Welcome to JPIC!

Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation (JPIC) is a distance-education program for those who minister to God’s children in difficult social, economic, or environmental conditions.

Ministers worldwide confront a variety of social justice, peace and ecological issues. Problems include ethnic and religious conflicts, gender violence, corrupt political systems, environmental degradation, drug abuse, crime, and poverty.

Ministers need access to the best resources available on practicing social analysis in ministry, resolving conflicts, establishing peace and justice, and respecting the integrity of creation. Further, collaboration with others, both during training and in ministry, will allow them to enhance each other’s experience and build solidarity in their ministry.

Duquesne University, in partnership with the Congregation of the Holy Spirit, has created the program in Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation to help meet these needs.

To Study a JPIC Course Independently…

- Go to http://www.duq.edu/jpic.
- Click on “Courses.”
- Select the course you wish to study.
- Download the PowerPoint presentation associated with each unit and study at your own pace.
- Participate in discussions and collaborate with ministers across the globe through the course’s Wikispace.

To Study a JPIC Course with a Local Group…

- Connect with a local course coordinator, most likely a leader in your order or diocese, such as a formation director, seminary staff member, professor, diocesan JPIC director or other diocesan official. If a local coordinator has not contacted you to invite you to take a course you may need to take the initiative to get a group together and ask one of your leaders to serve as course coordinator.
Go to http://www.duq.edu/jpic.
Click on “Register” for instructions on how your course coordinator can make you a Duquesne University affiliate and register you for the course.
Begin a program of study enhanced by electronic texts from Duquesne University’s Gumberg Library and the opportunity to collaborate with other ministers in your local group.
Earn continuing education units from Duquesne University for the course you complete.

Before You Begin...

You will need several computing components to complete a JPIC course. Below is a checklist to help you determine if you have the resources you need.

- Audio-enabled computer
- Internet access
  - Can you open: www.duq.edu?
  - Can you open: www.youtube.com?
  - Can you open: www.wikispaces.com?
- Adobe Reader
  - If you do not have this program, please download and install it at http://get.adobe.com/reader/.
- Adobe Flash
  - If you do not have this program, please download and install it at http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/.
- Microsoft PowerPoint

Guide to Course Navigation

Each course is similar in style. Buttons in the bottom right corner of the screen will allow you to move forward and buttons in the bottom left corner backward through the course. Icons in the top left corner will let you know when it is time to do an activity. The chart below explains the meaning of each icon.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Button</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Play</td>
<td>This button will move you forward one slide through the course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Back</td>
<td>This button will move you backward one slide through the course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home</td>
<td>This button will allow you to return to the table of contents from any point in the unit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXIT</strong></td>
<td>This button will allow you to <strong>exit</strong> the PowerPoint at the end of each unit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>![file icon]</td>
<td>Activity: Create a document.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>![discussion icon]</td>
<td>Activity: Engage in a local discussion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>![lightbulb icon]</td>
<td>Activity: Reflect.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>![internet icon]</td>
<td>Activity: Read online.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>![globe icon]</td>
<td>Activity: Engage in a global discussion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>![search icon]</td>
<td>Activity: Watch a video.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>![clock icon]</td>
<td>Activity: Take a quiz or test.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>![youtube icon]</td>
<td>This button will <strong>take you to YouTube</strong> to watch a video instead of watching it within the PowerPoint.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>![checkmark icon]</td>
<td>Answer is correct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>![x icon]</td>
<td>Answer is incorrect</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now that you have familiarized yourself with the basics of JPIC courses, you are ready to begin your program of study. Congratulations on joining with the Duquesne University community and your fellow ministers worldwide in this exciting endeavor.
Dr. Maureen R. O’Brien is Associate Professor of Theology and Director of Pastoral Ministry at Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA. She joined the faculty there in 1997.

Dr. O’Brien teaches and writes in the areas of practical/pastoral theology, theological anthropology, theology of ministry, social justice education and catechetics. Her publications include a number of articles in journals such as Religious Education, International Journal of Practical Theology, and Teaching Theology and Religion. She is currently conducting research on theological reflection as practiced among Catholic lay ecclesial ministers in the United States. She has served as president of the Religious Education Association, an international body of professors and practitioners in religious education, and the Association of Graduate Programs in Ministry.

Dr. O’Brien has held parish ministry positions in several regions of the US, and is active in her current parish in social outreach and education. She is married and has two sons. Her faculty profile is available at http://www.duq.edu/theology/faculty/obrien.cfm.

