

Module Title:	Franciscan Reform Movements
Module Code:	711 FFRM
Level:	7
Credit rating:	20 credits
Duration:	Student Learning Time: 200 hours
Teaching Hours:	20
Academic Responsibility:	Philippe Yates OFM, JCD

Module Aims:

Overview of the aims of reform movements: to rediscover original Franciscan inspiration. What did this entail? Practical implications of the choices.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this module, students should be able to:

1. demonstrate a critical understanding and competence in the history of Franciscan Reform movements
2. read and use primary texts both critically and empathetically
3. evaluate the significance of major religious, social, cultural and philosophical movements for the Franciscan family
4. engage with a range of issues relating to personal, communal and public life.
5. demonstrate an awareness of the methodologies available in Franciscan historical studies and an ability to situate themselves in relation to this range of methodologies
6. demonstrate an ability to draw on a variety of academic discourses in reflecting critically on the history of reform in the Franciscan Order
7. offer informed comment from an understanding of past reform ideologies and practice on contemporary issues of reform in the Franciscan Order
8. make independent and imaginative use of theological and historical information and resources

Indicative Module Content:

Genesis of the Rule of St. Francis. Introduction to interpretations of the Rule.

Origins and progress of Observants: Cismontane, Ultramontane and Observants under the Ministers. Similarities and differences.

Stricter Observants: Origins of stricter observants: Alcantarines (Discalced), Capuchins, Reformed, Recollects. Similarities and differences.

Reforming Conventuals: some movements of reform among the Conventuals

Reforming movements today. Friars of the Renewal, Monastery of the Sacred Heart etc. What similarities and differences to previous reforming movements?

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

The basic format of presentation will be 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. Students will debate in class an issue in the history of Franciscan reform such as that of the poor use of goods, forming teams to identify and argue the Conventual and Spiritual cases. 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:

Students will be assessed by the writing of one essay of 4,000 words.

Illustrative Bibliography:

Criscuolo V. Ed. (1994)	<i>Ludovico da Fossombrone e l'Ordine dei Cappuccini.</i>	Istituto Storico dei Cappuccini
Cuthbert. (1930)	<i>The Capuchins.</i>	Sheed and Ward
Nimmo D. (1995.)	<i>Reform and Division in the Franciscan Order.</i>	Istituto Storico dei Cappuccini
Lambert M.D. (1998)	<i>Franciscan Poverty.</i>	Franciscan Institute
Lapsanski D.(1977)	<i>Evangelical Perfection: An Historical Examination of the Concept in Early Franciscan Sources.</i>	Franciscan Institute
Moorman J. (1968).	<i>A History of the Franciscan Order from its Origins to 1517.</i>	Franciscan Herald Press
Yates P. (2005.)	<i>Recollect Franciscan Poverty.</i>	Frati Editori di Quaracchi: Grottaferrata