Rome & Roman Catholicism:  
A Study Abroad Retrospective

This Advent, Dr. Emanuele Colombo and Dr. Sheryl Overmyer will be taking twenty DePaul students, undergraduate and graduate, to Rome and Assisi. The students, who are studying church history, will culminate those studies in visits to such sites as the San Callisto Catacombs, the Colosseum, the Vatican Library, Gesu and Sant'Ignazio Churches, and the Sistine Chapel. The department offers “Rome and Roman Catholicism” as a short-term study abroad program annually.
I am a philosopher with a focus on phenomenology and the philosophical implications of Catholic faith. I am from Italy, where I received my BA and MA at the State University of Milan, and my PhD at the University of Calabria, with a dissertation on Merleau-Ponty’s phenomenology. Before joining the Department of Catholic Studies at DePaul University (Fall 2017), I had various teaching and research experiences in Europe, the USA, and Israel. During my PhD, I had an opportunity to study in Germany, at the Husserl Archives in Freiburg and Cologne. After graduating, I spent two years at Boston College, first as a post-doctoral fellow at the Lonergan Institute, and then as a lecturer in the Philosophy Department. Just prior to joining the DePaul faculty, I lived for three years in Jerusalem, teaching at the Studium Theologicum Jerosolymitanum.

Research
My current research is devoted to issues arising from the relationships among philosophy, science, and Catholic theology – issues that I approach from a phenomenological perspective. In particular, my research is based on the work of Edmund Husserl, Max Scheler, Maurice Merleau-Ponty, and other phenomenologists – as well as thinkers outside the phenomenological milieu, including Michael Polanyi, Bernard Lonergan, and others. The leading questions of my research revolve around two distinct – though intertwined – philosophical issues: the problem of the relationships between different forms of knowledge and the question of the nature of the human being.

Teaching
I believe that teaching is a wonderful job and a big responsibility. Teaching is the best way to make my research fruitful, putting it to the test in a continuous dialogue with colleagues and students. My activity as a teacher has greatly informed and inspired my research. At DePaul University, I have the opportunity to incorporate in my courses all the aspects of culture that interest me the most, including philosophy, science, and Catholic theology, exploring them and making connections among them for my students.
Paul Kollman, CSC
Visiting Scholar for CWCIT, Fall 2017
Associate Professor of Theology
Executive Director of the Center for Social Concerns
University of Notre Dame (South Bend, IN)

At Notre Dame, Rev. Kollman is also a fellow of the Nanovic Institute for European Studies, the Kellogg Institute for International Studies, and the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies. He also now serves as president of the International Association of Mission Studies. He holds an MDiv from Notre Dame and a PhD from the University of Chicago, and his publications include The Evangelization of Slaves and Catholic Origins in Eastern Africa. His past teaching experience includes positions in Nairobi and Jinja, Uganda, and he has carried out research in Nigeria, eastern Africa, and South Africa. His research interests include
• Mission history
• World Christianity
• African Christianity, including a long-term study of the Catholic Charismatic Movement

The focus of his research here at DePaul has been on “Africa’s Contributions to the Catholic Church.” Africa was one of the “heartlands” in Christianity’s first 600 years, and today, it is again one of the most vital places of growth in the Catholic Church. This project explores the connections between Africa’s past, present, and future importance for the Church and what its growing role means for the Church on a global level.
For five centuries, Martin Luther has been lionized as an outspoken and fearless icon of change who ended the Middle Ages and heralded the beginning of the modern world. In his talk, “Martin Luther, The Reformation, and Why They Still Matter,” Gregory recasted this long-accepted portrait. Luther did not intend to start a revolution that would divide the Catholic Church and forever change Western civilization. Yet his actions would profoundly shape our world in ways he could never have imagined.

Dr. Gregory’s talk was co-sponsored by the Department of Catholic Studies, the Center for World Catholicism and Intercultural Theology, the Department of History, the Office of Mission and Values, the Office of Religious Diversity, the Catholic Campus Ministry, together with the Lumen Christi Institute and the Catholic Theological Union. More than one hundred attendees enjoyed the event.
STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Valerie Shur
Student Assistant & Graphic Designer

Department of Catholic Studies is pleased to welcome Valerie who became a Student Assistant and Graphic Designer for our department in July, 2017. She is a senior at DePaul majoring in Graphic Design and minoring in User Experience Design. She is open, always willing to help, and has a creative approach to problem solving. She designs our promotional materials, presentations, helps to organize events, collaborates with DePaul community to promote the program.

Valerie also serves as a Vice President of the AIGA DePaul Student Chapter, which is a professional organization for designers. This position helps her to improve leadership skills, and gives a great opportunity to network with professionals for a future career.

This Fall Quarter 2017 Valerie was nominated for the Woman of Spirit and Action at DePaul by her professor Heather Snyder Quinn, who mentioned that Valerie is an excellent student, designer, supporter, and collaborator.
"Daughters of Wisdom: Women and Leadership in the Global Church
April 6-8, 2018
DePaul Lincoln Park Campus

Inspired by Pope Francis’ establishment of a commission to study the ordination of women deacons, this coming April, CWCIT is hosting “Daughters of Wisdom: Women and Leadership in the Global Church”—more broadly—the leadership of women in the Catholic Church, with a special emphasis on the global South. This conference will gather 15 scholars from countries such as India, Nigeria, Argentina, the Philippines, Venezuela, Singapore, Mexico, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

The event is the 2018 edition of World Catholicism Week, a gathering of scholars from around the world to explore a single topic: women’s use of Scripture, as well as the ecclesiological basis for women taking leadership roles in the Church. It will examine the leadership roles that women are already exercising in grassroots church communities, faith-based social movements, and theological education in the global South. Keynote speakers are Marguerite Barankitse, founder and president of Maison Shalom (“house of peace”) in Kigali, Burundi, and Sr. Melinda Roper, former president of the Maryknoll Sisters Congregation and a longtime missionary in Latin America.

**Keynote Speakers**

**Marguerite Barankitse**
Founding president of Maison Shalom and inaugural recipient of the Aurora Prize for Awakening Humanity (*Kigali, Burundi*)

**Melinda Roper, MM**
Past president of Maryknoll Sisters Congregation and longtime missionary in Latin America (*Darién, Panama*)
UPCOMING CWCIT EVENTS
For more information about the Department of Catholic Studies and the Center for World Catholicism & Intercultural Theology, visit:

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