Aims

This course aims to help you to:

• Gain a basic understanding of the major components of theological reflection as integral to practical/pastoral theology
• Practice a model of theological reflection in a way appropriate to your own ministerial context and goals
• Begin to develop the habit of theological reflection for yourself as a central competency for ministry and to prepare for the later courses in this series
Components

This course consists of the following components:

• An introductory meeting and additional scheduled meetings if you are studying with a local coordinator and a group of students
• A web site containing the main course materials
• Articles that you will download from Duquesne University’s Gumberg Library
• A Wikispace for discussion and interaction with students in other locations

Content

This course consists of 4 parts, each divided into smaller units of material. There is a total of 4 parts, including a total of 13 units, in this course:

Part 1 – Introduction: Practical/Pastoral Theology and Theological Reflection (TR)

Unit 1 – Roots, Definitions and Purpose

Unit 2 – Scriptural Metaphors and Themes for TR

Unit 3 – TR as Formative for Ministers

Part 2 – Important Considerations in TR

Unit 4 – Context and Culture

Unit 5 – Goals, Participants and Elements

Unit 6 – Method and Flow

Part 3 – Practicing TR

Unit 7 – Doing TR with Example 1

Unit 8 – Doing TR with Example 2

Unit 9 – Generating Your Own TR Examples

Unit 10 – Working in Groups with Your Own TR Examples

Part 4 – Developing Habits for TR in Your Ministry
Reflection and application assignments

To help you understand and apply the principles taught in this course you will be invited to complete the following assignments:

- Reflection and writing on preparatory reflection questions prior to most units
- Reading followed by reflection and written response to discussion questions as you move through most units
- Reflection and written response to a closing exercise following most units
- Reflective essay on TR practice experiences for posting to Wikispaces following Unit 10
- Closing assignment to prepare for Course 2 and for posting to Wikispaces following Unit 13

You will find the details of these assignments in the body of the course.

Schedule

If you are studying with a group, under the direction of a local coordinator, your coordinator will establish the schedule for the course. If you are studying alone you will set your own schedule. Following is a suggested schedule for this course:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Introductory Meeting</td>
<td>Read introductory course materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Unit 1 Meeting</td>
<td>Complete Unit 1 preparatory questions Read Unit 1 materials and respond to discussion questions prior to group meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Respond to Closing Exercise after group meeting on Unit 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Complete Unit 2 preparatory questions Read Unit 2 materials and respond to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>discussion questions prior to group meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Unit 2 Meeting</td>
<td>Respond to Closing Exercise after group meeting on Unit 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Unit 3 Meeting</td>
<td>Respond to Closing Exercise after group meeting on Unit 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Unit 4 Meeting</td>
<td>Respond to Closing Exercise after group meeting on Unit 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Unit 5 Meeting</td>
<td>Respond to Closing Exercise after group meeting on Unit 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Unit 6 Meeting</td>
<td>Respond to Closing Exercise after group meeting on Unit 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Unit 7 Meeting</td>
<td>Respond to Closing Exercise after group meeting on Unit 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Unit 8 Meeting</td>
<td>Respond to Closing Exercise after group meeting on Unit 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Unit 9</td>
<td><strong>Write your own TR examples</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Meeting Type</td>
<td>Assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
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<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Unit 10 Meeting</td>
<td>Discuss your TR examples in groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Send your TR examples to others in your group Read one another’s TR examples and prepare according to directions in Unit 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Unit 11 Meeting</td>
<td>Write reflective essay on your TR experiences; share with other students and post to the course’s Wikispace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Complete Unit 11 preparatory questions Read Unit 11 materials and respond to discussion questions prior to group meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Unit 12 Meeting</td>
<td>Respond to Closing Exercise after group meeting on Unit 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Complete Unit 12 preparatory questions Read Unit 12 materials and respond to discussion questions prior to group meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Unit 13 Meeting</td>
<td>Complete Closing Assignment after group meeting on Unit 13; share with other students and post to the course’s Wikispace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Complete Course Assessment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Schedule time each week to network and collaborate with others on Wikispaces.

**Statement on Course Content**

In creating this course, Duquesne University has made a good faith effort to include and provide access to a wide body of information that will support and enhance the learning process. In doing so, no endorsement is intended or made of any outside source that has been included as part of this course offering. Any questions about course content should be communicated to the Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) coordinator at jpic@duq.edu.
Through its program in Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation Duquesne University aims to provide access to a wide body of information that supports and enhances learning about those subjects, in the spirit of the dimensions of a Duquesne University education, which are:

- Understanding and knowledge
- Intellectual inquiry and communication
- Ethical, moral and spiritual development
- Diversity and global mindedness
- Leadership and service

However, course content is the domain of course instructors, and neither Duquesne University nor the Congregation of the Holy Spirit endorses specific course content, including the views or positions of individual instructors or of outside sources cited in a course. Please direct any questions about course content to the instructor, or to the director of the program in Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation at jpic@duq.edu.

