## Course Unit Outline

#### **Unit Code**

P7363

#### **Unit Name**

Selected Themes in Canon Law

## **Unit Weighting**

9 cps

## Type of Unit

Specialised

# Prerequisites, corequisites

P7101

#### **Academic Staff**

John Doherty, BTh (CIS, Manly 1973), MCL (St Paul University, Ottawa 1988), DCL (St Paul University, Ottawa 2002), PhD (Ottawa 2002), Lecturer

# **Curriculum Objectives**

This course unit serves as the primary way of acquainting students with the canonical tradition of the Church in the non-sacramental areas of Church life. As such, it is a particular expression of the theology of Church studied in Systematic and Pastoral Theology.

## **Learning Outcomes**

At the end of the unit students should be able to:

- 1) demonstrate a knowledge of the universal law of the Catholic Church
- 2) critique the place of law in pastoral practice
- 3) articulate a critical understanding of the theological basis for that law
- 4) apply this law in practical way in pastoral life and ministry
- 5) validate aspects of the law to pastoral practice

# Threshold concept to be acquired in this unit

#### Content

- 1) Book I of Code of Canon Law (General Norms and Rationale for Canon Law); Pope Paul VI's Principles for Revision of Code; post-Vatican II process of revision)
- 2) Book II (the People of God; ecclesiology; office in the Church and power of governance; church structures and ministries)
- 3) Book III (teaching office of Church; magisterium; preaching; catechetics; missionary activity; the profession of faith etc.)
- 4) Book V (temporal goods of the Church)
- 5) Book VI (penal law; sanctions, particularly laws pertaining to sexual abuse)
- 6) Book VII (Church procedures: juridical and administrative, , particularly laws pertaining to sexual abuse)

# **Learning Activities**

Lectures, tutorials, student presentations, case studies

# **Required Specialist Facilities or Equipment**

## **Assessment Profile**

In this unit, assessment of student achievement with respect to the Unit Outcomes will be based on:

- 1. An analysis of recent changes in the Church's penal laws by means of a short essay [Outcomes 1, 2]
- 2. A research project to find the historical antecedents of a particular canon of the Code of Canon Law by means of a written report [Outcomes 3, 4, 5]
- 3. An examination involving brief questions to elicit the student's mastery of the Church's legislation on key canonical institutes. [Outcomes 1-5]

## **Representative References**

- 1. The Code of Canon Law, translated under the auspices of The Canon Law Society of Great Britain and Ireland in association with the Canon Law Society of Australia and New Zealand and the Canadian Canon Law Society. Roma: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 1983; English language edition. London: Harper Collins Liturgical, 1997.
- 2. Code of Canon Law, Latin-English Edition: New English Translation, prepared under the auspices of the Canon Law Society of America, Washington, DC, 1999.
- 3. Sheehy, Gerard et al., eds. *The Canon Law, Letter and Spirit: A Practical Guide to the Code of Canon Law.* Collegeville, Minnesota: Liturgical Press, 1995.
- 4. Beal, John P., James A. Coriden and Thomas J. Green. *New Commentary on the Code of Canon Law.* New York: Paulist Press, 2000.
- 5. Exegetical Commentary on the Code of Canon Law, Montréal, Wilson & Lafleur, 2004 (8 volumes).
- 6. Pospishil, Victor J. Eastern Catholic Church Law, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., New York, Saint Maroun Publications, 1996.
- 7. Ludicke, Klaus and Ronny E. Jenkins, *Dignitas Connubii: Norms And Commentary*, 2006, second printing, 2009.
- 8. Woestman, William. H., Ecclesiastical Sanctions and the Penal Process: A Commentary on the Code of Canon Law. Ottawa: Saint Paul University, 2000.
- 9. Woestman William, *Canonization: Theology, History, Process*, Ottawa, Faculty of Canon Law, Saint Paul University, 2002.
- 10. Renken, John A., Particular Churches and the Authority Established in Them, Commentary on Canons 368-430, Ottawa, Faculty of Canon Law, Saint Paul University, 2011.
- 11. Renken, John A., Particular Churches: Their Internal Ordering, Commentary on Canons 460-572, Ottawa, Faculty of Canon Law, Saint Paul University, 2011.
- 12. Dugan, Patricia M., *The Penal Process and the Protection of Rights in Canon Law*, Wilson & Lafleur, Montréal, 2005.