

Course Title



Dominican International School

Course Syllabus

School Year 2026–27



Teacher Name Francisco
Carin
Teacher/Position

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The world desperately needs individuals who can make sound moral decisions. Religious Studies (RS) 12 calls students to nurture Catholic values by following the examples of St. Dominic de Guzman and other saints who followed the way of Jesus Christ. The course promotes sensitivity and compassion for the needs of others while also developing essential 21st-century learning skills. Living a Catholic moral life is a response to the Father's love, a reflection of Jesus' message of love, and a journey guided by the grace of the Holy Spirit. The first part of the course will engage students in uncovering the foundation of morality, which is essential for making morally sound decisions. This section will present the significance of Catholic morality's foundation, the person of Jesus as the starting point, the Church's call for faith and unity, an enlightened conscience, the nature of sin, and the roles of virtues in discerning and committing moral acts. Throughout the course, students will contemplate relevant issues and social concerns, which will lead to the development and strengthening of their social conscience. In general, the course invites students to view morality as something that springs forth from Sacred Scripture and Catholic tradition. The Religious Studies course for senior students is anchored on the three pillars of the Religious Studies Department: "Word" for doctrine, "Witness" for valuing and applying learned concepts, and "Worship" for the celebration of faith. The harmony of these three pillars ensures the holistic formation of students.

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND DIFFERENT SEASONS OF THE CHURCH

- Advent
- Christmas
- Lent
- Holy Week
- Easter
- Ordinary Time
- Feasts and Memorials of Dominican Saints

- 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

Feasts/Memorials of Dominican Saints

August 02- Bl. Jane of Aza

- 08- St. Dominic de Guzmán
- 14- St. Dominic Ibañez
- 17- St. Hyacinth of Poland
- 18- Bl. Mannes de Guzman
- 23- Rose of Lima

September 18- St. John Macias

- 20- St. Francis Posadas
- 28- St. Lawrence Ruiz October
- 09- St. Louis Bertrand

November 03- St. Martin de Porres

- 15- St. Albert the Great
- 22- Bl. Cecilia

December 01- Bl. John Vercelli

- The Holy Family

January 07- St. Raymond of Peñafort

- 18- St. Margaret of Hungary

February 13- Bl. Jordan of Saxony

March 07- St. Thomas Aquinas

April 05- St. Vincent Ferrer; 06/29- St. Peter of Verona

- 20- St. Agnes of Montepulciano
- 29/30- St. Catherine of Siena
- 30- St. Pius V

May 10- St. Anthony of Florence

- 12- Bl. Imelda Lambertini
- 20- Bl. Columba of Rieti Others

June 09- Bl. Diana

July 17- Bl. Ceslaus

GRADING SYSTEM:

Part 1: Academic (50 %)	
Section A: Homework, Seatwork, Projects NOTE: Attendance will be included in the RS Grading System.	16.66%
Section B: Quizzes	16.67%
Section C: Major Quarterly Exam/PBL/PETA	16.67%
Part 2: Department/Behavior (50 %) STUDENT'S SELF-EVALUATION	
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 obtain every quarter in Department is 95 points in conformity with the current grading system. Students are guided on how to self-evaluate their department truthfully and reflectively. The Project D (Detention/Infraction) significantly affects students' Department Grade.	

GUIDELINES REGARDING THE UTILIZATION OF AI AND GADGETS

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, 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.

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

The Google Classroom code will be given to all students to access 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.*

Gadget and Technology Guidelines

- **Cellphones Out of Sight:** Cellphones are strictly not allowed during class time. Cellphones must be surrendered to the prescribed authority in the school (Homeroom teacher and Discipline Officers, every day).
- **Laptops for Learning Only:** Laptops may only be used when explicitly instructed by your teacher for classwork or research.
- **No Social Media:** Accessing any social media platforms (Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat, YouTube, etc.) on any device is strictly prohibited while on school grounds.
- **Follow Digital Ethics:** Always practice responsible digital citizenship. Use school technology respectfully, stay on task, and follow all school internet rules.
- **Strict Usage Rules:** Gadget privileges are a responsibility. Unapproved use, unauthorized gaming, or browsing non-academic sites will result in device confiscation.

