#### **Course Unit Outline**

#### **Unit Code**

T7327

#### **Unit Name**

The Sacrament of Marriage

## **Unit Weighting**

9 cps

#### Type of Unit

Specialised

# **Prerequisites**

One 7200 series unit in Theology

## **Academic Staff**

Mervyn Duffy BSc (Victoria 1983), STB (Angelicum 1985), DipTeach (Victoria 1986), STL (Gregorian, Rome 2001), STD (Gregorian, Rome 2005)

## **Curriculum Objectives**

This course unit explores marriage principally from the perspective of sacramental theology. It will help students appreciate the interaction between theology, society and the human person, and develop appropriate attitudes and skills for ministry.

## **Learning Outcomes**

Students will be able to:

- 1) Display a knowledge of the biblical and traditional Christian teaching on marriage
- 2) Demonstrate a coherent understanding of the notion of sacrament and how Marriage fits this
- 3) Explain and apply the Christian teachings on Marriage in particular cases
- 4) Critique modern understandings of marriage
- 5) Make connections between the Christian understanding of Marriage and other key teachings

# Threshold concept to be acquired in this unit

### Content

- 1) Marriage and family in the Christian tradition
- 2) Christian Marriage as a covenant of love and sacrament
- 3) The relationship between baptism and marriage in the Catholic Church
- 4) The indissolubility of marriage
- 5) The liturgy of marriage
- 6) Pastoral issues

# **Teaching Methods**

Seminars, Lectures, Student Presentations, Online forums & formative quizzes.

## **Required Specialist Facilities or Equipment**

This section is completed when specialist facilities or equipment are essential to the delivery of the unit, irrespective of site or Member Institution.

## **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:

- 1. Analyse recent writing on marriage (e.g. critical review, short essay) [Outcome 4]
- 2. Present a coherent theological understanding of the sacrament of marriage and apply this to a particular issue (e.g. essay, exam) [Outcomes 2, 3, 5]
- 3. Display a knowledge of biblical and historical sources relevant to the sacrament of marriage (e.g. student presentation, Quiz) [Outcome 1]

# **Representative References**

- 1. Clark, Elizabeth. ed. *St Augustine on Marriage and Sexuality*, Washington: Catholic University of America Press: 1996.
- 2. Dowsing Anita *The Gift of Self in Marriage*, Leominster, UK: Gracewing 2007.
- 3. Jeffery, Peter. The Mystery of Christian Marriage, New York: Paulist Press, 2006.
- 4. Lawler, Michael. *Marriage and the Catholic Church: Disputed Questions*, Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2002

- 5. McCarthy, David. *Sex and Love in the Home: A Theology of the Household,* London: SCM Press, 2004.
- 6. Olsen, Glenn. ed. Christian Marriage: A Historical Study, New York: Herder and Herder, 2001.
- 7. Ouellet, Marc. *Divine Likeness: Towards a Trinitarian Anthropology of the Family,* Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2006.
- 8. Robinson, Josephine. Marriage as Gift: A Catholic Approach, London: St. Pauls, 2004.
- 9. Rubio, Julie. *A Christian Theology of Marriage and Family*. New York: Paulist Press, 2003.
- 10. Scola, Angelo. *The Nuptial Mystery*, Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2005.
- 11. Thomas, David. *Christian Marriage: The New Challenge*, Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2007.
- 12. Whitehead, Evelyn. & James Whitehead. *Wisdom of the Body: Making Sense of Our Sexuality,* New York: Crossroad, 2001.