

THEO 33963/ CSC 33963/CST 33963

Learning Agreement

The 2007-2008 school year marks the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Center for Social Concerns, and the 20th anniversary of Pope John Paul II's encyclical *Sollicitudo rei socialis* (On Social Concern). Both anticipating and fulfilling John Paul's prophetic vision, the Center for Social Concerns continues to facilitate solidarity on campus, in the South Bend community, across the nation, and throughout the world. Celebrate both of these remarkable anniversaries by practicing the virtue of solidarity.

“Solidarity is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of so many people, both near and far. On the contrary, it is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good; that is to say to the good of all and of each individual, because we are really responsible for all.” (On Social Concern, #38)

Course Requirements

This seminar is a one-credit Theology course (THEO 33963/CSC 33963/CST 33963), graded "S" or "U". Course credit will appear on the May 2008 grade report. Participation in and completion of the course is conditioned upon conduct according to the University policies as set forth in DU LAC. To receive an "S" grade, students must complete the following in a satisfactory manner:

1. Attend all four scheduled classes or make-up sessions
2. Complete all readings and 7 page paper
3. Attend the 48-hour immersion

Application and Registration

The on-line application will become available October 5, 2007. On-line applications must be received by **November 2, 2007** at midnight. By completing the application form, you are agreeing to all requirements of the Urban Plunge Seminar. In addition to completing the CSC application, each student will be required to officially register for the course. **You will need to register online by December 5th at midnight.** Registration occurs through regular InsideND web registration and is open December 2nd through December 5th.

Criteria for Site Selection

The seminar is open to any student in good standing at the University of Notre Dame, Saint Mary's College or Holy Cross College. Every effort is made to place accepted students at their 1st choice placement. *Site leaders will be selected based on interest and past participation in the Urban Plunge.*

Fees and Expenses

The cost of the seminar is \$40. This fee will be assessed through Student Accounts in January 2008. This fee contributes to incidental cost related to the seminar such as contributions to the sites, speakers, and course packet information. Depending on the site, students may be required to bring \$25-\$60 to assist with the cost of food and/or

transportation. Please be reminded that **transportation to and from the site is the sole responsibility of each student.** Students are encouraged to select a site near their hometown or near their location of residence over Winter Break. Limited financial aid is available through the CSC.

Withdrawal from the Course

Please notify us by e-mailing uplunge@nd.edu as soon as possible if extenuating circumstances prevent your participation in the seminar. **The final day to notify the CSC that you will not participate without penalty is Wednesday, November 14, 2007 by 5:00 p.m.**

Drops after December 1st and/or failure to follow proper withdrawal from course procedures will automatically result in a grade of "U."

This course does not apply to overload. In the case that this course does cause an overload in your schedule, please contact your dean's office. We have spoken to each office and they are aware of this situation and are prepared to grant you permission - please do so ASAP, as you will still need to register online by December 5th.

Class Attendance

Regarding class attendance, the Seminar Director is the only person who can approve a class absence. You should email Bill Purcell at wpurcell@nd.edu and not your site leader. Moreover, I have attached information regarding absences from the University handbook:

<http://www.nd.edu/~orlh/dulac/TableofContents/7%20Academic%20Life%20Policies%200-%204%20Absence.pdf>

A death in the family, illness, specialized University commitments (ROTC, Band, Folk Choir), class review sessions or a job/graduate school interview are all excused absences. Please notify me before class if you will not be in attendance for these reasons.

All other absences are not excused unless prior approval is granted. If you miss a class period, you will be asked to complete an extra written assignment or attend a make-up session later that week. Please contact me regarding absences if you need any further clarification.