



Dominican International School

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RELIGIOUS STUDIES DEPARTMENT COURSE SYLLABUS

GRADE LEVEL: 8

SCHOOL YEAR: 2024-2025

TEACHER: Mr. Arcel Joseph C. Amoguis, MA, LPT

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

“And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” (Matthew 16:18)

Grade 8 Religious Studies will engage the students to understand the foundations of the Church as found in the textbook/workbook while simultaneously anchoring the students on the three Pillars of the Campus Ministry Department: Word, Witness, and Worship. “Word” focuses on the doctrines and teachings, especially found in the Catholic Church. “Witness” is the application of the concepts learned. “Worship” is the celebration of faith while respecting the individuals’ conscience. The harmony of these three pillars will help to ensure holistic formation of the students. The students will be encouraged to read the Holy Bible in a prayerful manner while also learning how to read it in an academic manner.

In addition, students will be challenged to critically think about what they learned and to apply it to their own lives. They should have reasons for what they believe, supported with logic. Students are encouraged to share truthfully with the class their own beliefs and opinions while respecting every individual that they encounter, despite their race, class, sexual orientation, etc. This will be measured through the D’TORCH values (truthful, organized, reflective, courageous, helpful).

Finally, the purpose of this course is to assist the students in their everyday life and challenge them to be the best versions of themselves. The students will be challenged to find their meaning and purpose in life and to courageously live out their heart’s desires. Students are called to never give up, daily seeking to become a better person. Christian faith and Christian Living are rooted in the person of Jesus Christ and through him the way to God’s Kingdom is attained. In this course, the supplementary lessons

will also be included like Liturgical celebrations and Dominican Saints who are models of values/virtues.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND CONTENTS: (SWBAT) Students will be able to:

WORD:

1. learn the development of the Magisterium from the apostolic, Trinitarian roots of the early Church;
2. understand that the pope has the authority and responsibility to lead and guide the universal Church;
3. recognize that Christ is present in the sacramental life of the Church;
4. describe reasons that the Eucharist is the central act of worship in the Church;
5. define the word "catholic" and describe a disagreement in the early Church over the catholic nature of the Church.

WITNESS:

1. recall that each member of a group assumes certain responsibilities to achieve common goals;
2. offer ways to carry out the apostolic mission of the Church in today's world;
3. understand that we grow in holiness through our participation in the Sacraments and the liturgy;
4. understand that there are many ways to express our faith and show God's love to others;
5. reflect on Pope Francis' explanation of the meaning of catholic, and to consider the gifts that enrich the Church;
6. offer ways that we can reflect the catholic nature of our Church and promote the common good;
7. respond to the challenges of spreading the Gospel in the world today.

WORSHIP:

1. pray the Apostle's Creed;
2. participate actively during Masses;
3. pray a prayer of intercession for the good of the Church, society, and the world.

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND DIFFERENT SEASONS OF THE CHURCH

- Advent
- Christmas
- Lent
- Holy Week
- Easter
- Ordinary Time

- Holy Days (Dominican/ Saints' Feasts and Memorials)
- Feasts in Honor of Mother Mary

DOMINICAN PILLARS AND CORE VALUES

- Study.....Truth
- Prayer.....Joy
- Community.....Justice
- Service/Preaching.....Compassion

PARAGONS OF VALUES: DOMINICAN SAINTS AND BLESSED

Months	Feasts/Memorials of Dominican Saints
August	02- <i>Bl. Jane of Aza</i> 08- <i>St. Dominic de Guzman</i> 14- <i>St. Dominic Ibañez</i> 17- <i>St. Hyacinth of Poland</i> 18- <i>Bl. Mannes de Guzman</i> 23- <i>Rose of Lima</i>
September	18- <i>St. John Macias</i> 20- <i>St. Francis Posadas</i> 28- <i>St. Lawrence Ruiz</i>
October	09- <i>St. Louis Bertrand</i>
November	03- <i>St. Martin de Porres</i> 15- <i>St. Albert the Great</i> 22- <i>Bl. Cecilia</i>
December	01- <i>Bl. John Vercelli</i> <i>The Holy Family</i>
January	07- <i>St. Raymond of Peñafort</i> 18- <i>St. Margaret of Hungary</i>
February	13- <i>Bl. Jordan of Saxony</i>
March	07- <i>St. Thomas Aquinas</i>
April	05- <i>St. Vincent Ferrer</i> 06/29- <i>St. Peter of Verona</i> 20- <i>St. Agnes of Montepulciano</i> 29/30- <i>St. Catherine of Siena</i> 30- <i>St. Pius V</i>
May	10- <i>St. Anthony of Florence</i>

