



# **Summer/Fall Semester – 2024**

## ***Academic Bulletin***

### **MA (Theology) and Continuing Education Students**



### **Saint Mary Seminary**

and Graduate School of Theology

28700 Euclid Avenue

Wickliffe, OH 44092

[www.stmarysem.edu](http://www.stmarysem.edu)

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# Summer/Fall 2024 Academic Bulletin

## REGISTRATION - FALL 2024

Welcome to the Fall 2024 semester! The pages that follow include the courses that are open to the Master of Arts (Theology) and Continuing Education students. Please note: There are several **MA Core courses** being offered both during the day and in the evening. Courses have been scheduled based on the availability of faculty and responses to the earlier surveys sent to current students. Please be strategic in your selection of courses, especially if you plan to graduate in 2025, and make every effort to further your degree requirements. Also, please pay attention to the **pre-requisite courses** and be sure you have these first. If you have any questions about your academic program, please contact Sister Brendon. Online registration for current students is available on the "Current Students" page on the seminary website: [www.stmarysem.edu](http://www.stmarysem.edu).

Further information regarding the Fall semester will be sent to students via your Populi student account throughout the summer.

Regarding Summer 2024, there will be two MA core courses taught as intensives as well as the LEM Canon Law course. See page 3 of this bulletin for details. Please register for this summer course on the Summer 2024 online registration link on the "Current Student" page of the Saint Mary Seminary website.

**PLEASE NOTE: NEW TUITION COSTS:**  
**TUITION: \$375 per credit,**  
**DISCOUNTED RATE \$325 per credit discounted rate**  
**for students in ministry positions and formation programs.**  
**AUDIT FEE \$265 per course**

We welcome *four new faculty members* to our academic community. They are introduced on page 8. For questions or assistance regarding registration or the progress of your MA degree, please contact Sister Brendon. Thank you for choosing to study at Saint Mary Seminary and Graduate School of Theology!

## FALL 2024 CALENDAR

*(Dates are tentative and subject to change.)*

August 1	Last Day to register without \$25 late fee.
<b>August 16</b>	<b>Classes begin.</b>
September 2	Labor Day – NO CLASSES
October 3	Mid-term break begins after last class (classes resume Wednesday October 9)
November 28	Thanksgiving recess begins after last class. (classes resume December 2)
December 8	Patronal Feast
December 9	Last day of classes
December 10	Study Day
December 11-13	Exams
December 13	Christmas recess begins.
December 27	Grades Due
<b>January 13</b>	<b>Spring 2025 semester begins.</b>
<b>Mar 3-7</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>
<b>Mar 10</b>	<b>Classes resume</b>
<b>Apr 15</b>	<b>Easter Break after last class</b>
<b>Apr 22</b>	<b>Classes resume</b>
<b>May 5</b>	<b>Last class day of Spring semester</b>
<b>May 6/7-8</b>	<b>Reading Day/Exams</b>
<b>May 8</b>	<b>Commencement</b>

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## SUMMER, 2024

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Please register for this summer course on the Summer 2024 [online registration link](https://forms.gle/x6oCrJrZmvnhMYcn8) on the "Current Student" page of the Saint Mary Seminary website or click here:  
<https://forms.gle/x6oCrJrZmvnhMYcn8>

**\* = Required MA Core Course**

**E = Elective option for MA degree (4 electives of student's choice required)**

**\*SC 514 SYNOPTIC GOSPELS AND ACTS**

**3 credits**

**Sr. Lisa Marie Belz, OSU, PhD**

**Tuesdays/Thursdays May 21 – June 27**

**First class: May 21 at 6:30 p.m. Remaining class meeting times to be determined with class.**

This course serves as a special introduction to the Gospels of Mark, Luke, and Matthew. An exploration of the synoptic problem, redaction, and form criticism provides tools for understanding the historical background and literary elements required for interpretation in the light of the Church's tradition and faith. The Apostolic Church and the Kerygma in the Acts of the Apostles will serve as a landscape for the course. Students will use selected passages of special doctrinal and liturgical import for exegesis.

**\*TH 545 GOD: ONE AND THREE**

**2 credits**

**Sr. Mary McCormick, OSU, PhD**

**Mondays /Wednesdays: May 20- June 26**

**First class: May 20 at 6:30 p.m. Remaining class meeting times to be determined with class.**

This systematic study of the doctrine of the Trinity will explore the biblical, historical, and magisterial foundations of the nature of God as it was defined amid the early Christological controversies and councils. Current developments in Trinitarian theology will be handled in light of modern understandings of language, methodology, symbols and faith experience.

