



## STEO 2082 John Henry Newman, «An Essay on the Development of Christian Doctrine» and other writings

Anno Accademico 2024-2025

|                            |                               |  |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Facoltà/Istituto           | Teologia                      |  |
| Ciclo/Livello              | Licenza in Teologia Dogmatica |  |
| Anno del ciclo             | Corso biennale                | Docente  |
| Semestre                   | 2                             | Prof. David Koonce, LC   |
| Orario lezioni             | Giovedì, 8.30-10.15           | Indirizzo di posta elettronica                                   |
| Crediti ECTS               | 5                             | <a href="mailto:david.koonce@upra.org">david.koonce@upra.org</a> |
| Ore totali per lo studente | 125                           | Orario di ricevimento  |
| Lingua di insegnamento     | Inglese/English               | Lunedì, 10.30 – 11.15, su appuntamento                           |

### DESCRIZIONE GENERALE

Questo seminario di secondo ciclo cerca di introdurre lo studente al pensiero di John Henry Newman attraverso la lettura, discussione, e commentario scritto dell'opera *Saggio sullo sviluppo della dottrina cristiana*. Lo studio di quest'opera, insieme con altri brani scelti di Newman, fornirà gli strumenti per comprendere la teoria dello sviluppo dottrinale, secondo Newman, valutare le forze e debolezza della teoria, ed applicarla o adattarla per affrontare i dibattiti contemporanei.

**This graduate level seminar seeks to introduce the student to the thought of John Henry Newman through the reading, discussion, and written commentary of his *Essay on the Development of Christian Doctrine*. The study of this work and other writings will provide the student with the tools to understand Newman's theory of doctrinal development, to critique its strengths and weakness, and to apply or adapt it to contemporary debates.**

Este seminario de segundo ciclo pretende introducir el alumno al pensamiento de John Henry Newman, a través de la lectura, discusión, y comentario escrito del célebre *Ensayo sobre el desarrollo de la doctrina cristiana*. El estudio de esta obra y de otros escritos de Newman ofrecerá al alumno las herramientas para entender la teoría de Newman del desarrollo doctrinal, evaluar sus puntos fuertes y débiles, y aplicar o adaptarla a los debates contemporáneos.

### LEARNING OUTCOMES (LO)

At the end of the course, the student will be able to:

1. State, explain, and expound upon Newman's theory of doctrinal development, its genesis in the life of the author, and its epistemological foundations.
2. Name, describe, and explain each of the seven tests to distinguish a development from a corruption.
3. Evaluate the relative strengths and weaknesses of Newman's arguments on behalf of his theory.
4. Apply Newman's theory to one or more contemporary or historical debates regarding a specific doctrinal development.
5. Write a publishable article relating some aspect of Newman's *Essay on the Development of Doctrine* to one of the thematic areas of the Athenaeum's program of dogmatic theology.
6. Display familiarity with contemporary Newman scholarship by referencing recent scholarly literature and observing scholarly conventions.

| DISTRIBUZIONE DELL'IMPEGNO PREVISTO PER LO STUDENTE  |   |
|--|---|
| ATTIVITA' IN AULA  | STUDIO/LAVORO AUTONOMO  |
| <p><b>24 hours total, including:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 hours of introductory lectures</li> <li>• 18 hours of discussion.</li> </ul> <p>The discussions will be guided by the instructor, following the general sequence of the cognitive processes of the Revised Bloom's Taxonomy: remember, understand, apply, analyze, evaluate, create.</p> | <p><b>101 hours of personal study and work, including:</b></p> <p><b>≈39 hours</b> of reading and preparation for in-class discussions.<br/>Each student must come prepared for the discussion, having read and reflected upon the assigned material. To help prepare the classroom discussion, the instructor will provide questions, and may propose on-line learning activities.</p> <p><b>≈54 hours</b> dedicated to researching and writing a seminar paper (3000 to 7000 words)</p> <p><b>≈8 hours</b> of peer review. Students who submit drafts of their papers by the assigned deadline will be asked to take part in the peer-review activity. Students will be graded on the quality of the feedback they provide to their peers, not on the quality of feedback they receive.</p> |

| MODALITÀ DI VERIFICA   |
|--|
| <p>Formative assessment will be provided throughout the seminar both by the instructor and via peer review.</p> <p>The summative assessment (or final grade) will be the composite of the assessment of the following activities.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PARTICIPATION (50% total) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Attendance: 25%</li> <li>◦ Contribution to discussion: 25%</li> </ul> </li> <li>• EXERCISES (50%) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Brainstorming exercise: 5%</li> <li>◦ Paper proposal: 5%</li> <li>◦ Peer review: 5%. (Students will be evaluated on the assessment they provide to others, not on the assessment they receive from others!)</li> <li>◦ Final paper: 35%</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

| CONTENUTI/PROGRAMMA   |
|---|
| <p>The seminar will focus on John Henry Newman's theory of doctrinal development as first expounded in his 1845 <i>Essay on the Development of Christian Doctrine</i>. The thematic contents of the seminar include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Author. John Henry Newman (1801-1890). Life, works, and his theological and ecclesial significance.</li> <li>2. The Text. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.1. The original 1845 edition of the <i>Essay on the Development of Christian Doctrine</i>.</li> <li>2.2. Relationship with the later 1878 edition.</li> <li>2.3. Relationship with other texts of Newman</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. The Theory. Newman's theory of doctrinal development <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3.1. Genesis of the theory in Newman's own personal crisis.</li> <li>3.2. Content of the theory</li> <li>3.3. Coherence of the theory</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Applications and illustrations of the theory <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4.1. Fundamental Theology</li> <li>4.2. Trinitarian and Christological Doctrine</li> <li>4.3. Ecclesiology, ecumenism and Mariology</li> <li>4.4. Liturgy and the Sacraments</li> <li>4.5. Theological anthropology</li> </ol> </li> </ol> |