12- Bl. Imelda Lambertini
20- Bl. Columba of Reiti

Others June 09- Bl. Diana
July 17- Bl. Ceslaus

School wide Learning Outcomes (SLO's): D'TORCH: Dominicans are Truthful, Organized, Reflective, Courageous, and Helpful.

Truthful:

- *are guided by the Gospel and universal values;*
- *center their lives on God's teachings;*
- *show respect to all.*

Organized:

- *set goals and pursue them to fruition;*
- *maintain a balance between a healthy body, mind and spirit;*
- *engage responsibly with the world, through a variety of resources.*

Reflective:

- *contemplate their strengths and weaknesses;*
- *aim to respond, rather than to react;*
- *determine patterns, make connections, and think critically.*

Courageous:

- *are open and responsive to new and diverse perspectives;*
- *are willing to take risks and graciously accept results;*
- *communicate effectively.*

Helpful:

- *evaluate all decisions in light of the common good.*
- *are compassionate and caring;*
- *respect and care for the environment.*

GRADING SYSTEM:

50% Academic

Section A: Homework, Seatwork, Projects.....	16.66%
NOTE: Attendance will be included in the RS grading system.	
Section B: Quizzes.....	16.67%
Section C. Major Quarterly Exam.....	16.67%
Section D: Department.....	50%

50 % Department (Behavior)

- Truthful.....19 points
- Organized.....19 points
- Reflective.....19 points
- Courageous.....19 points
- Helpful.....19 points
- TOTAL.....95 points**

Note: *The highest possible grade students can get every quarter in Department is 95 points in conformity with the current grading system.*

PRIMARY TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER RESOURCES

- Holy Bible for Children (with illustrations)
- Textbook: Blest are We 8: Faith in Action: The Story of our Church
- USCCB. Alive in Christ. Our Sunday Visitor, 2013;
- The Pontifical Biblical commission. The Jewish People and Their Sacred Scriptures in the Christian Bible. Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2002.
- Online References:
- https://www.easybib.com/grammar-and-plagiarism/?=bmp_EB.v2.160-600&intcid=wt.EasyBib.EB.v2.160-600&inhousead=EB.v2.160-600
- <https://www.biblegateway.com/>
- <https://www.loyolapress.com/3-minute-retreats-daily-online-prayer>
- <https://www.catholic.org/>
- Catechism of the Catholic Church (online)
- <http://blestarewe.com/>
- www.vatican.va
- www.op.org

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- *The Google Classroom code will be given to all students to access all the Religious Studies' learning guide and tasks.*
- *There will be NO Homework to be given during the weekend except during major exams or quizzes. It is to give students a chance to spend quality time with their family.*
- *The Project D (Detention) significantly affects the Department Grade of students.*

ON ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Academic Dishonesty means employing a method or technique or engaging in conduct in an academic endeavor that contravenes the standards of ethical integrity expected at DIS. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to, the following:

- *Purposely incorporating the ideas, words of sentences, paragraphs, or parts thereof without appropriate acknowledgment and representing the product as one's own work; and*

- Representing another's intellectual work such as photographs, paintings, drawings, sculpture, or research or the like as one's own, including failure to attribute content to an AI.
- Employing a tutor, making use of Artificial Intelligence without acknowledgement, getting a parent to write a paper or do an assignment, paying for an essay to be written by someone else and presented as the student's own work.
- Committing any act that a reasonable person would conclude, when informed of the evidence, to be a dishonest means of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work.