**E PAS 562 CANON LAW FOR PASTORAL MINISTERS**

**2 credits**

**Lynette Tait, JCL**

**Information Session April 12, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.**

**Class dates to be determined.**

Canon law is a useful source of information and guidance for people engaged in ministry in the Catholic Church. The course will focus upon the development, interpretation, and application of canon law. The nature and structure of the local and universal Church will be studied. Special emphasis will be given to topics that pertain to parish ministry and structures, including the sacraments. (Class times to be determined at the Information Session.)

## FALL, 2024

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### BIBLICAL STUDIES

**\*SC 510 BIBLICAL HERMENEUTICS**

**2 credits**

**Rev. Mark Ott, SSL**

**Tuesday, 6:45 – 8:35 p.m.**

This course introduces the history, methods, and philosophical groundings of scriptural interpretation. The course will attempt to make conscious and explicit a sampling of the available avenues of interpretation by which understanding a scriptural text is possible. Both historical and post-critical methodologies will be explored. A survey of the attempt to understand the historical Jesus will be included. **(Note: This course serves as a prerequisite for all Scripture courses.)**

**\*SC 511 PENTATEUCH AND HISTORICAL BOOKS**

**3 credits**

**Sr. Lisa Marie Belz, OSU, PhD**

**Thursday, 1:30 – 4:20 p.m.**

The course introduces students to both the Pentateuch (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy) and the two Old Testament "histories," the so-called Deuteronomistic History (Joshua, Judges, 1-2 Samuel, and 1-2 Kings), and Chronicler's History (1-2 Chronicles, Ezra, and Nehemiah). These books will be treated with attention to their historical and cultural backgrounds as well as to their literary, theological, canonical, and contemporary dimensions. **(Pre-requisite: SC 510 Biblical Hermeneutics;)**

**E SC 513 PSALMS AND WISDOM**

**2 credits**

**Sister Lisa Marie Belz, OSU, PhD**

**Monday 9:40 - 11:30 a.m.**

This course will first examine the formation, use, and significance of the book of Psalms. A number of individual psalms will then be studied, with special attention not only to their literary genre but also to their poetic design, location within the Psalter, theological value, and reinterpretation in Israel and in the Christian Church. Attention will next turn to the Wisdom literature (Proverbs, Job, Qoheleth, Sirach, Wisdom, and the Song of Songs) for a consideration of their origin, literary structure, and theological significance. **(Pre-requisite: SC 510 Biblical Hermeneutics;)**

**E SC 516 JOHANNINE LITERATURE**

**2 credits**

**Rev. George Smiga, STD**

**Monday, 1:30 -3:20 p.m.**

The course offers an introduction to the letters of John and a discussion of their location within developing Johannine Christianity. Attention is given to the distinctiveness of Johannine Literature among the Gospels, to its literary and theological structure, and to selected texts. The course concludes with a study of the book of Revelation, especially its literary genre, its interpretation and enduring value, and a few chosen texts.

**(Pre-requisite: SC 510 Biblical Hermeneutics;)**

## PASTORAL THEOLOGY

**E PAS 552 PASTORAL COUNSELING**

**3 credits**

**Luke Brown, LPC**

**Wednesday, 6:45 – 9:35 p.m.**

his course will employ presentations, discussions, case studies, and role-playing to assist the students to integrate counseling theory and techniques. Topics of boundary issues, grief counseling, addiction and family counseling will be considered. This agenda provides exposure to the various pastoral issues, allows for limited exploration of how to initially handle conversation, analyze the issue, and make referral.

**E PAS 556 EVANGELIZATION AND CATECHESIS**

**2 credits**

**Sr. M. Brendon Zajac, SND, DMin / Rev. Michael Stalla, DMin**

**Thursday, 9:40 – 11:30 a.m.**

This course surveys the principles of Evangelization and Catechesis in light of the Church's missionary mandate, the new evangelization, and the pedagogy of God. An ecclesial approach to catechetical methodology will be rooted in Sacred Scripture and in the Catechism of the Catholic Church and take into account selected aspects of educational theory. A special segment of the course will focus on the unique mission of the Catholic School. The course prepares the seminarian for the field education practicum in the Catholic School. Parish catechetical leaders will enhance their ability to train catechists for effective teaching.

**E PAS 560 CANON LAW I****3 credits****Rev. John Chrysostom Kozlowski, O.P., JCD****Thursday 1:30 p.m. – 4:20 p.m.**

A general introduction to Church law, its relationship to theology, and its role in the Church is offered in this course, including principles of interpretation as well as basic canonical concepts of Book I. Topics from Book II include rights and responsibilities of laity, religious, and clergy, ecclesial structures of collegiality and shared responsibility at the parish, diocesan, supra-diocesan, and universal levels, with special focus on the local Church. A brief introduction is given to the power of governance, the Church's teaching office, and the sacraments of initiation.

