



Dominican International School
台北市私立道明外僑學校
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RELIGIOUS STUDIES DEPARTMENT COURSE SYLLABUS

School Year	2025-2026
Subject	Religious Studies
Grade Level	4
Teacher	Ms. Blanca D. Delariarte
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The Religious Studies course for Grade Four students is anchored on the three Pillars of the Campus Ministry Department namely: the “Word” for Doctrine, the “Witness” for the valuing and application of the concept learned, and the “Worship” for the celebration of faith. The harmony of these three pillars will help ensure holistic formation of the students.

Grade 4 Religious Studies will embark on an exciting journey where they will understand and practice Universal and Gospel values that are reflected in the D'TORCH values, life of St. Dominic and his mission, magnifying the faith, hope, and love of Jesus Christ. In addition, students will be challenged to critically think about what they learned and to apply it to their own lives. 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. realize that God created the world;
2. learn the Scripture account of creation;
3. understand that God reveals Himself as the Holy Trinity;
4. name special gifts that God has given us;
5. understand that at Mass we give thanks and praise to God, especially for the gift of Jesus;
6. learn the Scripture account of the Last Supper;
7. learn about the life of Pope Pius X;
8. learn the Ten Commandments;
9. learn about the life of St. Teresa of Avila.

WITNESS:

1. describe how we respect and care for God's creation;
2. discuss the importance of keeping promises;
3. recognize that our relationship with God is based on the first three Commandments.

WORSHIP:

1. praise God with a blessing prayer;
2. pray the prayer of praise and thanksgiving;
3. pray a prayer of petition.

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- <i>Bl. Imelda Lambertini</i> 20- <i>Bl. Columba of Reiti</i>
Others	June 09- <i>Bl. Diana</i> July 17- <i>Bl. Ceslaus</i>

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: Deportment.....50%

50 % Deportment (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 4: Faith in Action
- 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
Week 1 Aug 12 to 16 <u>4 days of class</u> 12-General Assembly at the Gymnasium 15-Opening Mass & Assumption of Our Lady Assigned Prayer Leaders: DYM	<i>Welcome back to school, Dominicans!</i> <i>Introduction (Part 1):</i> • RS Teacher's Introduction • Quick students' introduction • Introduction about the Subject (The "what" and the "why" of the subject?)
Week 2 Aug 18 to 22 18-St. Dominic de Guzman Feast Day Celebration) Integrated during the Monday Assembly 20- House Shirt & Blue Jeans Day Starts 22- Club Orientation and Club Sign-up Assigned Prayer Leaders: STUCO	Religious Studies Orientation/ Introduction Continuation A. Introduction: • 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 %) B. Integration: • Agreed Rules and Regulations of the class (In the light of the D'TORCH Values) • Students' Profile Form

Week 3 Aug 25 to 29 27- High School Talk - "Kickstart Your Success: Winning Mindsets for a Great School Year" 29- First Club Meeting Assigned Prayer Leaders: <i>House Captains</i>	C. Revisiting DIS • Review: DIS Vision-Mission and Philosophy • D'TORCH values and Dominican Ethos • Basic Prayers • Practice for the Mass Review: Parts of the Mass
Week 4 Sept 1 to 5 1- Launching of the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation (During the Monday Assembly) 1-AP Registration 3- AEO Fall University Fair 5- House Ceremony Assigned Prayer Leaders: <i>RS 12</i>	1. WORD (Doctrine/Informative): - Lectio Divina (Gospel Reflection) - The Story of Creation - St. Thomas Teaches about the Trinity 2. WITNESS (Valuing/Transformative): - show openness and respect to all faith - value the Scripture account of creation 3. WORSHIP (Prayers and Celebration of Faith): - formulate their own prayer using the ACTS formula
Week 5 Sept 8 to 12 8- Holy Mass: Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary & VIP Induction 10- House Mini Games Start Assigned Prayer Leaders: <i>RS 12</i>	1. WORD (Doctrine/Informative): - Lectio Divina (Gospel Reflection) - Chapter 2 – Praise and Thanksgiving - The Gift of Jesus 2.WITNESS (Valuing/Transformative): - recognize the value of unity in prayer - understand that at Mass we give thanks and praise to God, especially for the gift of Jesus 3.WORSHIP (Prayers and Celebration of Faith): - pray for the intercession of Mother Mary - pray the prayer of praise and thanksgiving
Week 6 Sep 15 to 19 15- Catholic Bridge Program for all New Students (After the Monday Assembly at the Gymnasium)	1. WORD (Doctrine/Informative): - Lectio Divina (Gospel Reflection) - Chapter 3 – The Ten Commandments

