PA822DE – Marriage Practicum

Course Description

This course focuses on developing skills that are essential to deacons in the pastoral setting of pre-marriage counseling and preparation: the ability to assess and summarize various information to the sacramental nature of marriage, and the capacity to develop a pastoral care approach to the couple’s vision of the wedding. Both challenges require deacons to think purposefully and integrate various communication skills. Deacons apply these skills in several contexts: couple premarital meetings, marriage team meetings, and marriage presentations. Being able to understand and communicate fundamental marriage issues, identify the sacramental challenges, and delineate essential elements of alternatives or recommendations require a comprehensive understanding of marriage in the United States multicultural and interfaith society. Being able to develop and refine a pastoral care approach is essential in evangelizing the Church’s position on marriage and influencing newly married couples to live out a sacramental marriage. In this course, students learn how to analyze pre-marriage situations, purposefully develop approaches for structure and style for each couple, and construct methods to handle conflicts among couples.

Learning Objectives

- To have a working knowledge of how the communication process (active listener, sender, message, channel, receiver, interpretation) are directly related to successful pre-marriage pastoral care.
- To help deacons understand the importance of pastoral care needs of pre-married couples.
- To that end, deacons will advance their integral relationship between personal marriage experience and the sacraments of Holy Orders and Marriage.
- To improve deacons’ skill levels in interpersonal, small group, public communication.
- To assist deacons to distinguish between spiritual direction, pastoral counseling, and psychological therapy.
- To provide the Catholic Church’s teaching on marriage and family.
- To present existing resources from the U.S. Bishops as well as other Catholic websites on marriage.
- To offer a pastoral care approach to pre-married couples that focus on:
  - Understanding of a Secular View of Marriage.
  - Catholic Church Teachings.
  - The Dignity of Marriage.
  - Mixed Marriages (interfaith and multicultural).
  - Domestic Violence.
  - Family Planning Issues.
  - Pornography
  - The Spirituality of Marriage.
- History of Marriage.
- Canon Law on Marriage.
- Theology of the Body.
- Cohabitation.
- Perseverance and Reconciliation in Marriage.
- Domestic Church.

## Course Schedule

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<tr>
<th>LEC #</th>
<th>TOPICS</th>
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| Modular 1 | Introduction to the course and syllabus review. Understanding religion today.  
Is the couple spiritual or religious?  
Does the couple seek to be spiritual or religious?  
Naming spirituality and religiosity in the 21st Century?  

Power Point  
Readings  
Assignment  

Teleconference calls. |
| Modular 2 | How does 21st Century society define marriage?  
Case study on young adults’ definition of marriage.  
Review of interfaith and intercultural marriages.  

Power Point  
Readings  
Assignment  

Forum assignment |
| Modular 3 | Challenges to Traditional Marriage. Part I  
Power Point  
Readings  
Assignment |
| Modular 4 | Challenges to Traditional Marriage Part II  
Power Point  
Readings  
Assignment |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEC #</th>
<th>TOPICS</th>
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<td>Forum Assignment</td>
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<td><strong>Church’s Teaching on Marriage</strong></td>
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<td>Modular 5</td>
<td>Power Point</td>
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<td>Modular 6</td>
<td><strong>Pastoral Care to Marriage</strong></td>
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<td>Power Point</td>
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<td>Modular 7</td>
<td><strong>Theology of the Sacrament of Marriage</strong></td>
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<td><strong>History of Marriage</strong></td>
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<td>Power Point</td>
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<td>Modular 8</td>
<td><strong>Cannon Law and Marriage</strong></td>
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<td>Power Point</td>
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<td>Modular 9</td>
<td><strong>The Meeting with the Couple</strong>.</td>
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<td>Power Point</td>
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<td>Modular 10</td>
<td><strong>The Paperwork</strong></td>
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<td>Modular</td>
<td><strong>The Rite of Marriage</strong></td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Power Point Readings Assignment</td>
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<td>Teleconference</td>
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<td>Modular 12</td>
<td>Power Point Readings Assignment</td>
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<td>The Wedding Celebration</td>
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Course Materials

**Required Texts:**
The Order of Celebrating Matrimony: Complete Set (Hardcover) (Lslf Ind Edition)
Ave Maria Press (Autor corporativo)
Anillos, 140 Pages, Published 2016

Together for Life: Revised with the Order of Celebrating Matrimony
Author: Joseph M. Champlin; Peter A. Jarret C.S.C.
Year: 2016 Format: Paperback 134 pages
ISBN: 1594717222 (1-59471-722-2)

**Suggested Text:**
A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations by Kate L. Turabian (Author),
This guide is available in paperback and eBook.
ISBN-10: 013297133X