Any act of academic dishonesty will result in an automatic zero on the entire assignment and deduction from the Department.

FIRST SEMESTER First QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

Week / Date	Topic /Learning Tasks/ Assessments
<p style="text-align: center;">Week 1 Aug 12 to 16</p> <p>10 - First Day / Orientation Day 14-St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe, priest and martyr 15-The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary</p> <p>Assigned Prayer Leaders: STUCO, DYM, and House Captains</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Welcome back to school, Dominicans!</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">August 12: School's Opening and General Orientation Day</p> <p style="text-align: center;">August 15: Opening Mass Assumption of Our Lady</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Week 2 Aug 19 to 23</p> <p>17-Saint Hyacinth of Poland 18- Blessed Mannes 21- St. Pius X, Pope 22-The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary 23- Saint Rose of Lima 24- St. Bartholomew, apostle</p> <p>Assigned Prayer Leaders: STUCO</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Religious Studies Orientation/ Introduction Continuation</p> <p>A. Introduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RS Teacher's Introduction • Quick students' introduction • Introduction about the Subject (The "what" and the "why" of the subject?) • Course contents for the whole quarter and subject's requirements • Grading system (Academic=50 % and Department=50 %)

	<p>B. Integration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed Rules and Regulations of the class (In the light of the D'TORCH Values) • Students' Profile Form
<p style="text-align: center;">Week 3 Aug 26 to 30</p> <p>27- <i>St. Monica</i> 28- <i>St. Augustine</i></p> <p>Assigned Prayer Leaders: <i>DYM</i></p>	<p>C. Revisiting DIS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review: DIS Vision-Mission and Philosophy • D'TORCH values and Dominican Ethos • Basic Prayers • Practice for the Mass <p>Review: Parts of the Mass</p> <p style="text-align: center;">August 26: <i>St. Dominic de Guzman Feast Day Celebration</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Week 4 Sept 2 to 6</p> <p>03-<i>St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor</i></p> <p>Assigned Prayer Leaders: <i>House Captains</i></p>	<p>1. WORD (Doctrine/Informative):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Lectio Divina (Gospel Reflection) Apostolic: Founded on the Apostles Peter and the Early Church <p>2.WITNESS (Valuing/Transformative):</p> <p>- show appreciation to the Founding Fathers of our Faith</p> <p>3.WORSHIP (Prayers and Celebration of Faith):</p> <p>- pray for the intercession of Mother Mary</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Week 5 Sept 9 to 13</p> <p>05-<i>Anniversary of deceased Dominican friends and benefactors</i> 11- <i>St. Ambrose, Edward Barlow</i></p> <p>Assigned Prayer Leaders: <i>RS 12</i></p>	<p>1. WORD (Doctrine/Informative):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Lectio Divina (Gospel Reflection) Holy: Jesus Christ in the Sacraments The Holy Mass <p>2.WITNESS (Valuing/Transformative):</p> <p>- be aware of the presence of Jesus Christ in the Sacraments</p> <p>3.WORSHIP (Prayers and Celebration of Faith):</p> <p>- formulate their own prayer using the ACTS formula</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sept 09-Holy Mass & VIP Induction & Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Week 6 Sep 16 to 20</p>	

