

# Salesian Studies Online



from the  
**Salesian Center for Faith & Culture**  
at DeSales University

[www.desales.edu/salesian](http://www.desales.edu/salesian)

The Salesian Center for Faith & Culture offers a unique program of studies in Salesian spirituality for interested persons who seek self-improvement or desire educational enrichment.

*I have thanked God many times for this opportunity .... My personal journal can attest to the growth which I have been blessed with because of this program. Each class, in its own way, has answered a question, made clear some misunderstanding, or encouraged me to step forward in my personal spiritual journey.*

**JULIANNE JACKSON (Alabama)**

Instructors for these courses include faculty members from DeSales University and other scholars from various institutions with expertise in Salesian spirituality.

Below you will find information about:

- the easy *online format* for the courses
  - *course descriptions* for current and future studies
  - the expert *faculty* facilitators
  - step-by-step instructions on *how to enroll*
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## THE ONLINE FORMAT

Salesian Studies are delivered entirely through distance education in an electronically mediated format -- that is, on-line through the Internet by way of the "Blackboard" software platform at DeSales University.

By adopting a "virtual classroom," students and faculty need not be in the same place at the same time, which makes these courses more readily accessible to anyone and everyone who is interested!

*This program is an answer to a prayer! My interest in Salesian spirituality was hampered by the lack of access to study materials, as well as to lay people trying to 'Live Jesus'. This online program changed all that. The Internet eliminates the geographical obstacles. I'd prefer to live near a Salesian center, but now it's not an issue, since I can go online and meet and interact with people all over the USA who value Salesian spirituality.*

**DIANE MAGUIRE (Georgia)**

All you need to make it work is a computer with email and Internet access ... and the desire to grow in knowledge! After logging on to the Web site for the courses, you can access the content through a password that we give you. Then it's as easy as a click here and a click there ... and you'll be navigating the streams of Salesian wisdom.

The content of the studies is presented in a variety of notes, readings, and other interactive tools that the instructors make available to you. Your readings are provided online and/or through texts available for purchase. You will engage other students in the course through online discussions. You can interact directly with the instructors through email.

Best of all there are no tests! These courses are designed for you to take advantage of as much (or as little) as you desire. We provide the opportunity ... you provide the learning.

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## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Salesian Studies Online come in a variety of packages! Historical Studies examine lives then and now. Theological Studies develop key concepts to live by. Literary Studies focus on the saints' writings for contemporary living. And Pastoral Studies consider aspects of Salesian spirituality that can make a difference in our lives.

*Whatever your interest, there are online studies just for you!*

## *Historical Studies*

THE SALESIAN HERITAGE (*in development*) – studies the legacy of St. Francis de Sales by comparing him with other saints and doctors and by considering his inspiration in the founding or patronage of various religious groups

THE SALESIAN SPIRIT – studies the life and times of both St. Francis de Sales and St. Jane de Chantal, as these are situated in the French school of spirituality in the Church of the Counter-Reformation period, and introduces basic themes in Salesian Spirituality

SPIRITUAL FRIENDSHIP – studies the love of friendship, through the lens of the inspired relationship between St. Francis de Sales and St. Jane de Chantal, with a focus on the life of St. Jane

## *Theological Studies*

THE EUCHARIST – examines St. Francis de Sales' preaching and teaching about the blessed sacrament and the celebration of the Mass, "the sun of all spiritual exercises"

SALESIAN CHRISTIAN HUMANISM – examines the doctrinal aspects of Salesian thought, particularly Christology and anthropology, as these provide the foundation for, and are practiced in, the love of friendship

A SALESIAN CIVILIZATION OF LOVE – examines principles of Salesian spirituality, with emphasis on the virtues, as these are conducive to faith formation for teaching and living the "social gospel"

SALESIAN SCRIPTURES (*in development*) – examines the manner by which St. Francis de Sales appropriated the teachings of Sacred Scripture and incorporated them in his own preaching and teaching

## *Literary Studies*

INTRODUCTION TO THE DEVOUT LIFE – offers a close reading of the devotional classic, along with an examination of its various teachings on the life of holiness lived in the contemporary world

MEDITATIONS ON THE FAITH (*in development*) – offers a close reading of *The Catholic Controversies*, along with an examination of continuing questions relative to the defense of the faith (apologetics)

THE SPIRITUAL CONFERENCES (*in development*) – offers a close reading of the saint's talks to the Sisters of the Visitation, along with an examination of their continuing relevance for the various forms of consecrated life in today's Church

TREATISE ON THE LOVE OF GOD – offers a close reading of selected portions of this mystical classic, along with an examination of its various teachings on union with God. Three distinct courses on books 1-4, 5-8, and 9-12 of the Treatise

### *Pastoral Studies*

EVERYDAY HOLINESS – considers the *Spiritual Directory* of St. Francis de Sales and its secret to achieving holiness in the Salesian tradition, with advice for how to put this spirituality into practice in the ordinary events of one's life

*I have often heard “Live Jesus” ... but I understand it much better after taking this course. ... This class has improved my spiritual focus and given me ways to improve my relationship with God.*

**SONIA FALETTI (Virginia)**

LEADERSHIP THE SALESIAN WAY (*in development*) – considers key principles of interpersonal relations and organizational dynamics, so as to develop practical skills for personal and professional growth

SALESIAN APPROACH TO PERSONAL IDENTITY – considers various insights from Western psychological theory and integrates these with the wisdom of a Salesian anthropology to foster personal development and growth across one's life-span

SALESIAN SPIRITUAL DIRECTION – considers the Christian call to a life of perfection and the exercise of discernment, particularly as these are reflected in the saints' letters of spiritual direction to both religious and laity

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## FACULTY FACILITATORS

THOMAS DAILEY, O.S.F.S., S.T.D. – Professor of Theology and Director of the Salesian Center for Faith & Culture at DeSales University

JOSEPH DIMAURO, O.S.F.S., ED.D. – Associate Dean of Students at DeSales University

JAMES GREENFIELD, O.S.F.S., ED.D. – coordinator of Salesian programs for the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales

DONALD HEET, O.S.F.S., D.MIN. – Clinical Assistant Professor at the Catholic University of America

CHARLES LEWIS, M.A. – adjunct faculty at DeSales University

ALEXANDER POCETTO, O.S.F.S., PH.D. – Senior Salesian Scholar at DeSales University

DANIEL WISNIEWSKI, O.S.F.S., PH.D. (cand.) – Instructor of Mathematics at DeSales University

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## HOW TO ENROLL

Salesian Studies Online are offered in 6- or 8-week sessions in each of the Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters.

*For a schedule of current course offerings, visit our Web site at  
[www4.desales.edu/SCFC/SOL-current](http://www4.desales.edu/SCFC/SOL-current)*

To enroll in a course (via email) follow these two easy steps:

**Step #1:**     *Send the following **information** to the Salesian Center for Faith & Culture*

- the name of the COURSE in which you'd like to enroll
- Your NAME
- Your mailing ADDRESS
- Your PHONE number
- Your FAX number
- Your EMAIL address
- Your Salesian AFFILIATION, if any (e.g., name of school or parish or group)

**Step #2:**     *Write a check in the amount of \$75 payable to "DeSales University" and mail to*

The Salesian Center for Faith & Culture  
DeSales University  
2755 Station Avenue  
Center Valley, PA 18034

Upon receipt of payment, you will receive more specific instructions for how to access the Blackboard computer system and begin the online adventure!

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Please contact us if you have any questions about the Salesian Studies Online program. You can reach us by phone (610.282.1100 ext. 1244) or by email ([SCFC@desales.edu](mailto:SCFC@desales.edu)).