

Course Unit Outline	
Unit Code	E7345
Unit Name	Justice, Human Life and Society
Unit Weighting	9 cps
Type of Unit	Specialised
Prerequisites, corequisites or exclusions	E7100 Sources and Principles of Christian Ethics or E7200 Methods in Christian Ethics
Academic Staff	Peter A. Comensoli, STB (CIS), STL (Alphonsianum), PhD (Edinburgh, 2011), DD. Lecturer Gerald Gleeson, STB (CIS 1978), MA (Cantab 1987), PhD (Leuven 1989), Associate Professor.
Curriculum Objectives	This unit examines the ethical issues of human community, sociality and globalisation, with special focus on the requirements of social justice.
Learning Outcomes	At the end of this unit students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. outline the historical development of the Catholic Church's social teaching 2. explain the key principles of Catholic social ethics 3. situate the virtue of justice in relation to the other virtues, moral and theological, and the relationship between the different kinds of justice. 4. evaluate the ethical dimensions of current social and professional activities 5. apply the principles of Catholic social teaching to a contested contemporary issue.
Threshold concept to be acquired in this unit	The different kinds of justice.
Content	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Society, culture and social change. 2. Historical development of Catholic social teaching 3. Key principles of Catholic social teaching and political theology. 4. Theories of distributive justice. 5. The relationships between Church, the State and Society generally. 6. Issues of globalisation and human solidarity. 7. The relationship between ethical issues concerning human life and the ethics of life in society. 8. Physical and human environment. 9. Social justice and individual human rights.
Learning Activities	Lectures, seminars and student presentations.
Required Specialist Facilities or Equipment	n/a
Assessment Profile	Assessments tasks are designed both to help students attain the unit outcomes and to enable teachers to assess student attainment. In this unit, the required assessment tasks will enable students to demonstrate how successfully they can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify key stages in the development of the Church's social teaching [Outcomes 1 and 2] (e.g. in an essay) Early diagnostic task. 2. Critically explore the meanings of justice in different approaches to social ethics. (e.g. in an essay) [Outcomes 2, 3]

3. Describe a contemporary social issue, and critically expound and defend a response to this issue in the light of Catholic social teaching. (e.g. in a long essay or student presentation [Outcomes 2, 4 and 5])

Representative References

- Benestad, J. Brian. *Church, State, and Society: An Introduction to Catholic Social Doctrine*. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2011.
- Boswell, J.S., F.P. McHugh and J. Verstraten (ed.) *Catholic Social Thought. Twilight or Renaissance?* Leuven: University Press, 2000.
- Curran, C.E. *Catholic Social Teaching 1891 – Present. A Historical, Theological and Ethical Analysis*. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2002.
- Dwyer, J.A. (ed.) *The New Dictionary of Catholic Social Thought*. Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 1994.
- Himes, K.R. (ed.) *Modern Catholic Social Teaching. Commentaries and Interpretations*. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2004.
- Hollenbach, David. *The Common Good and Christian Ethics*. Cambridge: CUP, 2002.
- Hollenbach, David. *The Global Face of Public Faith: Politics, Human Rights and Christian Ethics*. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2003.
- Massaro, Thomas. *Living Justice. Catholic Social Teaching in Action*. Lanham MA. Rowmann & Littlefield, 2011.
- Thompson, J. Milburn. *Introducing Catholic Social Thought*. New York: Orbis, 2010.
- Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace. *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*. Strathfield: St. Pauls, 2004.
- Schuck, Michael. *That They Be One: The Social Teaching of the Papal Encyclicals 1740-1989*. Washington: Georgetown Univ. Press, 1991.