



Dominican International School
台北市私立道明外僑學校
No. 76, Dazhi Street, Taipei (104042), Taiwan, R.O.C.
10464 臺北市中山區大直街 76 號



COURSE SYLLABUS

School Year	2025-2026
Subject	CHURCH HISTORY
Grade Level	GRADE 8
Teacher	JAYNO P JABONILLO
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

"The Church is the same yesterday, today, and forever, because Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever."

– Adapted from *Hebrews 13:8*

Church History is the history of our family in faith, a journey that began over 2,000 years ago when Jesus walked the earth, called His disciples, and entrusted them with the mission to bring the Good News to all nations.

This is a history filled with courage, sacrifice, and hope. It's about ordinary men and women who became saints, missionaries, leaders, and even martyrs—people who faced challenges, made mistakes, but never gave up on the mission entrusted to them by Christ. It's about how the Church grew from a small group of believers in Jerusalem into a worldwide community of faith.

When we study Church History, we're not just memorizing dates or events—we are discovering how God has been at work through time, guiding His people through trials, reforms, and renewals. We'll see how faith survived persecution, how the Gospel spread to far-off lands, and how the Church has continually been called to be a light in a changing world.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: By the end of the semester/school year, (SWBAT) Students will be able to:

WORD: to focus attention on the moral teachings of the Catholic Church through a consistent presentation of the sacred scriptures with the special emphasis on the Commandments and the Beatitudes.

WITNESS: to teach the students the doctrines of the Catholic Church and establish a common language of faith so that they can progress from year to year in understanding and expressing the beliefs and practices of the Catholic Church.

WORSHIP: to engage the students in understanding the sacramental life of the Catholic



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Church and develop the skills needed to participate in the sacred rites and liturgical celebrations of the Church.

PRIMARY TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER RESOURCES:

Eusebius. (1999). *The history of the church from Christ to Constantine* (G. A. Williamson, Trans., Rev. ed.). Penguin Classics.

González, J. L. (2010). *The story of Christianity: Volume 1: The early church to the dawn of the Reformation* (2nd ed.). HarperOne.

Shelley, B. L. (2013). *Church history in plain language* (4th ed.). Thomas Nelson.

Chadwick, H. (2001). *The early church* (Rev. ed.). Penguin Books.

Schreck, A. (2012). *The compact history of the Catholic Church* (3rd ed.). Servant Books.

MacCulloch, D. (2010). *Christianity: The first three thousand years*. Penguin Books.

Online References:

Catholic Church. (n.d.). *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. <https://www.usccb.org/sites/default/files/flipbooks/catechism>

Catholic Education Resource Center. (n.d.). *History of the Catholic Church*. <https://www.catholiceducation.org/en/history/catholic-contributions/history-of-the-catholic-church.html>

EWTN. (n.d.). *A short history of the Catholic Church*. Eternal Word Television Network. <https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/library/a-short-history-of-the-catholic-church-10936>

New Advent. (n.d.). *The Catholic Encyclopedia*. <https://www.newadvent.org/cathen/>

Vatican. (n.d.). *History of the Church*. The Holy See. <https://www.vatican.va>

GRADING SYSTEM/ASSESSMENT:

Part 1: Academic (50 %)

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%

Part 2: Deportment/Behavior (50 %)

· Truthful.....19 points

· Organized.....19 points

· Reflective.....19 points

· Courageous.....19 points

· Helpful.....19 points

TOTAL.....95 points



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Note: *The highest possible grade students can get every quarter in Department is 95 points in conformity with the current grading system. Students are guided how to do department self-evaluation truthfully and reflectively.*

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.*
- *Please always check Google Classroom for homework and announcements.*

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 work;
- Representing another's intellectual work, such as photographs, paintings, drawings, sculpture, research, or the like, as one's own, including failure to attribute content to an AI.
- Employing a tutor, using Artificial Intelligence without acknowledgment, getting a parent to write a paper or do an assignment, and paying for an essay to be written by someone else and presented as the student's 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/learning task.



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First Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week/Date	Topic/Projects/Assessments
Week 1 (August 12 to 15) 4 days of class 12-General Assembly at the Gymnasium 15-Opening Mass & Assumption of Our Lady	Welcome back to school, Dominicans! • Subject Course Orientation • Course contents and requirements • Grading system (See the syllabus.) • Rules and Regulations • Review: DIS Vision-Mission and Philosophy • D' TORCH values and Dominican Ethos • Basic Prayers • Students' Profile • Practice for the Mass • Review: Parts of the Mass
Week 2 (August 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	1ST QUARTER Topics: UNIT 1 (Marks of the Church) (1) Apostolic: Founded on the Apostles Students' Engagement: Watch: The Catholic Church and its Four Marks, The Catholic Church and Its Four Marks Assessment: (1) About St. Dominic de Guzman (2) Seatwork
Week 3 (August 25 to 29) 27- High School Talk - "Kickstart Your Success: Winning Mindsets for a Great School Year" 29- First Club Meeting	Topics: UNIT 1 (Marks of the Church) (2) Holy: Jesus Christ in the Sacraments Students' Engagement: Read: The Four Marks by Loyola Press, Marks of the Church Loyola Press Assessment: (1) Journal Writing (2) Activity