| CALENDARIO |         |   |
|------------|---------|---|
| No.        | DATA    | ATTIVITÀ  |
| 1          | Feb 13  | Explanation of the syllabus and introduction to the seminar   |
| 2          | Feb 20  | Lecture 1. John Henry Newman: life, works, and the enduring significance of the <i>Essay on the Development of Christian Doctrine</i> (Part 1)  |
| 3          | Feb 27  | Lecture 2. John Henry Newman: life, works, and the enduring significance of the <i>Essay on the Development of Christian Doctrine</i> (Part 2)  |
| 4          | Mar 6   | Discussion 1: The Process and Kinds of Development in Ideas<br><i>Readings for discussion: Introduction and Chapter I, Sections I and II</i>  |
| 5          | Mar 13  | Discussion 2: On the Corruption of an Idea: distinctive tests between Development and Corruption.<br><i>Readings for discussion: Chapter I, Section III</i>   |
| 6          | Mar 20  | Discussion 3: On the Development of Christian Ideas Antecedently Considered<br><i>Assigned readings: Chapter II.</i><br><b>Assignment: on or before this date, students should complete the brainstorming exercise for their seminar paper.</b>   |
| 7          | Mar 27  | Discussion 4: On the Nature of the Argument in behalf of the existing developments<br><i>Readings for discussion: Chapter III</i>   |
| 8          | Apr 3   | Discussion 5: The First Test of Fidelity: Preservation of type. Newman's portrait of the Church of the first three centuries and of the fourth century.<br><i>Readings for discussion: Chapter IV</i><br><b>Assignment: proposals for paper topics should be submitted by 18.00 today. The proposal should consist of an abstract of no more than 300 words, accompanied by five key words and a preliminary outline.</b> |
| 9          | Apr 10  | Discussion 6: The First Test of Fidelity continued. Newman's study of the Church of the 5th and 6th Centuries<br><i>Readings for discussion: Chapter V</i>  |
|            |         | <i>Holy Week and Easter Break</i>   |
|            | May 1   | <i>Vacation. National holiday.</i>  |
| 10         | May 8   | Discussion 7: The Second and Third Tests: Continuity of Principles and Power of Assimilation<br><i>Readings for discussion: Chapter VI</i>  |
| 11         | May 15  | Discussion 8: The Fourth and Fifth Tests: Early anticipation and logical sequence<br><i>Readings for discussion: Chapter VII and Chapter VIII, Section I</i>  |
| 12         | May 23  | Discussion 9: The Sixth and Seventh Tests: Preservative additions and chronic continuance.<br>Conclusions.<br><i>Readings for discussion: Chapter VIII. Sections II and III.</i><br><b>Assignment: draft papers should be submitted via Canvas and will be assigned to another student for review.</b>  |
|            | *May 29 | Final date for peer review responses  |
|            | *June 5 | <b>Due date for final paper submissions</b>   |

\*These dates are provisional and may be adjusted to avoid conflicts with other exams and assignments during the period of final exams.

## BIBLIOGRAFIA

### OBBLIGATORIA

**Principal text:** class discussion will center on the original 1845 edition:

J.H. NEWMAN, *An Essay on the Development of Christian Doctrine*, James Toovey, London 1845.

Various PDF versions are available in the public domain. Links will be provided in Canvas.

A reliable digital version may be added to the student's Verbum software package for approximately 10 USD (\$).

### CONSIGLIATA

**Other texts by J.H. Newman:** personal and group study may explore one or more of the following texts by the same author. All texts are available on the site [www.newmanreader.org](http://www.newmanreader.org) in reliable digital editions (i.e. with reference to the pages of the print editions). Texts are listed in chronological order of their original publication:

1841 "Remarks on certain Passages of the Thirty-nine Articles" (=Tracts for the Times, 90), in Id. *The Via Media of the Anglican Church*, Longmans, Green and Co. London 1908, Vol 2. 259-357.

1852-1858 *Idea of a University*, Longman, Green and Co., London, 1907

1856-1857 *Sermons Preached on Various Occasions*, Longmans, Green and Co., London, 1908.

1864 W. WARD (ed.) *Newman's Apologia pro vita sua. The two versions of 1864 & 1865*, Oxford University Press, London 1931.

1870 *Grammar of Assent*, Longmans, Green and Co., London 1903.

1878 *An Essay on the Development of Christian Doctrine, 2nd edition*. Longmans, Green and Co., London, 1909<sup>14</sup>.

### Secondary literature

A full bibliography of journal articles will be furnished by the instructor at the start of the course. The following books, though, are worthy of special mention.

NEWMAN, J.H.-TOLHURST, J. (ed.), *An essay on the development of Christian doctrine*, Newman millennium edition 12, Gracewing, Leominster, Herefordshire, 2018. [*This is the first fully critical edition comparing the two versions of the work*].

KER, I.T., *John Henry Newman: A Biography*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2009.

WARD, W. *The Genius of Cardinal Newman*, Longmans, Green, and Co. London, 1918.

WARD, W. *The Life of John Henry Cardinal Newman*, 2 vols. Longmans, Green, and Co., London 1912.