

The History of the Church, Form III

Course Description

This course covers the history of the Catholic Church, beginning with its founding by Jesus Christ and the earliest days of the Apostolic Church to present day. The history of the Church will be viewed in the context of the social, political, theological and spiritual influences and developments of each major period in history.

Course Goals

- To help the student gain an in-depth understanding of the history of the Catholic Church
- To help the student understand Church History as an extension of Jesus' ministry and the way in which God's revelation is presented to the world
- To enable the student to reflect on the history of the Church in order to shed light on contemporary Church structure and doctrine
- To enable the student to reflect on the Church's development in order to gain a better understanding of themselves and what it means to be Catholic

Course Objectives

- Trace the Church's history from the time of Jesus to the present, with the important ideas and events presented in a logical sequence
- Show how the social and political history has affected the development of the Church
- Recognize some of the great people who have played a part in the Church's development
- Explain the causes of the various heresies and the resolutions of the council
- Recognize the Church's call to community in the early history as well as today
- Understand the need for and the structure of the hierarchy of the Church
- Recognize the religious and political issues presented by the reformation