

University of Nevada, Las Vegas
POS 407Z
Topics in Comparative Politics: The Politics of Catholicism
Dr. Jelen

Contact Information:

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Office Hours:

MW: 12:00-1:30 pm
M 4-5 pm

Required Texts:

Gene Burns, *The Frontiers of Catholicism: The Politics of Ideology in a Liberal World*
Timothy A. Byrnes, *Transnational Catholicism in Postcommunist Europe*
Paul Christopher Manuel, Lawrence C. Reardon, and Clyde Wilcox (eds) *The Catholic Church and the Nation-State: Comparative Perspectives*.

Objective: This course is intended to provide the advanced student with an understanding of the political role played by the Catholic Church in a variety of national, regional, and international settings. A major theme of the course will be the interaction of “objective” moral truth (as defined by the Holy See) and the politics of diverse local and national contexts.

Grading: There will be two essay exams, administered on March 21, and May 9. Each exam will count for 1/3 of student’s grade. In addition, each student will prepare an annotated bibliography with commentaries of approximately 100 words on each of 20-30 courses, on a topic to be chosen in conjunction with the instructor. The bibliography is due on April 30, and will count for 1/3 of student’s final grade.

Policies:

Any attempt at academic dishonesty results in failure of the entire course. This includes, but is not limited to, receiving outside assistance on exams, or using unattributed material from other sources.

Exceptions to the final exam schedule will only be granted in cases of **documented** medical or bereavement considerations. Make-ups for other exams will be administered on May 2. Make-up exams will be essay format.

The Disability Resource Center (DRC) coordinates all academic accommodations for students with documented disabilities. The DRC is the official office to review and house disability documentation for students, and to provide them with an official Academic Accommodation Plan to present to the faculty if an accommodation is warranted. The DRC strongly encourages faculty to provide accommodations only if and when they are in receipt of said plan. Faculty should not provide students accommodations without being in receipt of this plan.

UNLV complies with the provisions set forth in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, offering reasonable accommodations to qualified students with documented disabilities. If you have a documented disability that may require accommodations, you will need to contact the DRC for the coordination of services. The DRC is located in the Student Services Complex (SSC), Room 137, and the contact numbers are: VOICE (702) 895-0866, TTY (702) 895-0652, FAX (702) 895-0651. For additional information, please visit: <<http://studentlife.unlv.edu/disability/>>.

For additional information about the DRC and procedures to follow when students ask for exemptions or exceptions based on their disability claim, refer them to the DRC website. For all faculty and staff (professional and classified) ADA accommodation determinations, please contact Marc Cardinalli, Assistant General Counsel and Administrative Code Officer, Flora Dungan Humanities Building (FDH), Room 320, 895-1879.

A Useful Website: For a variety of services to assist students in their academic endeavors, log on to http://tlc.unlv.edu/student_success.htm

Order of Events, with Approximate Dates:

I. Introduction to International Catholicism (January 17-February 7)
Burns, 1-3; Byrnes, 1; Manuel, 1-2.

II. Catholic Politics in the United States (February 12-21)
Burns, 4-6; Manuel, 4.

III. Catholic Politics in Europe (February 28-March 19)
Byrnes, 2-4; Manuel, 3, 6-7

March 21: Midterm Exam

IV. Catholic Politics in Latin America (March 26-April 11)
Burns, 7; Manuel, 5-9

V. Catholic Politics in Africa (April 16-28)
Manuel, 10-11, 14

VI. Catholic Politics in Asia (April 24-26)
Manuel, 8, 12, 14)

April 30: Annotated Bibliographies Due

VII. Conclusion (April 30-May 2)
Burns, 8; Byrnes 5.

Wednesday, May 2: Make-up exams.

Final Exam: Wednesday: May 9: 3:10 pm