CATHOLIC STUDIES

Catholic Studies at Stonehill is an interdisciplinary and ecclesiastically oriented major that engages students not just in history but also in contemporary issues – social, economic and political.

The program helps fulfill the values and spirit of Stonehill’s mission by:

• Providing students with the tools to recognize, understand and appreciate the diversity of intellectual traditions within Catholicism.
• Integrating courses of study, providing students with opportunities to explore Catholicism from multiple perspectives.
• Preparing students for postgraduate opportunities related to Catholic studies, e.g., graduate work, ministry and education.

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Internships, directed studies and study abroad opportunities are available to Catholic Studies majors. There are three common internships:

CAMPUS MINISTRY: Familiarizes students with campus ministry fundamentals beyond Stonehill. Based on the particular host institution’s faith tradition and goals, students will plan retreats, justice and peace initiatives, liturgical practices, and similar functions.

PARISH MINISTRY: A parish internship provides the opportunity to be involved in planning and carrying out a multilevel religious education program, youth ministry activities, community service projects and spiritual/liturgical events.

CATHOLIC MINISTRY: This internship provides experience with the practical aspects and operations of a Catholic campus ministry program. Working with campus ministers, and applying theological and social principles, students will be introduced to retreats, liturgical ministry, service (local and overseas) and student ministry.

Internship opportunities include:

• Archdiocese of Boston, Office of Youth Ministry
• B.M.C. Durfee High School, Fall River
• Cardinal Spellman High School, Brockton
• Catholic Charities
• Catholic Relief Services
• Coyle & Cassidy High School, Taunton
• Diocese of Fall River

CAMPUS RESOURCES

In addition to dedicated faculty and extensive course offerings, another valuable resource is the library. Over the years, acquisitions in Roman Catholicism were chosen across the disciplines rather than concentrating solely on theology. The quality and quantity of books are exemplary for an undergraduate program in Catholic Studies.

HONORS SOCIETY AFFILIATION

Theta Alpha Kappa
National honor society in Religious Studies and Theology

Lambda Epsilon Sigma
Stonehill’s campuswide honor society

CAREER OUTCOMES

Catholic Studies majors have opportunities to experience careers in a variety of sectors, including teaching, research, writing and service work. Graduates have enhanced their vocation through postgraduate service opportunities including:

• Alliance for Catholic Education
• Andre House
• Augustine Volunteers
• Christian Appalachian Project
• Jesuit Volunteer Corps
• Stonehill Service Corps
• Urban Catholic Teachers Corps
A master’s degree earns advancement in position, increased salary and additional benefits in most professional organizations. A doctoral degree qualifies a person to teach in a four-year college or university. This degree also earns tenure, advancement in position, increased salary and acquisition of additional benefits. Such degrees prepare students for such professional careers as:

- Chaplain
- Clergy
- Counselor
- Hospice Director
- Professional Lay Minister
- Professor
- Psychologist
- Researcher
- Social Worker
- Youth Minister

Whether it is education, ministry or graduate studies, Stonehill will help you with your postgraduate goals by connecting you with the internship, research and volunteering opportunities appropriate to your interests.

“The Catholic Studies program offers a unique experience to explore the Catholic faith from an academic perspective. I had the freedom to delve deeply into topics that interested me, and worked closely with professors who had just as strong a passion and interest as me.”

– Deirdre Kleist ’12
Currently pursuing a divinity master’s degree at the University of Notre Dame