SIENA HEIGHTS UNIVERSITY
THEOLOGICAL STUDIES PROGRAM
Theological Studies Program

The Diocese of Lansing in collaboration with Siena Heights University developed a program for the theological formation of men and women in response to the Church’s need for lay leadership fully committed to her teachings. Individuals seeking a deeper understanding of the Catholic faith are encouraged to join as well.

The Theological Studies Program (TSP) consists of twelve undergraduate courses (36 credit hours). Completion of the program may constitute a contracted major in Theological Studies. Siena Heights University employs superbly qualified faculty who teach in the name of the Catholic Church to meet the needs of nontraditional students while maintaining the excellence of a university education. All faculty members teach in accordance with the spirit of Ex Corde Ecclesiae.

“I’m grateful to be a part of the partnership between Siena Heights University, founded and sponsored by the Adrian Dominican Sisters, and the Catholic Diocese of Lansing. The Theological Studies Program is a mission centered academic program, which correlates with the four Dominican pillars of: prayer, study, community and preaching. Our program prepares men and women to serve in the Catholic Church, share their faith and cultivate the new evangelization.”

— Karen Morrison, Director
Theological Studies Program

“We should always be thinking of on-going formation for those exercising leadership in the Church. Especially, we need to look to see who the leaders of the next generation might be and encourage them to follow a course of study.”

— Most Reverend Earl Boyea
Bishop of the Diocese of Lansing
Courses in the Theological Studies Program

TSP301  FOUNDATIONAL THEOLOGY
This course provides a contemporary overview of the foundational concepts and methodology in Theology. It examines such topics as faith, reason, and the human person. God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, Scripture, Church, Creation, and Redemption as major doctrines of the Catholic Church. Resources include parts of Dei Verbum, Veritas Splendor, and the Pontifical Biblical Commission's The Interpretation of the Bible in the Church and Catechism #26-184,976-1065.

TSP302  INTRODUCTION TO THE BIBLE: 1
Through exploration of the English text of the Old Testament, students will discover the cultural context of ancient faith communities, and how the sacred texts emerging from them have been interpreted theologically in both Jewish and Christian traditions. The course utilizes various methods of textual interpretation, including historical critical methods, and considers various theological models of revelation.

TSP303  INTRODUCTION TO THE BIBLE: 2
Through exploration of the English text of the New Testament, students will discover the cultural context of early Christian communities and how the sacred writings emerging from them have been interpreted theologically. The course utilizes various methods of textual interpretation, including historical critical methods, and considers various theological models of revelation.

TSP305  THEOLOGICAL ETHICS
This course will study the moral principles and norms of Catholic Tradition and will explore the relationship between Christian social ethics (especially bioethics, sexual ethics, and marriage and family) and Christian moral development, and how a believer manifests both as fundamental for participation in a faith community. This course will also examine the importance of the Magisterium and the centrality and formation of conscience. Resources include Catechism #1691-2557.

TSP312  CHURCH HISTORY
This course will study the history of the Church from the Apostolic Age to the present. It will emphasize structure, expansion, worship, theological developments, important persons and movements. Included will be a brief introduction to the Fathers of the Church, the Eastern Churches, and the history of the Church in the United States.

TSP313  ECCLESIOLOGY
Students will study the origin, nature, and mission of the Church. The course includes a general historical survey, but the major focus is on select documents of the Second Vatican Council, especially Lumen Gentium, as well as the Catechism #748-975. Some attention will be given to ecumenism and inter-religious dialogue and Unitatis Redintegratio and the Directory for the Application of Principles and Norms on Ecumenism (1993).

TSP319  CHRIST AND TRINITY
This course explores the mystery of the Trinity and the person and salvific mission of Christ. It examines the biblical witness concerning Jesus, the early ecumenical councils as they contribute to Christology and the explication of the doctrine of the Trinity. It also attends to contemporary issues affecting Christology. Resources include Catechism, #185-747.

