Module Title:	**Ecclesiology and Ecumenism**
Module Code:	**602 TEEC**
Level:	**6**
Credit Rating:	**20 Credits**
Duration:	**Student Learning Time: 200 hours**
Teaching Hours:	**40 Hours**
Academic Responsibility:	**Thomas Herbst OFM, D Phil**

Module Aims:

This module is divided into two parts; the first dealing with the normative modern ecclesiology of the Catholic Church, particularly as described by seminal documents of the Second Vatican Council, and the second dealing with the relationship of the Catholic Church to other Christian denominations. In the first part, the student will learn to identify and analyse the operating ecclesiology found in specific documents of the Second Vatican Council; specifically *Lumen Gentium* and *Gaudium et Spes*. This is then contextualised through examination of other primary sources, e.g. *Rerum Novarum*, *Mystici Corporis,* and *Fides et Ratio* in the light of theological foundations reflecting the development of the specific ecclesiology characteristic of the Second Vatican Council. Finally, to identify various positions of interpretation of the Council and the expressions of these positions in a ministerial context.

The second part of the module, dealing with ecumenism, aims to provide the student with an overview of basic doctrinal issues articulated during the period of the Great Schism and the Reformation that separate the various churches of the Christian world. This involves critical examination of differing views found in the Catholic, Orthodox, and select Protestant denominations inclusive of general doctrine but emphasising ecclesiology. A statistical analysis of the numerical evolution of Catholic and Protestant churches from the Reformation to the present day will be presented and discussed in class. There is also a concurrent emphasis on the commonality of views expressed by the same Christian denominations. Finally, uniting the two halves of the module, the Catholic response to the issues described above is analysed specifically in terms of the development characterised by conciliar statements beginning with Trent, to Vatican I, Vatican II, and the post-Vatican II era.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the module students should be able to:
(first part of module)

1. Articulate a general understanding of the theological foundations and operative ecclesiology of found in *Lumen Gentium* and *Gaudium et Spes* as indicative of the the Catholic understanding formulated by the Second Vatican Council.
2. In the same way, to critically contextualise the development characterised by the Second Vatican Council by recourse to other primary sources.
3. Possess the means to articulate a response to challenges present in the modern world, e.g. multi-culturalism, the role of the laity, feminism, liberation theology etc.
4. Critically assess the same challenges within contemporary ministerial contexts; particularly in regard to the relationship between clerics and the laity and various ecclesiologies and theologies operative on the parish level.

(second part of module)

5. Articulate a critical overview of major doctrinal and ecclesial issues originating in the periods

of the Great Schism and Protestant Reformation building on insights already gained through study of modern Catholic ecclesiology; specifically seminal documents of Vatican II and documents pertaining to ongoing ecumenical dialogue.

6. Analyse and articulate the Catholic response to the challenges presented by these issues; specifically in crucial areas of biblical interpretation, magisterium, and questions pertaining to salvation.
7. Become thoroughly knowledgeable with common ecclesial and doctrinal suppositions that continue to unite the Protestant, Orthodox, and Catholic denominations discussed above.

Indicative Module Content:

(first part)
Students will examine the following documents of Vatican II: *Lumen Gentium, Gaudium et Spes*. Students will also examine the paradigmatic shift in the Church's self-understanding is situated in the following contexts, with special attention given to theological foundations and modern ministerial applications:

- impact of these documents on the Church's renewed self-understanding and pastoral practice with special reference to 'outreach/openness' to the world and other churches characterizing a departure from previous Ecumenical Councils, particularly Trent and Vatican I.
- consideration of multi-culturalism, particularly in respect to Asia, Africa, Europe, America
- consideration of the role of the laity
- consideration of the context of important social movements, feminism, liberation theology etc.
- impact on developing concepts of missiology
- impact on ecumenical dialogue
- consideration of development of post-Vatican II Ecclesiology in light of the above

(second part)
Within the context of the historical differences and similarities found within the Roman Catholic, Orthodox and major Protestant denominations the module will examine according to a lecture/discussion format the course of ecumenical relations in the following ways:

- A brief examination/review of important aspects of biblical and patristic ecclesiology, sacramental theology and soteriology from a Roman Catholic perspective.
- Ecclesial and doctrinal issues leading up to the Great Schism.
- Doctrinal and ecclesial issues leading up to the Reformation- specifically, the impact of Renaissance humanism on the medieval papacy, English Lollards, Hussites, Savonarola, conciliarism, and the decline of scholasticism.
- Luther's reading of *Romans* and Augustine; *sola fide/sola scriptura* and the doctrinal and ecclesial implications for Roman Catholicism.
- Calvin's *Institutes* with particular emphasis on predestination and sacramental theology.
- The evolution of the Roman Catholic response to the Protestant challenge articulated by Trent, Vatican I and Vatican II.
- The present state of ecumenical dialogue from a Roman Catholic perspective with reference to contemporary, post-Vatican II documents.

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

The basic format of presentation will be four weekly lectures systematically treating the subject matter as described in the Indicative Module Content. Students are given specific weekly reading assignments as well as directed toward extra-curricular reading proposed by the instructor. Research interests are quickly identified and tutorial sessions, depending on individual needs of the students, arranged for clarification and direction, inclusive of suggested extra-curricular reading. Within the classroom context of lectures, active participation of students in terms of questions and, especially, discussion is strongly encouraged as a primary way of developing analytical skills, critical thinking, and clarity of expression.

Assessment:

The module will be assessed through a combination of coursework,

- in the form of class participation and weekly reading (20%),
- a written essay of 2,500 words chosen from a small selection of questions proposed by the instructor (40%),
- and a written paper treating primary as well as secondary sources according to the research interests of the student and not exceeding 2,500 words (40%).

Indicative Essay Titles

1. Discuss the relationship between scripture, tradition and the magisterium as presented in *Dei Verbum.*
2. *Gaudium et Spes* represents the Church's self-conception in the modern world. What are some of the implicit and explicit implications for the role of the faithful in this document?
3. In certain respects dialogue between Roman Catholicism and the Orthodox churches is simpler than with the Protestant churches. Do you agree with this statement? Discuss.
4. Discuss the difference between the Roman Catholic and Lutheran understanding of *Romans 1-8* with reference to the challenge presented to the magisterial claims of the Roman Catholic Church.

Illustrative Bibliography

Primary sources-
Vatican I: *Pastor aeternus*
Pius XII: *Mystici corporis*
The Catechism of the Catholic Church, nn. 748-987.
Origen, *On the Song of Songs* (excerpts)
Ignatius of Antioch, *Letters* (excerpts)
Augustine, *Confessions, City of God* (excerpts)
Thomas Aquinas, *Exposition of the Apostles' Creed*, articles 9&10.
Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologiae* 3a q. 8.
Bonaventure, *Apologia Pauperum*

Documents of the Second Vatican Council: see: Austin Flannery, ed., *Vatican II: The Conciliar and Post-Conciliar Documents* (1999).
The Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2nd ed. (1995).
- John Paul II, 'Apostolic Constitution Fidei Depositum On the Publication of the Catechism of the Catholic Church' in Catechism of the Catholic Church.
- John Paul II, *Crossing the Threshold of Hope* (1997).

Secondary sources-

Albergio, G & Kommonchak, J., [Eds] (1995-2004)	*History of Vatican II,* 5 Vols,	Orbis.
Clifford, Anne (2003)	*Feminist Theology*	Orbis.
Evans, G. (1994)	*The Church and Churches: Toward an Ecumenical Ecclesiology*	Cambridge University Press.
Gaillardetz, Richard (2003)	*By What Authority?: A Primer on Scripture, The Magisterium, and the Sense of the Faithful*	Liturgical Press.
Kasper, W. (2004)	*That They May All Be One: The Call to Unity Today*	Burnes & Oates.
Lindbeck, George, ed. (2003)	*Justification and the Future of the Ecumenical Movement: The Joint Declaration of the Doctrine of Justification*	Liturgical Press.
Markey, John (2003)	*Creating Communion: The Theology of the Constitution of the Church*	New City Press.
Sullivan, Francis (1996)	*Weighing and Interpreting Documents of the Magisterium*	Paulist Press.

Journal

Haight, Roger *Ecclesiology from Below: Genesis of the Church*, Theology Digest 48:4 (Winter 2004), pp. 319-328.