19- Athletics / Sports Orientation 19- PSAT/NMSQT Registration deadline Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 11	<i>c. Understanding the First, Second, and Third Commandments</i> 2. WITNESS (Valuing/Transformative): <i>- recognize that our relationship with God is based on the first three Commandments</i> 3. WORSHIP (Prayers and Celebration of Faith): <i>- praise God for his triumph of the Cross</i> <i>- pray a prayer of petition</i>
Week 7 Sep 22^{to} 26 22- Celebration of the International Day of Peace-Peace Pole Ceremony (During the Monday Assembly) Teacher's Day Celebration & 26-Teachers' Appreciation 26- Grade 12 Career Educational Trip 24 to 26-Pre-Exam Days Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 11	1. WORD (Doctrine/Informative): a. Lectio Divina (Gospel Reflection) b. Chapter 3 – The Ten Commandments c. Understanding the First, Second, and Third Commandments 2. WITNESS (Valuing/Transformative): <i>- recognize that our relationship with God is based on the first three Commandments</i> 3. WORSHIP (Prayers and Celebration of Faith): <i>- praise God for his triumph of the Cross</i> <i>- pray a prayer of petition</i>
Week 8 Sep 29 to October 3 September 29 – Confucius Day Holiday 29- Launching of the Month of the Holy Rosary (During the Monday Assembly)	<i>Self-Assessment Student's Department</i> <i>Preparation for the Quarter Exam</i> <i>Completion of the Subject's Requirements for the 1st Quarter</i> October 1 and 2 – QUARTER EXAMS

Oct. 1-2- First Quarter Exams (half day)	
Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 10	
<i>Oct. 3-DIS Teachers and Staff Recognition Day/ Record Day Recollection for Aunties and Uncles (no classes for students)</i>	
<i>Oct 6-Moon Festival (no classes)</i>	
<i>7-9 Teacher's Conference (no classes)</i>	
Week 9 Oct 6 to 10	<i>October 6 - Moon Festival Holiday</i> <i>October 7-9 – Teachers' Conference</i> <i>(No class for students)</i> <i>October 10 Double Ten – Public Holiday</i>
Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 10	

Second QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

Week / Date	Topic /Learning Tasks/ Assessments
Week 1 (10) Oct 13 to 17 13- Second Quarter Begins 13- Start of New Applicant Enrollment for 2nd Semester 14- Visit of Mother Mary to Classrooms (During the morning prayer) 15- AP Exam Only Registration Deadline 15- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep 17- PSAT/NMSQT Digital Exam	1. WORD (Doctrine/Informative): a. Lectio Divina (Gospel Reflection) b. Chapter 4 – The Lord's Prayer c. Praying to Our Father in Heaven 2. WITNESS (Valuing/Transformative): - discover how prayer leads us toward God's kingdom - learn how to respond in prayer to the Ten Commandments 3. WORSHIP (Prayers and Celebration of Faith): - pray the Lord's Prayer heartily and piously - pray the Rosary piously

Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 9	
Week 2 (11) Oct 20 to 24 20- Jubilee: Marian Exhibit Opening (After the Monday Assembly) 20- Campus Safety Talk for Students 24- Book Fair (Senior Escape Room) 24 – RETROCESSION DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 9	1. WORD (Doctrine/Informative): a. Lectio Divina (Gospel Reflection) b. Chapter 5 – Jesus, the Image of God c. The Crucifixion 2. WITNESS (Valuing/Transformative): - emulate Mary and her acts of kindness - explore ways of following the example of Jesus Christ 3. WORSHIP (Prayers and Celebration of Faith): - pray the Holy Rosary
Week 3 (12) Oct 28 to Nov 1 29- Grade 11 Career Educational Trip Oct. 31 to Nov. 1- Gr.6 SEL Camp Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 8	1. WORD (Doctrine/Informative): a. Lectio Divina (Gospel Reflection) b. One in Christ c. All Saints and All Souls Day 2. WITNESS (Valuing/Transformative): - be motivated by the life of all the saints in heaven - understand our call to live Christian lives 3. WORSHIP (Prayers and Celebration of Faith): - pray to all the saints in heaven
Week 4 (13) Nov 3 to 7 3- Feast of St. Martin de Porres Mass (integrated during the Monday Assembly) 5- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 8	1. WORD (Doctrine/Informative): a. Lectio Divina (Gospel Reflection) b. Jesus is God's Divine Son c. The Holy Rosary 2. WITNESS (Valuing/Transformative): - be inspired by the life of Christ in praying the Rosary - discuss how role models influence us 3. WORSHIP (Prayers and Celebration of Faith): - devote one hour of prayer to St. John Paul II - pray a prayer of reflection

Week 5 (14) Nov 10 to 14 14- Health Week 14- VIP-Parent Learning Community Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 7	1. WORD (Doctrine/Informative): a. Lectio Divina (Gospel Reflection) b. Chapter 6 – Baptism in Christ c. The Sacrament of Baptism 2. WITNESS (Valuing/Transformative): - be open to God's instructions/plans in your life - realize the significance of the gift of Baptism 3. WORSHIP (Prayers and Celebration of Faith): - be an active participant during the Holy Rosary Mass
Week 6 (15) Nov 17 to 21 17- Launching of Mental Health and Anti-Bullying Month 21- Young Shakespeare Play Writing and Performing Contest Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 7	1. WORD (Doctrine/Informative): a. Lectio Divina (Gospel Reflection) b. Chapter 6 – Baptism in Christ c. The Sacrament of Baptism 2. WITNESS (Valuing/Transformative): - be open to God's instructions/plans in your life - realize the significance of the gift of Baptism 3. WORSHIP (Prayers and Celebration of Faith): - be an active participant during the Holy Rosary Mass
Week 7 (16) Nov 24 to 28 24- Peace Pole Day (Monday Assembly) 24- Lighting of the Christmas Tree after school (Campus Min/ ECA/ D' Torch Orchestra/ Religious Studies) (Afternoon) 25-27- Pre-Exam Days 27- Thanksgiving Potluck after school for teachers and staff 27- Thanksgiving Family Day 28- Gr. 12 Second Quarter Exam Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 6	1. WORD (Doctrine/Informative): a. Lectio Divina (Gospel Reflection) b. Group Project: Recycled Christmas Decorations (Planning Stage) 2. WITNESS (Valuing/Transformative): - be creative in planning for their Group Project 3. WORSHIP (Prayers and Celebration of Faith): - worship God through offering an hour each day to read the Bible
Week 8 (17)	1. WORD (Doctrine/Informative): a. Lectio Divina (Gospel Reflection)

Dec 2 to 6 1- First Week of Advent: Lighting of First Advent Candle (During the Monday Assembly) 3- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep 5- Nativity Play (Collaboration with Campus Ministry) 5- Christmas Fair Whole Day Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 6	b. Group Project: Recycled Christmas Decorations (Creating Stage) 2. WITNESS (Valuing/Transformative): - exhibit collaboration and teamwork in creating their Group Project 3. WORSHIP (Prayers and Celebration of Faith): - revere God through inviting someone to go to Church to celebrate Christ the King
Week 9 (18) Dec 08 to 12 8- Foundation Day Mass, cake ceremony, and Class Party (half day) 8- Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception 8- Second Week of Advent 10- Gr. 12 Advent Immersion 11 and 12- Second Quarter Exam (half day) Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 6	<i>Self-Assessment Student's Department</i> <i>Individual Conference</i> <i>Preparation for the Quarter Exam</i> <i>Completion of the Subject's Requirements for the 2nd Quarter</i>

"Kindling the Light of Faith, Hope, and Love: The Legacy of St. Dominic de Guzmán"