TSP320  SACRAMENTAL THEOLOGY
The central focus of this course is the history and tradition of the seven sacraments with a special focus on the Eucharist. This includes an analysis of the theology, ritual content and form and matter of the sacraments as well as the pastoral and ecclesial aspects of their celebration. Resources include Sacrosanctum Concilium and Catechism #1113-1134, 1210-1666.

TSP335  THEOLOGY OF MINISTRY
This course examines the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ continued as mission and ministry of the Church, from which Christian ministry in all its forms flows. It will include scriptural and ecclesial sources as background for the development of contemporary post-conciliar forms of ministry, including offices in the Church, the role of the Bishop, collaboration of the clergy and laity, cultural pluralism, the missionary nature of the Church (Ad Gentes), and ecumenical and inter-religious dialogue. Resources include Christifideles Laici and Instruction in Certain Questions Regarding the Collaboration of the Non-Ordained Faithful in the Sacred Ministry of Priests.

TSP345  LITURGICAL CATECHESIS
Through a pastoral study of the traditions of liturgical worship, including Sacrosanctum Concilium, students will apply their understanding of the rites of the Church. An extensive examination of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, principles and techniques for effective preparation and execution of liturgical celebrations will be featured. Resources include Catechism #1077-1122, 1135-1209, 1667-1690. Some aspects of Spirituality of Liturgical Celebration will also be examined.

TSP355  MINISTRY, MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP
Theological models of leadership and management will be studied in order to develop specific ministerial skills. Personalized field work experiences will be included.

TSP365  CATECHETICAL METHODOLOGY
This course will focus on the principles of catechetical theory and praxis as articulated in the General Directory for Catechesis and the National Directory for Catechesis. Emphasis will be placed on the catechetical process as it relates to specific ministries and an examination of the process of faith development; that is, helping Catholics' faith become alive, as it integrates with the psychological, moral, and cognitive stages of human development as well as the stages of conversion in Christian development.

TSP450  CANON LAW
Since the 1983 Code of Canon Law is the fruit of Vatican II, the course will focus on how the Canons are designed to implement the Council's teachings in a way that facilitates the mission of the Church. Special emphasis will be placed on the rights and responsibilities of clerics and laymen, the sacramental life of the Church, an understanding of Church structures, and a realization of the similarities and differences between Canon Law and civil law.
About Siena Heights University

Siena Heights is a Catholic, coeducational liberal arts university founded by the Adrian Dominican Congregation in 1919. The main campus in Adrian enrolls about 1,200 students in full-time and part-time study leading to associate’s, bachelor’s, and master’s degrees.

A leader in non-traditional education, Siena Heights has 30 years experience providing service-oriented education for working adults. Siena Heights has distinguished itself as the first private liberal arts college in Michigan to offer degree completion programs designed specifically for adult students. In addition to the Theological Studies Program, Siena Heights University operates degree completion centers in Benton Harbor, Battle Creek, Metropolitan Detroit, Monroe, Lansing, Jackson, and Online.

Siena Heights University is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

Mission

The Theological Studies Program helps to fulfill the Siena Heights University mission: to assist people to become more competent, purposeful and ethical in a teaching and learning environment that respects the dignity of all.

Siena Heights University is committed to a collaborative vision of ministry and is dedicated to facilitating an academic process whereby Church leaders can become grounded in theology and professionally prepared for ministry.

“I found the Siena Heights Theological Studies Program to be a wonderful means for me to deepen and grow in my Catholic faith. Class discussions were stimulating, uplifting, challenging and helpful to me as I grew into the minister God called me to be. I strongly encourage anyone interested in deepening their faith to check out the Siena Heights Theological Studies Program. You won’t regret it!”

— Dr. Mary Peacock, RCIA Director
St Gerard Church, Lansing Michigan
Bachelor of Arts in Theological Studies

Contact Us Today!
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For more information, inquire online at:
www.sienaheights.edu/tsp

OR

Check out our web site at
www.sienaheights.edu