St. Augustine Catholic Secondary School

Theology and Moderns Department Theory of Action 2021-2022

"Ever Ancient Ever New"

Goal # 1:
Believe Built on Faith

Theory of Action: ***If*** as one family, we are to support and assist marginalized groups, so as to harmonize relationships between individuals and societies ***then*** we as a school community must provide opportunities for our students in building these bridges.

Plan: The Theology and Moderns Department will work collaboratively with Chaplaincy, the Parish, Vocations for the Archdiocese of Toronto, Re:Generation (OCY), Right to Life, etc.. so as to have guest speakers at the school and provide students with the opportunity to create prayer services, liturgies, and attend Mass.

Ontario Catholic Youth, Birth Right, and other organizations within the community which can provide opportunities for students to critically analyze and engage to minimize gaps that exist between society and marginalized groups.

Steps to implement plan:

1) The Theology and Moderns Department will organize class liturgies in the Chapel (now that we have the Blessed Sacrament!) and using the text as a guide. Ideally, throughout the semester students will work collaboratively and present a liturgy on an assigned day (Ie: Tuesday - grade 9, Wednesday - grade 10, Thursday - grade 11, Friday - grade 12). This will develop an authentic and meaningful relationship with God, Christ, and the Church.
2) The Theology and Moderns Department with reach out to our Parish Priest, so as to celebrate Mass at least once a month. Not only will this opportunity strengthen our relationship with our Parish - but also normalize attending Mass.
3) The Theology Department will organize lecture series at the school - which provides students with the opportunity deepen their understanding of the Church and her teachings.
i) Re:Generation (OCY) - The Body is a Temple - grade 9
ii) Re:Generation (OCY) - Chastity - grade 10
iii) Vocations for the Archdiocese of Toronto - Sacraments and Vocations - grade 11
iv) Right to Life - Abortion & Assisted Suicide – grade 12

Possible data sources (to monitor progress/achievement):
Using Google Forms the Theology and Moderns Department will gauge student engagement/interest and possible next steps.

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Goal # 2: *Respect* – Human Dignity at the Root of Equity

Theory of Action: ***If*** as one family, we are to support and assist marginalized groups, so as to harmonize relationships between individuals and societies ***then*** we as a school community must provide opportunities for our students in building these bridges.

Plan: The Theology and Moderns Department will work collaboratively with Chaplaincy, Birth Right, Youth Philanthropy Initiative, Regeneration, and other organizations within the community which can provide opportunities for students to critically analyze and engage with the community, so as to minimize gaps that exist between society and marginalized groups.

Steps to implement plan:

1) The Theology and Moderns Department will organize class presentations with community partners (ex. Archdiocese of Toronto/Peel, Catholic Family, Ontario Catholic Youth, etc…). This will develop authentic and meaningful relationships with local diverse communities, as well as help students create success criteria for cultivating engagement with the community as Catholics.

2) The Theology Department and Moderns will organize class opportunities to engage and support non-profit organizations within our school community, specifically through "Youth Philanthropy Initiative" in the grade 10 Religion classes, as well as participating in Peel initiatives that support those in our community. This will develop student cultural responsiveness and competency in navigating community partners that support those that are marginalized, and develop the ability to discern between equitable vs bias practices that support and honour the many cultures, needs, and voices in our diverse communities.

Possible data sources (to monitor progress/achievement):

Ideally, the Theology and Moderns Department will use "Google Forms" to gauge and direct student involvement within the community.

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Goal # 3: Excel – Supporting Each to Achieve their Maximum Potential

Theory of Action: ***If*** as one family (whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences) - the St. Augustine *Theology and Moderns* department continuous to foster student potential through a caring and inclusive environment; ***then*** students will be active members of the school community and self-directed learners.

Plan: The *Theology and Moderns Department* will work with the *Academic Resource/Special Education Department* to **know more about the student** and **discuss and collaborate** on teaching practices, strategies and deep learning supports that are accessible, inclusive, and ultimate incorporate a "Universal Design for Learning" approach.

The *Theology and Moderns Department* will work with the *Guidance Department* to **know more about the student** and **discuss and collaborate** on best practices that are sensitive to student needs, so as to mitigate potential risks that will affect classroom dynamics and the learning environment.

As a department we will access OSRs to gather information of students, that as teachers we are concerned about and "Know the Learner" so that we gain a better understanding of where the learner is coming from, and where the learner currently finds him/herself.

Ultimately, tests, CPTs, and exams will be evaluated in collaboration with colleagues within the department and reflect the individual learner – to ensure that the assessment pieces are accessible to all students and their strengths. "Learning for All" will be used as a reference, specifically UDL, and assessment *for*, *as*, and *of* learning.

Specifically, tests and exams will have a similar format, and there will be a selection of CPTs for each course - so students have a choice that better suits their strengths.

Steps to implement Plan:

1. The Theology and Moderns Department will organize class presentations and/or community experiences with community partners. This will develop authentic and meaningful relationships with local diverse communities, as well as help students create success criteria for cultivating engagement with the community as Catholics.
2. The Theology Department and Moderns will organize and provide class/grade opportunities to engage and support non-profit organizations within our community:

a) Happily Ever Esther Farm Sanctuary
b) Casa Canadiense (annual auction & Wake-a-Thon)
c) Regeneration Brampton
d) BirthRight
e) Youth Philanthropy Initiative
f) The Coldest Night

Possible data sources (to monitor progress/achievement):

Using Google Forms the Theology and Moderns Department will gauge student engagement and possible next steps for community involvement.