



SYLLABUS

TITLE: Community, Solidarity, Justice, and Peace
CODE: TEO 411
PREREQUISITE: GSE 302
CREDITS: 3 credits | 45 contact hours | 1 term

DESCRIPTION

In this course, students will critically reflect, in the light of Christian values, on the major ethical issues discussed in the GSE 301 and GSE 302 courses, namely, the ethical-social experience in general, as well as political, economic, ecological, and cultural ethics. Analyzing the knowledge acquired on the foundation and practices of social ethics is carried out from the Social Doctrine of the Catholic Church. Students are encouraged to value and project a personal and professional commitment to justice and peace. Participation in co-curricular service activities is a requirement of the course.

JUSTIFICATION

According to the *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*, there is a Christian demand to “proclaim the Gospel in the context of society, to make the liberating word of the Gospel resound in the complex worlds of production, labour, business, finance, trade, politics, law, culture, social communications, where men and women live” (No. 70.) As a Catholic university, Sagrado must “assure in an institutional manner a Christian presence in the university world confronting the great problems of society and culture” (*Ex corde ecclesiae* 13.) The academic exploration of the Social Doctrine of the Catholic Church and its practice are necessary for students to collaborate in the creation of a more authentically Christian Puerto Rican society based on truth, freedom, justice, and peace, from the path of charity and solidarity.

COMPETENCIES

The course develops the following competencies in students:

- **Ethical sense and social justice**
- **Communication**

OBJECTIVES

After completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Analyze the Puerto Rican problem in its various aspects (ecological, economic, political, cultural, religious-pastoral) to judge from the basis of Christian faith the current challenges to this society.
2. Define the nature, theological and historical foundations, as well as the principles and values of the Social Doctrine of the Church.
3. value the reality and cultivation of a spirituality of charity as the foundation of a Christian social enterprise.
4. Integrate into their life project, from intellectual freedom and moral conscience, concrete projects for the construction of a more authentically Christian Puerto Rican society, a community of solidarity in justice and peace.
5. Formulate fundamental choices of Christian-inspired ethical-social commitment to economics, politics, culture, and ecology.

CONTENTS

- I. Current challenges
 - A. Social problems of Puerto Rico today and their possible roots
 - B. Christians in the face of this social reality
 1. What are the core challenges from the faith base?
 2. The Puerto Rican Church and social conscience
- II. Nature and Foundations of the Social Doctrine of the Church (SDC)
 - A. Jesus Christ, source and foundation of SDC
 - B. Principles and values of SDC
 1. The divine dignity of the human person
 2. Human and peoples' rights
 3. The common good and the option for the poor
 4. Subsidiarity, participation, and solidarity
 5. SDC Values: truth, freedom, justice
- III. Spirituality and the path of charity
 - A. Towards a Christian social enterprise
 1. Social pastoral and social action (planning and action)
 2. Elements of a human promotion
 3. The personal project: How, from my reality of life or profession, do I live the universal values of the dignity of the person?
- IV. The great areas of the Social Doctrine of the Church

- A. Solidarity economy according to evangelical values
 1. Christian Ethics in Economics and Development
 2. Sustainable development
 3. Business and the solidarity economy
 4. Human labour and workers' rights
- B. Politics and the participation of the layperson as the responsibility of the faith
 1. Political organization in society
 2. SDC in the face of ideologies, parties, and political systems
 3. The participation of Christians in politics
- C. Culture, communications, and Gospel values
 1. Christianity and cultural systems/models
 2. Christianity and the current media culture
 3. Christian spirituality and ethics in communications
- D. Ecological spirituality and the care of Creation
 1. The environmental question and natural resources as an experience of faith
 2. The ecological magisterium: Encyclical letter *Laudato Si*

METHODOLOGY

The following strategies from the active learning methodology are recommended:

- Flipped classroom: critical analysis of readings
- Exercises with technological integration
- Collaborative learning
- Experiential experience (immersion)

EVALUATION

Partial assignments	20%
Final project or exam	25%
Oral presentations	25%
Compositions	20%
Participation	<u>10%</u>
TOTAL	100%

LEARNING ASSESSMENT

The institutional assessment rubric is applied to the course's core activity.

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For more information resources related to the course's topics, access the library's webpage <http://biblioteca.sagrado.edu/>

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION

For detailed information on the process and required documentation you should visit the corresponding office. To ensure equal conditions, in compliance with the ADA Act (1990) and the Rehabilitation Act (1973), as amended, any student in need of reasonable accommodation or special assistance must complete the process established by the Vice Presidency for Academic Affairs.

ACADEMIC HONESTY, FRAUD, AND PLAIGARISM

Any student who fails to comply with the Honesty, Fraud, and Plagiarism Policy is exposed to the following sanctions: receive a zero in the evaluation and/or repetition of the assignment, an F(*) in the course, suspension or expulsion as established in the document *Política de Honestidad Académica* (DAEE 205-001) effective in August 2005.

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