

ANNUAL SUMMER COURSE

*Introduction to the Ecumenical & Interreligious
Movements from a Roman Catholic Perspective*

21 June - 9 July 2010

Centro Pro Unione

A Ministry of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement

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Aim

This course is designed to introduce participants to the ecumenical and interreligious movements from a Roman Catholic perspective. It will offer a historical and theological overview of the issues that divide Christians as well as the bonds that unite them. The program will explore relations with other religious traditions. The course, which is in English, is for men and women who are in preparation for ministry or religious life, who are in the mission field, who are ecumenical officers or members of ecumenical commissions, or who are looking for a sabbatical experience led by qualified professors and ecumenists.

Faculty

The faculty includes, but is not limited to, staff members of the Centro Pro Unione (Rome) and the Graymoor Ecumenical & Interreligious Institute (New York). The Course is “Recognized and Endorsed” by the Graduate Theological Foundation (USA) which can grant up to six graduate credits for qualified graduate students.

Schedule

The schedule for the three weeks is the same Monday through Friday: morning prayer followed by three 60-minute lecture segments. The afternoons are for on-site excursions and lectures (*Roman catacombs, Basilica of St. Peter and excavations, St. Sabina, St. Clement, Colosseum, “Roman ghetto,” Synagogue and museum, Mosque and Islamic center and others*). Weekends are free.

Topics Covered in Week I

Biblical foundations; factions and divisions within the Church; the modern ecumenical movement; Vatican II and the principles of Catholic ecumenism; ecumenical documents; dialogues overview; reading of ecumenical texts; concept of reception in the ecumenical movement; World Council of Churches; worldwide ecumenical and interreligious organizations; visit to the Pontifical Councils for Promoting Christian Unity and for Interreligious Dialogue; Eastern Christianity. On June 29, Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul, participation in the Papal Mass of the Pallium.

Topics Covered in Week II

An overview of the Reformation and catholic Reform movement, and exploration of the various dialogues which exist between the churches, their context and results.

Topics Covered in Week III

Jewish-Christian relations; Christian responses to people of other faiths; fundamentalism as a worldwide phenomenon; Roman Catholicism and Islam in dialogue; religions of the sub-continent of India; new religious movements; grassroots ecumenism.