PRIMARY TEXTBOOKS AND ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

First Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week & Date	Topics / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 Aug 10 - 14	Wednesday: Welcome! Our Class saints: Short presentation: Who and what is a saint (and a patron saint) in the Catholic Church with some examples (10'). Reading material (10 min) + 150-200 words written composition from different texts (20'). 1. Make a less than 100 words biographic summary of St. Vincent Ferrer/ Pius V life. 2. What calls your attention in the story of his life? Why? 3. What in the life of this saint may be still something valuable for the life of a person in the XXI century? 4. Name at least one aspect of his life that you would like to emulate in your own life? Why? 5. What kind of life (name 3-4 traits) will deserve "sainthood" in the 21st Century? <i>[After teacher's assessment, students' works will be displayed in class]</i>

	Thursday: Preparation of the classroom altar. Explanation of the meaning and purpose of having an altar in the classroom (5'). In two groups, they discuss and gather their ideas (15'). Each group propose their ideas to the whole class (5'+5'), then they decide the final design (5); be creative! They will complete it next day during class time, so they have time to bring/prepare at home what they will need. Thursday: Opening Mass of the Holy Spirit 8:00 Preparation of the class altar (10 min). Preparation of the Morning Prayer: Inform them of the assigned week of the year and explanation of the basic structure of Morning Prayer in DIS (10') Divided by preassigned trios (or may be according to their own liking), they must look for: • Liturgical celebration of Catholic Saints on the week/day they prepare • National/international civic feast on the week/day they prepare • School activities on the week/day they prepare Divided by preassigned trios they prepare the morning prayer for the day they have been assigned.
Week 2 Aug 17 - 21	Wednesday: Give back the prayers for teacher review. The torch values Thursday: The Catholic Mass: They studied the Catholic Mass rhythm and the Liturgical seasons in Grade 11. Here they should dive back into those teachings, also use the internet to gather information and prepare a short presentation of the part of the Holy Mass assigned to them. Short introduction to the Eucharist: 2 people Entrance Rite: 3 people Liturgy of the Word: 5 people Liturgy of the Eucharist: 5 people Friday: Fast review (15') and Quiz [saints, altar, and importance of prayer] (25 min)
Week 3 Aug 24 - 28	Wednesday: The Moral question. The human being as a moral subject and the ability to respond (I) HW: Thursday: The Moral question. The human being as a moral subject and the ability to respond (II)

	Friday: Christian Anthropology: Human person as image of God (I) HW:
Week 4 Aug 31 - Sep 4	Wednesday: Christian Anthropology: Human person as image of God (II) Thursday: Quiz Moral schools' theories (Deontology, Divine Command and Plato [Idea]) HW: Friday: Moral schools' theories (Aristotle and virtue ethics) HW:
Week 5 Sep 7 - 11	Wednesday: Moral schools' theories (Aquinas and Natural Law) HW: Thursday: Moral schools' theories (Consequentialism [Utilitarianism...]) HW: Friday: Ethics' today (Practicum: movies, parenting, school, friendship, politics, economy...)
Week 6 Sep 14 - 18	Wednesday: Quiz. Modern Catholic Moral theory (I) Thursday: Modern Catholic Moral theory (II) HW: Friday: Modern Catholic Moral theory (III) HW:
Week 7 Sep 21 - 25	Wednesday: Pre-Exam Days Quiz Biblical morality (OT): the 10 commandments Thursday: Pre-Exam Days Biblical morality (NT): Jesus' primacy of Love, mercy and compassion. HW Friday Moon Festival ~ Public Holiday
Week 8 Sep 28 - Oct 2	Monday Confucius' Birthday ~ Public Holiday Wednesday: REVIEW: Saints as models of Christian Moral life; Human person as image of God and moral person. different schools and ways, one unique purpose: to be "response-able"