## LITURGICAL & SACRAMENTAL THEOLOGY

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**E LIT 583 MARRIAGE: LITURGY AND SACRAMENT****1 credit****Chad Gerber, PhD****Wednesday 1:30 – 3:20 p.m. Weeks #8 – 15 (Oct 2 – Nov 20)**

This course defines the Sacrament of Marriage within the mission and ministries of Christ and His Church. The course considers the theology of this sacrament, its historical development, and its liturgical celebration. It examines the vocation of marriage from the perspective of its mission and witness to the Christian community. The course explores some contemporary issues related to marriage in light of the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. **(Pre-requisite: LIT 560 Liturgical-Sacramental Theology)**

**E LIT 588 BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION****2 credits****Rev. Christopher Trenta, SLL****Wednesday 9:40 – 11:30 a.m.**

This course presents theological and pastoral consideration of the Roman Catholic Church's rituals of initiation, taking as its normative point of departure the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults as the focus. Included will be an examination of the sources and development of the Church's initiatory practice and discussion of pertinent contemporary pastoral issues. **(Pre-requisite: LIT 560 Liturgical-Sacramental Theology)**

**E LIT 630 SACRAMENTS AND THE CHRISTIAN MYSTICAL TRADITION****2 credits****Most Rev. Michael Woost, STL****Wednesday, 1:30 – 3:20 p.m.**

By examining the lives, contributions, and writings of a representative group of Christian mystics, this course will explore the ecclesial, ministerial, and incarnational dimensions of the Christian mystical tradition through the lens of the Church's liturgical-sacramental tradition. **(Pre-requisite: LIT 560 Liturgical-Sacramental Theology)**

## SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

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**\*TH 533ma CHRISTOLOGY****3 credits****Dr. Andrew Staron, PhD****Monday, 8:40 – 11:30 a.m.**

The ongoing theological interpretation of Jesus the Christ will be studied especially as the Church has come to understand the profound interrelationship between the human and divine through the Scriptures, the texts of the great Christological Councils, and its ongoing life of faith. **(Pre-requisite: TH 530 Fundamental Theology)**

**E TH 538 BIOETHICS****2 credits****Rev. Joseph M. Koopman, STD****Tuesday 9:40 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**

This course investigates various issues in the field of biomedicine considered in light of present magisterial teaching, ethical principles and contemporary reflection. Fundamental principles of moral action are applied to some of the pressing contemporary issues concerning the beginning and ending of human life, such as "high

tech" reproductive procedures, genetic engineering, withholding, or withdrawing artificial life-support systems, artificial nutrition and hydration, euthanasia, and assisted suicide. (**Pre-requisite: TH 532ma Fundamental Moral Theology**)

**\*TH 545 GOD: ONE AND THREE**

**2 credits**

**Sr. Mary McCormick, OSU, PhD**

**Tuesday 9:40 – 11:30 a.m.**

This systematic study of the doctrine of the Trinity will explore the biblical, historical, and magisterial foundations of the nature of God as it was defined amid the early Christological controversies and councils. Current developments in Trinitarian theology will be handled in light of modern understandings of language, methodology, symbols and faith experience. 2 Credits (**\*Pre-requisite: TH 530 Fundamental Theology**)

## HISTORICAL STUDIES

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**\*HIS 522 CHURCH HISTORY I**

**3 credits**

**Rev. J. Patrick Manning, PhD**

**Monday 6:45 -9:35 p.m.**

This course surveys the Church's growth and development from sub-apostolic times to the year 1300 C.E. The course will examine the Patristic Age through readings from the Apostolic Fathers, the Apologists, and the theologians of the third and fourth centuries. Special focus will be given to the Golden Age of the Church Fathers and to the major councils of the Church in that period. Developments, trends, and events of medieval times will be discussed, including the papacy, monasticism, the formation of Europe, the Dark Ages, relationships between Eastern and Western expressions of Christianity, Islam, the Crusades, Cluniac Reforms, the Investiture Controversy, and the Inquisition.

**E HIS 606 SURVEY OF THE EARLY CHURCH FATHERS**

**2 credits**

**Chad T. Gerber, PhD**

**Thursday 1:30 – 3:20 p.m.**

This course will examine significant pre-Augustine Fathers and their theological contributions to the early Church. Saints, (e.g. Ignatius of Antioch/Clement of Rome), as well as theologians (Origen / Tertullian), and two important documents (*Didache* and *The Apostolic Tradition of Hippolytus*), will be significant.

