

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AFTER VATICAN II**  
**REGR 6419          SUMMER 2007          GABRIEL MORAN**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

**An historical and systematic treatment of religious education during the last forty years. The course focus is the influence of Vatican II on Roman Catholic practice in the United States within the context of other religions and other countries. How the church can face the challenge of new educational and cultural patterns.**

**COURSE OUTLINE: (Readings listed on second line**

**July 16: Introduction: The Challenge of Then and Now**

**July 17: The Catholic Church and the Second Vatican Council  
FPT ch 1, NDC ch 1, Moran , Religious...**

**July 18: Vatican II Documents Affecting Religious Education  
FPT ch 2, NDC ch 2, Moran, Revelation...**

**July 19: Church Reform: Community and Education  
FPT ch 3, NDC ch 3, Lawler**

**July 23: Liturgy and Catechesis  
FPT ch 4, NDC ch 5, Collins, Madsen**

**July 24: Religious Education: Christian, Jewish, Muslim  
NDC ch 7, Moran, Reforming...**

**July 25: Education in Parishes and Schools  
FPT ch 5,6; NDC ch 8, Harris, DRE**

**July 26: Lifelong Learning?  
NDC ch 4; Moran, RelEdDev, Roberto**

**July 30: A Church of Peace?  
FPT ch 7, Moran, Roman..., Lapide**

**July 31: Serving Justice  
Moran, Justice..., Bausch,**

## **REQUIRED BOOKS:**

**National Directory for Catechesis. Washington: United States Catholic Conference, 2005. (NDC)**

**Gabriel Moran, Fashioning a People Today: The Educational Insights of Maria Harris. New London: Twenty-Third Publications, 2007 (copies provided free of charge)(FPT).**

I ordered David Efroymson and John Raines, eds. **Open Catholicism: The Tradition at its Best.** The bookstore informed me that the book is out of print. Accordingly, I will put on line several of the more relevant chapters. My copy of the book will be on reserve if anyone wishes to consult it.

All other readings indicated above are on line at:  
[www.nyu.edu/classes/gmoran](http://www.nyu.edu/classes/gmoran).

A few shorter readings will be distributed in class.

## **WRITING**

I. At the beginning of each class meeting there will be a brief written exercise. Pick up the previous day's writing at the beginning of the class along with that day's question. I will write comments but not grade each day's work. File the returned papers; they will be useful for the final exam.

II. Paper:

**Topic:** A topic of your choosing within the framework of this course. Find a topic that is narrow enough that you can write a paper of a dozen or so pages. Examples: The decision of Vatican II that has most reshaped the practice of religious education; the rise of interest in peace studies; what is distinctive about religious education in a (name) country; the dialogue of Christian-Jewish or Christian-Muslim religions as affecting educational practice.

Monday, July 23:

1. Title of paper,
2. One or two bibliographical references
3. Description of the paper in a sentence or two.

**Monday, July 30: Paper due; discussed on Tues. July 31.**

**I am available to discuss the paper or any other matters about the course. My office is in Keating 303M. My best time for meetings is before or after class. Other times can be arranged. I encourage you to use e-mail (g Moran@fordham.edu) for any questions you have; I will answer e-mail on the same day.**

**Course Procedure: The course is built around the readings. It is important to have read the readings for each class as they will be the basis of discussion. I will try to vary the format. Suggestions are welcome.**

**In the last class, July 31, the written part will be an extended version of the daily written exercises. This writing that will draw upon the previous days' writings will serve as the final exam.**

**Final Grade is based on the final exam and the written paper**

### **QUESTIONS THAT RUN THROUGHOUT THE COURSE?**

- 1. Did Vatican II invent a new Catholic church?  
Conservative vs. Liberal**
- 2. How did the cultural setting of the 1960s affect the Council?**
- 3. How did the process of Vatican II change the authority pattern of the Catholic church?**
- 4. What change occurred in the Catholic church's relation to Protestant Christianity and Judaism?  
Religious education in the context of other religions**
- 5. What Vatican II documents most affected education?  
Revelation, Church in the Modern World, Liturgy**
- 6. What can the Christian churches teach the modern secular world about the meaning of "teach"?**

**7. What is the religious logic of particular/universal?**

**Uniqueness**

**8. Where did the catechetical movement come from and how does it stand now?**

**9. What was the religious education movement in the U.S. and in the U.K. and how does it look today worldwide?**

**10. How did the Catholic church move in the direction of becoming a “peace church”?**

**power/force/violence**

**CLASS PARTICIPANTS:**

**JOEY AGUILAR**

**FRANCIS AZAH**

**KAREN BYRNES**

**CHARLES CHESNAVAGE**

**CHARLES COLLINS**

**LUZ MARINA DIAZ**

**SUZANNE DUZEN**

**THOMAS KILLBRIDE**

**CYNDI NIENHAUS**

**MARC SWARTVAGHER**