

Theology II: INTRODUCTION TO THEOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY AND ECCLESIOLOGY

1. language

English

2. course contents

Coordinator: Prof. Riccardo Lufrani OP

Year Course: 2nd

Semester: Second

3. bibliography

Students have to choose one of the following two options:

Option I: Robert Cheaib, *Scorciatoie verso Dio. Il genio spirituale di John Henry Newman*, Tau Editrice, Todi 2019.

Option II: Alister Mcgrath, *Theology: The Basics*, Blackwell Publishing, Oxford 2008.

Readings are intended to be complementary and not substitutive to the contents given in class.

4. learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding – «Whoever follows Christ, the perfect man, himself becomes more human». This expression of the Second Vatican Council, repeated many times by Pope Jean Paul II, manifests clearly the connection between the reflection on God and the reflection on man in the Christian teaching.

These lectures, in continuity with the previous module (Theology 1), present the Christian idea about man and the community in which this humanity is to be lived according to the teachings of Jesus, the Church. From these lectures, it will be clear how the Christian dogma is not only a conceptual corpus, but rather a dynamic reality that includes man and humanity.

Applying knowledge and understanding – Students will discover some basic Christian teachings about the human being as an individual, and also about the Church.

5. PREREQUISITES

On the basis of the knowledge acquired in the previous module, students should be more familiar with theological language and approach, and should be thus able to handle the topics which touch philosophical, theological and anthropological areas. The proposed readings and lectures are quite simple in themselves and chosen among the literature intended for a wide public, but this does not mean that the student should not put the necessary effort and practice to become acquainted with the discipline's approach.

6. teaching methods

The course will consist of traditional classroom lectures.

Knowledge and understanding – The arguments studied, though simplified, demand a personal work from the students who have to follow up with readings from the recommended bibliography.

Applying knowledge and understanding – The field of application of the acquired knowledge will be the active discussions which will be opened during the lectures and the quizzes that will follow some lectures.

Making judgements – Given the nature of the arguments, students will have a margin for giving their own vision and judgement, having previously given proof of their understanding of the arguments exposed.

Communication skills – Students will be requested to play an active role during classroom

teaching with questions and answers as well as in group discussions.

Learning skills – By the end of the lectures, students are required to prove a capacity of comprehension and expression of the main themes treated.

7. other informations

Students who have any trouble following the lectures have to get in touch personally with the coordinating professor to agree about the integrative materials and possible solutions.

8. methods for verifying learning and for evaluation

The final evaluation will be based on the sum of the marks of the quizzes taken at the end of selected lectures (the number will vary between 3-5 quizzes in all) along with the active participation during the lectures and the contribution to the discussion groups.

9. program

The lectures aim to give a comprehensive understanding of the Christian idea of man as being created in the «image and resemblance of God». Through a reflection on the important symbols of the first pages of the Bible (Genesis), a door will be opened on the main themes of any reflection of man on himself (where do we come from? what is the meaning of life? Where is this life leading?)

The themes and the questions that will be treated in the lectures are:

- Introduction: The importance of philosophy. The main branches of philosophy: metaphysics; epistemology; axiology. What is a “vision of the world”?
- Philosophical realism vs philosophical idealism. Online test: “Test your philosophical realism!”.
- Saint Thomas Aquinas: his life and works. An introduction to the theology of Saint Thomas Aquinas. Tommaso Demaria SDB: his life and philosophical work. Introducing the historical reality and the ontological passage from the static-sacral to the dynamic-secular societies.
- The doctrine of “double happiness”. The final end of human being. Aristotle and *eudaemonia*. Intellectual contemplation. Sant Thomas Aquinas: *felicitas* and *beatitudo*. Beatitude vs transhumanist three supers: super-longevity; super-intelligence; super- wellbeing.
- Saint Thomas Aquinas anthropology: introducing human acts. The twelve partial acts of a human act: perception; wish; judgment; intention; deliberation; consent; decision; choice; command; application; performance; completion. The morality of human acts.
- The passions: concupiscible and irascible passions.
- Habitus. The four cardinal virtues: prudence; justice; fortitude; temperance. The infused virtues. The three theological virtues: faith; hope; love.
- The vices and sin. God’s salvation: law and grace. Eternal law; natural law; human law; divine law. Sanctifying grace; operative and cooperative grace.
- Introduction to Ecclesiology: What is the Church?
- The Sacraments.