	Thursday Major Exams Day 1 Friday Major Exams Day 2
Week 9 Oct 5 - 9	Monday Record Day ~ Student Holiday T-W-Th Teachers Conference ~ Student Holiday Friday Double 10 Day ~ Public Holiday

Second Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week & Date	Topics / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (10) Oct 12 - 16	Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 2 (11) Oct 19 - 23	Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 3 (12) Oct 26 - 30	Monday Retrocession Day ~ Public Holiday Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 4 (13) Nov 2 - 6	Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 5 (14) Nov 9 - 13	Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 6 (15) Nov 16 - 20	Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 7 (16) Nov 23 - 27	Wednesday: Pre-Exam Days Thursday: Pre-Exam Days Friday: Grade 12 Exams
Week 8 (17) Nov 30 - Dec 4	Monday Grade 12 Exams Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 9 (18) Dec 7 - Dec 11	Monday TBD Tuesday Foundation Day Mass 9:00, Cutting of the Cake

	Ceremony, Christmas Fair, (Whole day) Wednesday: TBD Thursday: Major Final Exams half day Friday: Major Final Exams half day
<i>Dec 14 to Jan 1 Christmas Break</i>	

Third Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week & Date	Topics / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (19) Jan 4 - Jan 8	Monday Record Day ~ Student Holiday Wednesday Thursday Friday Friday New Year Mass at 8:00
Week 2 (20) Jan 11 - Jan 15	Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 3 (21) Jan 18 - Jan 22	Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 4 (22) Jan 25 - Jan 29	Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 5 (23) Feb 1 - Feb 5	Wednesday Thursday: Little New Year's Eve ~ Public Holiday Friday: Lunar New Year ~ Public Holiday
<i>February 8 to 12 Chinese New Year Holiday</i>	
Week 6 (24) Feb 15 - Feb 19	Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 7 (25) Feb 22 - Feb 26	22-26 IOWA Assessments Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 8 (26) Mar 1 - Mar 5	Monday Memorial Day ~ Public Holiday Wednesday: Pre-Exam Days Thursday Friday

Week 9 (27) Mar 8 - Mar 12	Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 10 (28) Mar 15 - Mar 19	Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 11 (29) Mar 22- Mar 26	Tuesday Major Final Exams half day Wednesday Major Final Exams half day Thursday-Friday Easter Break (Spring Break) ~ Public Holiday
<i>March 25 to April 2 Easter & Spring Break</i>	

Fourth Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week & Date	Topics / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (30) Apr 5 - Apr 9	Monday Tomb Sweeping Day ~ Public Holiday Tuesday Children's Day ~ Public Holiday Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 2 (31) Apr 12 - Apr 16	Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 3 (32) Apr 19 - Apr 23	19 - 23 AP Mock Exams Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 4 (33) Apr 26 - Apr 30	Wednesday-Thursday: Pre-Exam Days Friday: Labor Day ~ Public Holiday
Week 5 (34) May 3 - May 7	3 - 7 Final Exams (K, Gr. 5, 8, & 12 Only) 3 - 14 AP Exams Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 6 (35) May 10 - May 14	3 - 14 AP Exams Wednesday Major Final Exams Undergraduates half day Thursday Major Final Exams Undergraduates half day Friday Record Day ~ Student Holiday

Week 7 (36) May 17 - May 21	Monday Gr. 12 Recollection (Morning) Monday Baccalaureate Mass (Afternoon, Schoolwide) Wednesday House Sports Day Thursday High School Field Trip Friday House Culminating Activity All Week Student Clearance Days & Special Events
Week 8 (37) May 24 - May 28	Monday Middle & High School Sports Day Monday LS Field Trip Tuesday Kindergarten Graduation/Gr. 5 Promotion Wednesday Gr. 8 Graduation and Gr. 12 Graduation Thursday Pre-Kindergarten & Gr. 1 - 4, 6 & 7, 9-11 Recognition Friday Last Day of School for Students