

# PFIC COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## SUMMER 2011

### **PHILOSOPHY AND HUMANITIES**

#### **LT 503A - Intensive Latin I & II (6)**

This course focuses on mastery of the morphology and syntax of classical Latin in order to provide students with a solid basis to read classical, patristic, medieval, and Renaissance Latin literature of all genres.

Students advance to the more complex syntax and irregular morphology of classical Latin as well as to the rudiments of rhetorical stylistics. Tools of historical linguistics are introduced so that students can master the changes in orthography that occur to the language between the classical and medieval period.

#### **PH 521A – Logic/Epistemology (2-3)**

This course presents the major points of Aristotle's logic and dialectic. Topics in logic include: predicables, categories, propositions, and syllogisms. These topics will be studied in light of the nature of cognition and the various acts of the intellect. The course will also present the basics of Aristotelian dialectic and contrast the dialectical approach to knowledge with the critical approach found in modern philosophy.

#### **PH 526A - Philosophical Anthropology (2-3)**

This course will investigate the nature of the human person from an Aristotelian-Thomistic philosophical perspective. Topics will include: body/soul distinction and union, the Aristotelian conception of the degrees of life, the sensitive powers of the soul in distinction from spiritual powers, and the nature of intellect and will. The course will underscore particular topics in Thomistic anthropology that are of perennial importance: hylomorphic realism and the beginning of human life, the immateriality of the human soul, Aristotelian approaches to the problem of mind/brain dualism, and the character of human freedom. Readings from Aquinas will be of central importance, complemented by readings from a variety of contemporary Thomistic thinkers.

#### **PH 551A - Philosophy of Being (Metaphysics) (2-3)**

Metaphysics is the philosophical science that studies being as being (as opposed to the study of some particular kind of being). The course begins with a brief overview of basic terminology and notions in Thomistic philosophy necessary for understanding the project of metaphysics. The course then proceeds to consider the following topics: (1) the Thomistic understanding of analogy with regard to being, (2) the composite structure of finite, created being, (3) philosophical argumentation for the existence and attributes of God, the simple and uncreated cause of finite being. As an intensive survey, the course aims to familiarize the student with the general contours of Thomistic metaphysics while serving as preparation for further study.

## **PHILOSOPHY AND HUMANITIES (CONT'D)**

### **PH 554A - Philosophical Ethics (2-3)**

This course studies the *Nicomachean Ethics* of Aristotle in light of the philosophical wisdom of St. Thomas Aquinas. Emphasis will be placed on how the teleological-virtue account of the good for man is accessible to natural reason, illuminating for faith, and distinct from modern philosophical ethics.

## **SACRED SCRIPTURE**

### **SS 583A - Intensive Greek I & II (6)**

First course in a two-semester sequence giving intensive grounding in the forms, vocabulary, and syntax of Attic and New Testament Greek; frequent exercises in reading and writing Greek.

Second course in a two-semester sequence: frequent exercises in reading and writing Greek. Reading of selected portions of the Greek New Testament and Attic prose.

3/15/11