## DEGREE 2025 COMPLETION

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**\*MA 700 THE MASTER OF ARTS (THEOLOGY) CAPSTONE SYMPOSIUM**

**1 credit (no charge)**

**Faculty Advisor**

**Arranged with Advisor**

At the completion of all course work or in the final semester of their degree program, the student is required to select a theological topic and complete a symposium that demonstrates the integration, aptitude, and competence in the respective fields. The student chooses one of three formats for the written component of the symposium. The symposium consists of a 20-minute presentation by the student, followed by a discussion with the student's committee. A pass/fail grade is assigned based on the student's written and oral presentation. The grade and title of the project is recorded on the student's transcript. Students expecting to graduate in **May 2025** should register for the MA Capstone Symposium in either the Fall or Spring semester.

## **FALL SEMESTER CLASSES BEGIN FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 2024**

(Last day to register without incurring \$25 late fee: Monday, August 1, 2024)

**\*Note: New Tuition Rates**

- \*Tuition: **\$375.00** per semester credit hour
- \*A special discounted tuition of **\$325.00** per credit hour is granted to Roman Catholic clergy, religious, Catholic School teachers, certified Lay Ecclesial Ministers serving in the Diocese of Cleveland, and those accepted into the Lay Ecclesial Ministry Certification process of the Diocese of Cleveland.
- \*Auditors pay **\$265.00** per course.
- Billing will be done through your *Populi* student profile.

**Online SUMMER registration begins on March 1, 2024. Last day to register: May 10, 2024**

**Online Fall registration begins on April 1, 2024.**

Returning students can register for classes on-line at: [www.stmarysem.edu](http://www.stmarysem.edu)

In the top navigation click on the "[Current Students](#)" page for registration links.

Fall 2024 Booklists will be posted on *Populi* around July 1st.

**For general information regarding admission and for NEW students to the Master of Arts program, or for application and registration assistance contact:**

**Sr. M. Brendon Zajac, SND, DMin, Registrar, Assistant Academic Dean  
(440) 943-7667 e-mail: [registrar@stmarysem.edu](mailto:registrar@stmarysem.edu)**

**New Faculty Member Announcements**  
**Borromeo Seminary and Saint Mary Seminary**  
**Diocese of Cleveland**

**Effective July 1, 2024**

**Abigail Bodeau, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies**

It is with joy that we announce Abigail Bodeau, Ph.D., as the newest Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies at Borromeo Seminary and Saint Mary Seminary. Abigail received her bachelor's degree from Creighton University, Omaha; Master of Theological Studies from University of Notre Dame, South Bend; and will graduate with her Ph.D. from Baylor University this May. She will teach both undergraduate and graduate courses, providing students with the necessary historical, cultural, and theological foundations to be effective preachers and teachers of the Word. Abigail currently resides in Waco, Texas and will be relocating to Northeast Ohio this summer.

**Rev. John Chrysostom Kozlowski, O.P., J.C.D., Adjunct Professor of Canon Law**

Our Seminaries welcomes back former college seminarian, Rev. John Chrysostom as the new Adjunct Professor of Canon Law for Saint Mary Seminary. Father John received his *Juris Canonici Doctor* from The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., and currently serves as the Prior of Saint Dominic Priory in Youngstown, Ohio.

**Chad Gerber, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Sacramental Theology**

We are thrilled to announce that Chad Gerber, Ph.D., has accepted the position of Associate Professor of Sacramental Theology at Saint Mary Seminary. Chad earned his Master of Theology from Duke University Divinity School, and his D.Phil. from Oxford University. His expertise in historical theology and patristics, combined with twelve years of teaching at Walsh University in North Canton, Ohio, will enrich our Seminary learning community. Chad lives in southern Wayne County and is a parishioner of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception in Wooster, Ohio. He is married to Jennifer, and a father to seven children.

**Matthew C. Jordan, Ph.D., Vice-President of Academic Affairs, Professor of Philosophy**

It is with gratitude and excitement that we announce Matthew C. Jordan, Ph.D., as the new Vice-President of Academic Affairs and Professor of Philosophy at Borromeo Seminary and Saint Mary Seminary. Matthew brings with him an impressive academic background, having earned his Doctorate in Philosophy from The Ohio State University, and a distinguished record of administrative experience as the Dean and Chair for the Jack, Joseph, and Morton Mandel Humanities Center at Cuyahoga Community College, and as the Director of the University Honors Program for Auburn University at Montgomery. His commitment to evangelization through fostering critical thinking and scholarly inquiry aligns perfectly with the apostolic mission of our Seminaries. He also brings a history of innovative programs and opportunities to gather the broader Catholic intellectual community of our region.

Matthew lives in Hudson, Ohio and belongs to Saint Mary Parish where he offers regular lectures on a variety of theological and ethical topics. He is married to Jennifer, and they have seven children.