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Franciscan School of Theology/GTU  
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### **HS 4365 History of the Laity and the Church**

This course is an advanced course in the History of Lay People within the Christian Tradition. The course will cover the arc of Christian History, with special attention given to Medieval lay devotional practices and roles of religious authority.

Students will be responsible for using methodologies appropriate for the discipline of History. Students in Ph.D., MA and MTS programs will prepare a major research project which will involve a research paper of 20-25 pages and a 20 minute oral presentation. Other students will prepare a shorter research paper, of 10-15 pages and will give a short oral presentation of 10 minutes. The student project is included in the course requirements so that each participant has the opportunity to explore in-depth a topic of special interest to them that is not formally included in the syllabus of readings and lectures.

#### **Evaluation will be based on:**

- thoughtful participation in class discussion (75 points)
- one book review (25 points)
- one take-home midterm exam (100 points)
- 2 reflection papers (25 points each)
- term paper (200 points) [length depends on degree program]
- oral presentation (100 points) [length depends on program]

Regular class attendance is assumed, as is the timely fulfillment of each of these requirements.

All written assignments are due during class on the due date. Late papers are severely penalized. Absolutely no late reflection papers accepted, since the purpose of reflection papers is to prepare for discussion in class. Any requests for extensions must be made before the due date and must be due to reasonable cause. All written assignments should be written in correct, standard English. Any papers with more than 5 grammatical/spelling errors may be returned ungraded and counted as late until it is edited and resubmitted. Please contact the professor if this presents a challenge. There are plenty of resources around to help!

It is assumed that all students have access to the World Wide Web and to email. If this presents a problem, you must contact the professor immediately. Supplementary materials and course

announcements will be made via Blackboard Website. The class password is: Laity

### **Book List**

- Astell, Anne, ed.. Lay Sanctity, Medieval and Modern, (Notre Dame, 2000)
- Orsi, Robert. The Madonna of 115th Street. Faith and Community in Italian Harlem, 1880-1950 (New Haven, 1985)
- Osborne, Kenan. Ministry: Lay Ministry in the Roman Catholic Church Its History and Theology. (New York, Paulist Press, 1993)
- Parachini, Patricia. Guide for Lay Preachers. (Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, 2000)
- Radford Reuther, Rosemary. Ruling Ideologies, Diverse Realities. Christianity and the Making of the Modern Family. (Boston, Beacon, 2000)
- Highly Recommended: Anne Sigismund Huff, Writing for Scholarly Publication

### **On Reserve at GTU Library:Required Reading:**

- Andre Vauchez, The Laity in the Middle Ages (Notre Dame, 1993)

Some supplementary materials will be found on my regular website: <http://courseweb.fst.edu/pryds>

### **Important Dates:**

- Reflection Paper # 1 on Monasticism as a Lay Movement Due Feb. 12
- Reflection Paper #2 on Gender and Religious Leadership Due Feb. 26
- Take Home Midterm  
--distributed March 12  
--due March 19
- Book Review due by April 2
- Draft of Term Papers due for optional assessment: April 16
- Term Papers due: April 30
- Oral Presentations Scheduled for April

### **Topics to be Covered:**

I. Historical Method and Research Skills; how to write a book review; how to think about researching a topic.

II. Origins of the Notion of Laity

READ: A. Astell, Lay Sanctity, pp. 1-26; 27-45

Osborne, Ministry, pp.7-47

### III. Models of Church: Pre-Reformation

--Roman, Byzantine, Celtic

-- Structures of Religious Authority and the Establishment of a Clerical Hierarchy

--The Place of Women

### IV. Monasticism as a Lay Movement

READ: Osborne, Ministry, pp. 233-272

### V. The Sexual Christian: Marriage and Family Life

READ: Rosemary Radford Reuther, Christianity and the Making of the Modern Family [selections];

Vaucher, Laity, pp. 185-203

### VI. Kingship and Privileged Lay Authority in the Church

Charlemagne and Royal Stewardship of the Church

Sacral Kingship and Holy Anointing

Robert of Anjou and Preaching Kings

READ: Osborne, Ministry, pp. 273-307

### VII. The Rise of the Laity

Vita Apostolica of the 12th c.: Lay Preaching

Lay Preaching: Waldensians

Small Christian Communities: Humiliati and Beguines

READ: Osborne, Ministry, pp. 333-377; Parachini, Guide to Lay Preaching.

### VIII. The Accusation of Heresy and the Response

Waldensians

Francis of Assisi

Women and the Mendicant Quest: Rose of Viterbo

Lollards

READ Vaucher, Laity, pp. 171-183.

### IX. Holiness and Sanctity

The Creation of Mary Magdalene as Reformed Prostitute-Peacher

The Rise of Lay Sanctity: Ex. Angela of Foligno

Laity and Mysticism: Forms of Religious Authority

The Stigma of Sexuality: Celestial Marriage

The Protestant Responses

READ: A. Astell, Lay Sanctity, pp. 61-75; 77-90;.91-104; Vaucher, Laity, pp.73-82.

### X. Medieval Devotional Practices: Cultivating Lay Spirituality

Rosary, Pilgrimage, Stations of the Cross, Corpus Christi Processions, Flagellants, Bianchi, Revival Preachers, Indulgences

READ: A. Astell, Lay Sanctity, pp.47-60; Vaucher, Laity, pp. 119-127; 129-139; 153-168

## XI. Models of Church: Reformation and Post-Reformation

--Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Calvinist, Anglican, Anabaptist...

READ: Osborne, Ministry, pp.391-463

## XII. Piety and Civic Action in American Life

READ: Robert Orsi, The Madonna of 115th Street.

## XIII. Lay Leadership in the 20th Century

Raissa and Jacques Maritain: Yearning for God.

Dorothy Day and the Catholic Worker Movement: Working for Justice

Chiara Lubich: Striving for Holiness

READ: A. Astell, Lay Sanctity, pp.147-60; 161-172; 173-189

## XIV. Vatican II: Not Just for Catholics...

The Building up to the Council: Yves Congar

The Councils Statement on the laity; on liturgy that affects the laity's place

The Impact beyond the Roman Catholic Church

READ: Osborne, Ministry, pp.519-595