



This Fall, join

RELI 162:

**CATHOLICISM TODAY: AN INTRODUCTION
TO THE CONTEMPORARY CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Course taught by Dr. Evyatar Marienberg

Fall 2016, Tue/Thu, 14:00PM - 15:15PM, Murphey 105

Gen Eds: NA, HS

One in every six people on earth and one in every four Americans (although only one of every twenty North Carolinians!) is Catholic, actively or nominally. Even if only for this reason, the importance of understanding the Catholic Church and its adherents is evident. Among other things, we will discuss in this course the beliefs held by the Catholic Church, its structure, aims, successes, and failures. The overarching goal of the course is to provide students, regardless of their previous knowledge and standing with regard to religious faith, with a better and more sophisticated understanding of the contemporary Catholic Church. We will also learn to distinguish between confessional and academic study of religion: understand that religions change constantly, and that this change is a not only inevitable, but essential to their survival; learn how to read religious texts critically; and get used to the practice of understanding debates within a religion without being necessarily a part of it. Questions? Ask the instructor, Dr. Evyatar Marienberg, at evyatarm@unc.edu.