

Cat 105

RCIA – Adult Faith Formation Specialization

I) Course Description

The RCIA Process is the normative process of gradual conversion and as such all Adult Formation is connected to this model. Since adults “*have the greatest responsibilities and the capacity to live the Christian message in its fully developed form*” (CT 43) they must be presented with the Truths of the faith in a way that calls them to an active faith lived out within their daily lives. We are reminded that “*The catechumenate is not a mere expounding of doctrines and precepts, but a training period in the whole Christian life, and an apprenticeship duty drawn out, during which disciples are joined to Christ their Teacher.*” -Ad Gentes. This course will review the RCIA process in detail reviewing the 4 major periods of the process and their application within RCIA and adult faith formation.

II) Outline of Day

9:00-9:10	Introduction/Icebreaker/Goals & Objectives for the Day
9:10-10:00	Session #1: Process of Conversion (Overview of RCIA)
10:10-11:00	Session #2: Fostering an evangelization encounter with Christ (Period of Evangelization)
11:10-12:00	Session #3: Catechesis According to Age (Period of Catechumenate)
12:10-12:50	Session #4: Developing a Catechetical Session (during lunch)
1:00-1:45	Session #5: Fostering Prayer, purification and the devotional life (Period of P & E)
1:45-2:30p	Session #6: Promoting Service, vocation, and life long mystagogical discipleship in Christ (Period of Mystagogy)

III) Course Objectives

Session #1: Process of Conversion

1. Describe the adult conversion process as presented in RCIA (i.e. the Catechumenal Process) and identify signs of conversion in each stage of the RCIA/Catechumenal process. (I)
2. Identify the various participants included in the RCIA/Catechumenal process. (I)
3. Describe the role of the Liturgical rites in the RCIA/Catechumenal process. (I)

Session #2: Fostering an evangelizing encounter with Christ

4. Identify the common cultural roadblocks to conversion and approaches to respond to them. (II)
5. Identify key learning styles of adults and student centered ways of teaching. (II)
6. Describe the basic components (content, conversion, community)for the period of Pre-Evangelization/Inquiry.(II)
7. Create an Inquiry session (II)

Session #3: Catechesis According to Age

8. Describe the basic components (content, conversion, community, rites) for the period of the Catechumenate.(III)
9. Identify the expectations of sponsors and the role of the community in the period of the Catechumenate and adult faith formation in general.(III)

Session #4: Developing a Catechetical Session

10. Create a catechetical session using the Ecclesial method. Create dismissal/breaking open the word session.(IV)

Session #5: Fostering Prayer, purification and the devotional life

11. Describe the basic components (content, conversion, community, rites, scrutinies, optional rites) for the period of the Purification & Enlightenment. (V)
12. Create a prayer experience & session on prayer for candidates & sponsor. (V)

Session #6: Promoting Service, vocation, and life long mystagogical discipleship in Christ

13. Describe the basic components (content, conversion, community, rites) for the period of the Mystagogy both immediate and ongoing. (VI)
14. Create a mystagogy session using the Ecclesial method. (VI)
15. Identify best practices in planting neophytes in parish community. (VI)