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Week 4 (September 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	Topics: UNIT 1 (Marks of the Church) (3) Catholic: Open and Respectful for All (4) One: Praying for Unity Students' Engagement: Recitation (<i>Question and Answer</i>) Assessment: (3) Summative Test
Week 5 (September 8 to 12) 8- Holy Mass: Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary & VIP Induction 10- House Mini Games Start	Topics: UNIT 2 (The Growth of Christendom) (1) Councils, Cultures and Conflicts Students' Engagement: Watch: How did Christianity start and spread? Brief History of Christianity/ 5 Minutes, How Did Christianity Start and Spread Brief History of Christianity 5 MINUTES Pedagogy: Socratic Method Assessment: (1) Journal Writing (2) Seatwork
Week 6 (September 15 to 19) 15- Catholic Bridge Program for all New Students (After the Monday Assembly at the Gymnasium) 19- Athletics / Sports Orientation 19- PSAT/NMSQT Registration deadline	Topics: UNIT 2 (The Growth of Christendom) (2) Liturgy and Unity, Worship and Beauty Students' Engagement: Read: The 21 Ecumenical Councils by Karl Keating, The 21 Ecumenical Councils Catholic Answers Magazine Pedagogy: Socratic Method Assessment: (1) Activity (2) Summative Test (3) Self-Evaluation for Department Grade



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Week 7 (September 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	Review of the Topics for the Quarterly Examination: (1) UNIT 1: Marks of the Church (1.a) Apostolic: Founded on the Apostles (1.b) Holy: Jesus Christ in the Sacraments (1.c) Catholic: Open and Respectful for All (1.d) One: Praying for Unity (2) UNIT 2: The Growth of Christendom (2.a) Councils, Cultures and Conflicts (2.b) Liturgy and Unity, Worship and Beauty Students' Engagement: Recitation (<i>Question and Answer</i>) Assessment: (1) Visit to the Peace Pole (2) One-on-one Conference (Department) (3) Bible Reflections
Week 8 (September 29 to October 3) 29- Launching of the Month of the Holy Rosary (During the Monday Assembly) Oct. 1-2- First Quarter Exam (half day)	1ST QUARTERLY EXAMINATION (Paper and Pen)
<i>Oct. 3-DIS Teachers and Staff Recognition Day/ Record Day Recollection for Aunties and Uncles (no classes for students)</i>	



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Second Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week/Date	Topic/Projects/Assessments
<i>6-Moon Festival (no classes)</i>	
<i>7-9 Teacher's Conference (no classes)</i>	
Week 1 (11) (October 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	PRELIMINARIES ● Rechecking of 1st Quarter Exam ● Showing of Grades ● Subject Course Orientation for 2nd Quarter ● Historical and Biblical Background of the Holy Rosary ● Marian Activities ● Other Matters/ Announcement
Week 2 (12) (October 20 to 24) 20- Jubilee: Marian Exhibit Opening (After the Monday Assembly) 20- Campus Safety Talk for Students 24- Book Fair (Senior Escape Room)	2ND QUARTER Topics: UNIT 2 (The Growth of Christendom) (3) The Church and the Empire (4) Prayer for Understanding Students' Engagement: Pedagogy: Socratic Method Assessment: (1) Seatwork (2) Journal Writing
Week 3 (13) (October 27 to 31) 29- Grade 11 Career	Topics: UNIT 3 (The Age of Faith and Beauty) (1) Faith Expressed and Lived (2) Mass in the Cathedral



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Educational Trip Oct. 31 to Nov. 1- Gr.6 SEL Camp	Students' Engagement: Pedagogy: Socratic Method Assessment: (1) Seatwork (2) Journal Writing
Week 4 (14) (November 3 to 7) 3- Feast of St. Martin de Porres Mass (integrated during the Monday Assembly) 5- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep	Topics: UNIT 3 (The Age of Faith and Beauty) (3) The Quest for Salvation Students' Engagement: Pedagogy: Socratic Method Assessment: (1) Activity
Week 5 (15) (November 10 to 14) 14- Health Week 14- VIP-Parent Learning Community	Topics: UNIT 3 (The Age of Faith and Beauty) (4) Devotions Students' Engagement: Pedagogy: Socratic Method Assessment: (1) Summative Test
Week 6 (16) (November 17 to 21) 17- Launching of Mental Health and Anti-Bullying Month 21- Young Shakespeare Play Writing and Performing Contest	PROJECT-BASED ASSESSMENT (Making)
Week 7 (17) (November 24 to 28)	



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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	PROJECT-BASED ASSESSMENT (Making)
<i>Nov. 29 Invitation for All: The Jubilee Pilgrimage to Taipei (Saturday)</i>	
Week 8 (18) (December 1 to 5) 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	PROJECT-BASED ASSESSMENT (Making)
Week 9 (19) (December 8 to 12) 8- Foundation Day Mass, cake ceremony, and Class Party (half day) 8- Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception 8- Second Week of	PROJECT-BASED ASSESSMENT (Submission)



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Advent
10- Gr. 12 Advent
Immersion
11 and 12- Second
Quarter Exam (half
day)

December 13 Invitation for All: Advent Recollection @DIS (Saturday)

December 15 to January 2 Christmas Break

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