer System*) = 150 hours

- 80 hours: classroom activities (classes, conferences, workshops, seminars)
- 25 hours: field work (cultural visits [archeological and historic sites] and analysis)
- 20 hours: group work (discussions, social work [local events, charity, outreach])
- 5 hours: final presentation (preparation and exposition)
- 20 hours: personal study (preparatory readings)

## Program / Interdisciplinary Modules

DATE	ACTIVITY	MODULE	PROGRAM
July 6 <sup>th</sup>	Arrival		
July 7 <sup>th</sup>	Conference	Introduction	Presentation of Course and Coaching
July 8 <sup>th</sup>	Workshop	Introduction	Cultural experience "Parkfest" Workshop on Expectations
July 9 <sup>th</sup>	Workshop Conference	[History 1]	Foundations of Western Culture
		[CW1]	<i>Historic Role Models of Catholic Leaders</i>
July 10 <sup>th</sup>	Field work* Conference	[History 2]	Xanten: Historical development of Western Culture
		[CW2]	<i>The Impact of Worldviews in Culture</i>
July 11 <sup>th</sup>	Seminar Conference	[Philosophy 1]	What is Culture? (C. Dawson)
		[Theology 1]	Evangelization of Culture
		[CW3]	<i>Universality of CW</i>
July 12 <sup>th</sup>	Conferences and Discussions	[Theology 2]	Introduction to Social Teaching
		[Spirituality 1]	View the world through prayer (1)
		[CW4]	<i>Kingdom of God – Kingdom of Man</i>
July 13 <sup>th</sup>	Conferences and	[Leadership 1]	Leadership Challenge: Patterns in history and today

	Discussions	[CW5]	<i>Active and Reactive Cultural Leadership</i>
July 14 <sup>th</sup>	Field work Conference	[History 3]	Aachen, Cologne: Change and Continuity
		[CW6]	<i>Attitudes towards Cultural Change</i>
July 15 <sup>th</sup>	Free time		
July 16 <sup>th</sup>	Conferences and Discussions	[History 4]	Shifts of Reformation and Revolution
		[Philosophy 2]	Truth and Relativism
		[CW7]	<i>Polar Shifts in History</i>
July 17 <sup>th</sup>	Seminar Conference	[Leadership 2]	Myers Briggs
		[CW8]	<i>CW as Union of Contrasts</i>
July 18 <sup>th</sup>	Conferences and Discussions	[Theology 3]	Seven theological aspects of a CW
		[Spirituality 2]	View the world through prayer (2)
		[CW9]	<i>The Truth about Man</i>
July 19 <sup>th</sup>	Free time (and social project)	[Ethics 1]	Today's challenges: Bioethics
July 20 <sup>th</sup>	Conferences and Discussions	[Ethics 2]	Today's challenges: Sexual Revolution, Marriage, etc.
		[CW10]	<i>Living Action</i>
July 21 <sup>th</sup>	Conferences and Discussions	[Ethics 3]	Transhumanism, Digitalization?
		[CW11]	<i>CW today</i>
	Field work	[Outreach]	Cologne: Evangelization project
July 22 <sup>th</sup>	Testimonies	[Ethics 4]	Testimonies: Family and Discipleship
	Free time		
July 23 <sup>th</sup>	[Interdisciplinary]		<i>Leadership and Catholic Worldview</i>
July 24 <sup>th</sup>			
July 25 <sup>th</sup>	Pilgrimage		
July 26 <sup>th</sup>	Departure to Rome	[Rome 1]	Vatican Museums
July 27 <sup>th</sup>	Field work*	[Rome 2]	Ancient Rome (Colosseum and Forums)
July 28 <sup>th</sup>	Field work	[Rome 3]	Roman Basilicas
July 29 <sup>th</sup>	Field work	[Rome 4]	Archeological sites
July 30 <sup>th</sup>	Field work	[Rome 5]	Renaissance and historic Center
July 31 <sup>st</sup>	Conference Certification	[Rome 6]	Conclusive encounter At <i>Regina Apostolorum Campus</i>
Aug 1 <sup>st</sup>	Free time	[Rome 7]	Papal Audience
Aug 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Departure		
* Days of field work will usually commence with a classroom introduction and conclude with a group analysis about the visited sites in the light of the curriculum's topics.			

### **Bibliography:**

Students will receive a COURSE READER with selected readings (175 pages). The arguments of the course will explicitly touch upon some of the following literature which, due to their pertinence, can all serve either for preparatory consultation or ulterior study:

- ANDERSON, R., *Truth Overruled. The Future of Marriage and Religious Freedom*, 2015.
- AUGUSTINE, *The City of God*, XIX.

- BENEDICT XVI, *Caritas in Veritate*, 2009.
- *Spe Salvi*, 2007.
- BORGHESI, M., *Jorge Mario Bergoglio. Una biografia intellettuale*, 2017.
- DE BOTTON, A., *Religion for Atheists*, 2012.
- DANIELOU, J., *The Lord of History. Reflections on the Inner Meaning of History*, 1958.
- DAWSON, C., *The Judgement of the Nations*, 1942.
- *The Making of Europe*, 1932.
- *Understanding Europe*, 1960.
- *Progress and Religion*, 1931.
- *Dynamics of World History*, 1978.
- DREHER, R., *The Benedict Option. A Strategy for Christians in a Post-Christian Nation*, 2017.
- DUFFY, E., *Faith of Our Fathers: Reflections on Catholic Tradition*, 2004.
- *Ten Popes Who Shook the World*, 2011.
- ELIOT, T.S., *Notes towards the Definition of Culture*, 1949.
- FOOTE, D., *Romano Guardini: The Essence of a Catholic Worldview*, 2013.
- FRANCIS, *Evangelii Gaudium*, 2013.
- *Laudato Si*, 2015
- V. GALEN, C.A. CARD., *Sermon 3 August 1941, in St. Lambert's Church, Münster*.
- GREEN, S., *The European Identity*, 2016.
- GRIFFIN, A., *How I Stayed Catholic at Harvard*, 2016.
- GROSSBÖLTING, T., *Der verlorene Himmel: Glaube in Deutschland seit 1945*, 2013.
- GUARDINI, R., *Letters from Lake Como*, 1927.
- *The End of the Modern World*, 1950
- HOLMES, G., *The Oxford History of Medieval Europe*, 2002.
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- KANT, I., *What is Enlightenment?*, 1784.
- KREEFT, P., *How to win the Culture War*, 2002.
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- MORRIS, I., *Why the West Rules - For Now: The Patterns of History, and What They Reveal About the Future*, 2010.
- MURA, G., *Fede, Culture e non Credenza*, 2004.
- NIEBUHR, H.R., *Christ and Culture*, 1956.
- NIETZSCHE, F., *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*, 1883.
- ORTON, W.A., *America in Search of Culture*, 1933.
- PIEPER, J., *Leisure: The Basis of Culture*, 1948.
- RATZINGER, J. CARD., *Christianity and the Crisis of Cultures*, 2005.
- *Introduction to Christianity*, 1968.
- RENO, R.R., *Resurrection the Idea of a Christian Society*, 2016.
- ROYAL, R., *A Deeper Vision. The Catholic Intellectual Tradition in the Twentieth Century*, 2015.
- SCHALL, J.V., *The Modern Age*, 2011.
- SIRICO, R., *A Moral Basis for Liberty*, 2012
- SPENGLER, O., *The Decline of the West*, 1918.



- STEIN, E., *Letter to Pope Pius VI*, 1933.
- ZWEIG, S., *Decisive Moments in History*, 1927.