**Technology**

**PowerPoint Presentations**

This course is meant to be self-paced, though there will be opportunities to interact with your local and global JPIC groups. To maximize student success, course content and activities should be completed in the order that they are presented. Below are instructions to help you start using the PowerPoint presentations:

- The Table of Contents will be your starting point for each unit.
- Navigation through the course will occur by clicking on the following action buttons located in the **lower right or left corners** of each screen:

  - The **HOME** button will be placed at the end of each Unit and will bring you to the Table of Contents for further navigation.
  - The **EXIT** button will appear at the end of each unit and will allow you to exit the PowerPoint presentation.
  - The **NEXT** button will move you forward through the course content.
  - The **BACK** button will move you backward through the course content.

Each type of course activity has a unique icon located in the **upper right corner** of the screen. Review the chart starting on page 2 for more information on these buttons.
**Wikispaces**

**To join Wikispaces:**

1) Navigate your browser to the course Wikispaces.
   - Click on the Join link at the top right of the page

2) Create your Wikispaces account.
   - Fill in the fields that appear on the screen.
   - Use your duq.edu email address
   - Click Join

**To use Wikispaces:**

1) Navigate your browser to the course Wikispaces.
2) Click on the Sign In link at the top right of the page

Welcome to Wikispaces!

If you already have an account, sign in below. Make a new account.

Sign In
Username
Password

Sign In

Forget your password?
Create a new Wikispaces account.

3) Enter your Wikispaces account information

To post on Wikispaces:

1) Click on the link within the course PowerPoint to access the Wikispaces discussion forum.
2) Make sure that you are signed into Wikispaces
3) Re-read the prompt at the top of the page.
4) Scroll down to the bottom of the page and type your response in the reply box. If you wish to respond to another student directly, it may be helpful to select, copy, and paste his or her comment and include it in your posting.
To view a course on Wikispaces:

1) Navigate your browser to the course Wikispace
   • http://jpic200.wikispaces.com/
2) Click on the Sign In link at the top right of the page
3) Enter your Wikispaces account information
4) Click on course unit that you wish to view on the left navigation pane

5) Click on the Discussion tab in the middle of the page.

6) Select the Discussion Question you wish to view
Course Assessment

After you have completed this course, you will be asked, on the final slide of the PowerPoint presentation, to complete a confidential assessment of the course. We ask you to take the time to complete this assessment for several reasons:

- Because JPIC is a distance education program, the professors and staff of Duquesne University will have very limited contact with JPIC students. The assessment thus provides us with valuable feedback that will help us improve the content and structure of future courses.
- JPIC is a very unique program because: 1) it is a brand new offering from Duquesne; 2) it is being delivered in countries with significantly different realities in needs; and 3) the course has been prepared in the US for participants with different experiences at their national and local levels. Your assessment of the course will therefore help us to better understand the needs of JPIC students. In fact, your assessment will help improve JPIC courses for years to come.
- Your evaluation will help pinpoint how the program can better focus on issues relevant in the area of mission and ministry.

This is a confidential assessment. Your anonymous responses will be seen only by the course manager at Duquesne. Your name will not be associated with your response, nor will your participation in the evaluation have any effect on your participation in the course.

Furthermore, please understand that your responses are meant to be an evaluation of the course design and content, not of your local coordinator. Local coordinators will not receive a copy of individual remarks or evaluations; at most local coordinators will receive a very general report.

Your feedback is very important to us and to your fellow ministers around the world as we work to improve future JPIC courses.

Continuing Education Units

Those completing the course under the direction of a local course coordinator can earn continuing education units from Duquesne University. Upon completion of this course, as certified by your local course coordinator, you will earn 4.5 continuing education units.
Acknowledgments

I am grateful to all members of the team that made possible this course, and in particular, Fr. John Kilcrann, CSSp, whose initial vision brought the project into being; and Dr. Evan Stoddard, who implemented a working structure and guided the team in making the vision a reality. And most especially I thank my superb team members, editor Mary Parish and designer Kayla Dempsey. Their dedication, creativity and cooperative spirit made the development of this course a most rewarding experience.