<p>14-The Exaltation of the Holy Cross 15-Our Lady of Sorrows</p> <p>Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 12</p>	<p>Sept 17-Moon Festival</p> <p>Sept 18-20 Annual Teachers Conference (No classes for students)</p>
<p>Week 7 Sep 23^{to} 27</p> <p>18- Saint Juan Macias 21- St. Matthew, apostle and evangelist 28-Saint Dominic Ibanez, Friar and Priest, Saint James Kyushei Tomonaga, Friar and Priest, Saint Lawrence Ruiz, Layman And Companions, Members of the Dominican Family, Martyrs of Nagasaki, Japan 29-Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, archangels</p> <p>Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 11</p>	<p>1. WORD (Doctrine/Informative): a. Lectio Divina (Gospel Reflection) b. Catholic: Open and Respectful of All c. The Council of Jerusalem</p> <p>2.WITNESS (Valuing/Transformative): - show openness and respect to all faith</p> <p>3.WORSHIP (Prayers and Celebration of Faith): - formulate their own prayer using the ACTS formula</p> <p>Sept 24-26, Pre-Exam Days</p>
<p>Week 8 Sep 30 to October 4</p> <p>30-St. Jerome, priest and doctor</p> <p>Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 11</p>	<p>Self-Assessment Student's Department</p> <p>Preparation for the Quarter Exam</p> <p>Completion of the Subject's Requirements for the 1st Quarter</p>
<p>Week 9 Oct 7 to 12</p> <p>5-6 First Quarter Exam 04-Our Holy Father Francis of Assisi</p>	<p>Oct 07- Launching of the Month of the Most Holy Rosary</p> <p>Oct 8 and 9 First Quarter Exam Record Day</p> <p>Oct 10 Double Ten – Public Holiday (No Classes)</p>

<p>05-Blessed Raymond of Capua 06-Blessed Bartolo Longo 07-Our Lady of the Rosary 09-Saint Luis Bertran</p> <p>Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 10</p>	
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Second QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

Week / Date	Topic /Learning Tasks/ Assessments
<p style="text-align: center;">Week 1 (10) Oct 14 to 18</p> <p>12-Our Lady of Pillar 13-St. Theophilus 15-St. Teresa of Jesus, virgin and doctor</p> <p>Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 10</p>	<p>1. WORD (Doctrine/Informative): a. Lectio Divina (Gospel Reflection) b. One: Praying for Unity c. The Lord’s Prayer</p> <p>2.WITNESS (Valuing/Transformative): - recognize the value of unity in prayer</p> <p>3.WORSHIP (Prayers and Celebration of Faith): - pray for the intercession of Mother Mary - pray the Holy Rosary</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: #c00000;">Oct 15-30 Mother Mary's visit to the offices during the regular morning prayer</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Week 2 (11) Oct 21 to 25</p> <p>22-Anniversary of the Dedication of the Church 22-St. John Paul II, Pope</p> <p>Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 10</p>	<p>1. WORD (Doctrine/Informative): a. Lectio Divina (Gospel Reflection) b. Councils, Cultures and Conflicts c. The Nicene-Constantinople Creed</p> <p>2. WITNESS (Valuing/Transformative): - reflect on the religious truths of the Nicene-Constantinople Creed</p> <p>3. WORSHIP (Prayers and Celebration of Faith): - praise God for his triumph of the Cross</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: #c00000;">Oct 25 to Nov 1 Marian Exhibit: Young Saints who were devoted their lives to the Holy Rosary</p>
	<p>1. WORD (Doctrine/Informative):</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Week 3 (12) Oct 28 to Nov 1</p> <p><i>28- Sts. Simon and Jude, apostles</i> <i>01- Solemnity of All Saints</i> <i>02-The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Soul's Day)</i> <i>03-Saint Martin de Porres</i></p> <p>Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 9</p>	<p>a. Lectio Divina (Gospel Reflection) b. Liturgy and Unity, Worship and Beauty c. Mary, The Mother of God</p> <p>2. WITNESS (Valuing/Transformative): - emulate Mary and her acts of kindness</p> <p>3. WORSHIP (Prayers and Celebration of Faith): - pray the Holy Rosary</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Nov 1- All Saints' Day Mass</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Nov 3 Feast of St. Martin de Porres and Lay Dominican Profession</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Week 4 (13) Nov 4 to 8</p> <p><i>06-Blessed Bonaventura Gracia Paredes, Friar, Priest and Master of the Order</i> <i>Blessed Josefina Sauleda Paulis, Virgin and Nun</i> <i>Blessed Ramona Fossas Roman, Virgin and Sister</i> <i>Blessed Antero Mateo, Married Man and Lay Dominican</i> <i>And Companions, Members of the Dominican Family martyrs of the Spanish Persecutions of the XX Century</i> <i>07- All Saints of the Order of Preachers</i></p> <p>Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 9</p>	<p>1. WORD (Doctrine/Informative): a. Lectio Divina (Gospel Reflection) b. The Church and the Empire c. The Holy Rosary</p> <p>2. WITNESS (Valuing/Transformative): - be inspired by the life of Christ in praying the Rosary</p> <p>3. WORSHIP (Prayers and Celebration of Faith): - devote one hour of prayer to St. John Paul II</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Week 5 (14) Nov 11 to 15</p> <p><i>9- The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica</i></p>	<p>1. WORD (Doctrine/Informative): a. Lectio Divina (Gospel Reflection) b. The Church and the Empire c. The Holy Rosary</p> <p>2. WITNESS (Valuing/Transformative): - be inspired by the life of Christ in praying the Rosary</p>

<p>10-St. Leo the Great, pope and doctor 11- St. Martin of Tours, Bishop 13- St. Frances Xavier Cabrini 15- Saint Albert the Great 16-St. Margaret of Scotland, queen St. Gertrude, virgin 17-St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious</p> <p>Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 8</p>	<p>3. WORSHIP (Prayers and Celebration of Faith): - devote one hour of prayer to St. John Paul II</p>
<p>Week 6 (15) Nov 18 to 22</p> <p>18- Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts. Peter and Paul, apostles 21- Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe</p> <p>Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 8</p>	<p>1. WORD (Doctrine/Informative): a. Lectio Divina (Gospel Reflection) b. Project-Based Exam: Planning Stage</p> <p>2. WITNESS (Valuing/Transformative): - be creative in planning for their Project-Based Exam</p> <p>3. WORSHIP (Prayers and Celebration of Faith): - worship God through offering an hour each day to read the Bible</p> <p>Nov 22 and 25- Gr. 12 Second Quarter Exam</p>
<p>Week 7 (16) Nov 25 to 29</p> <p>25-Saint Ignatius Delgado, Friar and Bishop Saint Vincent Liem De La Paz, Friar and Priest Saint Dominic Pham Trong An Kham, Lay Dominican And Companions Martyrs of Vietnam 30-St. Andrew, apostle</p> <p>Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 7</p>	<p>1. WORD (Doctrine/Informative): a. Lectio Divina (Gospel Reflection) b. Project-Based Exam: Creating Stage</p> <p>2. WITNESS (Valuing/Transformative): - exhibit collaboration and teamwork in creating their Project-Based Exam</p> <p>3. WORSHIP (Prayers and Celebration of Faith): - revere God through inviting someone to go to Church to celebrate Christ the King</p> <p>Nov 25- Thanksgiving Mass and Potluck after school (Teachers and staff)</p> <p>Nov 26 to 28 Pre-Exam Days</p>

	Nov 28 House Family Fun Run
<p style="text-align: center;">Week 8 (17) Dec 2 to 6</p> <p><i>03-St. Francis Xavier</i></p> <p>Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 7</p>	<p>1. WORD (Doctrine/Informative): a. Lectio Divina (Gospel Reflection) b. Project-Based Exam: Final Presentation</p> <p>2. WITNESS (Valuing/Transformative): - exhibit collaboration and teamwork in presenting their Project-Based Exam</p> <p>3. WORSHIP (Prayers and Celebration of Faith): - adore God through learning the Advent symbols and meanings</p> <p>Dec 02- First Week of Advent/ Lighting of the Christmas Tree in the afternoon Dec 06 - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, principal Patroness of the Philippines Advanced DIS 67th Foundation Day Celebrations</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Week 9 (18) Dec 09 to 13</p> <p><i>07- St. Ambrose, bishop and doctor</i></p> <p>Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 6</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Self-Assessment Student's Department</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Individual Conference</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Preparation for the Quarter Exam</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Completion of the Subject's Requirements for the 2nd Quarter</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dec 12-13 Second Quarter Exam Dec 14 to Jan 3 Christmas Holiday begins</p>

*“Spes Non Confundit”
“Hope Does Not Disappoint.”*

