Called to Serve

► Academic Certificate Program in Undergraduate Pastoral Studies at Villanova University

► Offered jointly by the Department of Theology and Religious Studies and Campus Ministry

► Prepares Catholic college students for lay leadership in the Church
a certificate program for young adults

CONNECTING YOUR DEEP PASSIONS TO A VISION FOR YOURSELF AND THE WORLD

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE OF LAY LEADERSHIP

TRAINING COLLEGE STUDENTS

COURSEWORK and FIELDWORK

RETREATS and WORKSHOPS

FIVE FOCAL POINTS OF STUDIES AND PRACTICES

- faith seeking understanding
- spirituality as lived experience
- the nature of lay ministry
- servant leadership
- faith-based identity

DISCERN
- your own sense of calling, direction or purpose.

GROW
- in self-knowledge and awareness.

STRENGTHEN
- your faith and core values.

INTEGRATE
- religious faith into the texture of your life.

USE
- your talents and gifts to help others.

DEVELOP
- leadership skills and confidence in your ability to make a difference.

EXPLORE
- the role service to the Church and the world can take in your life, in the Church, and in society.

COURSE 1
IDENTITY, FAITH, AND CALLING

Who am I and why am I here? What are my core values and commitments? What am I going to do with my life? This course is an invitation to reflect in a systematic way on the "big questions" about finding meaning and purpose in life in conversation with some of the best writings in the Western traditions from ancient Greek poetry to Christian wisdom to contemporary fiction and memoirs. Through dialogue and conversation, you will have an opportunity to reflect on life as a journey and "work" as a calling, not just a way to make a living. Requires a willingness to share personal experiences, not just analysis, and to reflect and share experiences of faith—or its absence and doubt.

COURSE 2
LEADERSHIP FOR MINISTRY

This course is about leadership and how one functions as a leader within the context of ministry both in theory and practice. It will explore the notion of ministry from the viewpoint of college students who train and work with other lay ministers. It will be geared toward students who either are presently working in ministerial settings on campus or those who desire to do so in the future. Placing the call to ministry within the context of your baptismal call will be an essential element of our initial discussion. We will explore the scriptural foundations of ministry and discipleship, connecting them to the various contemporary documents of the Church that invite and encourage lay ministerial leadership. In particular, we will study the relationship between leadership and aspects of Catholic Social Thought, for example, justice, conflict, love. You will have an active role in preparing and implementing some form of ministerial training that will require you to communicate the ideals of ministry, the scriptural foundations of ministry, the scriptural foundations of ministry, and the importance of lay ministry within the Church today. There will also be discussion of leadership styles and the spirituality of ministry, emphasizing its importance for the personal spiritual journey of a successful servant leader. You will acquire skills in problem solving, in building relationships and in communicating the importance of lay ministry, and you will be able to act in a competent leadership role in an actual, supervised training environment.

COURSE 3
THEOLOGY OF MINISTRY

The historical, theological, and biblical foundations of Christian ministry will be the focus of this course. You will explore the meaning of “call” or “vocation” as you develop your emerging theology of ministry through theological reflection. Emphasis will be placed on the documents “Co-Workers in the Vineyard of the Lord” and “Called and Gifted for the Third Millennium” as platforms for theological exploration of ministry in the Catholic context. A practicum component will enhance the academic study of ministry.

REQUIREMENTS
Three elective undergraduate courses and a supervised practicum on campus.

CONTACTS
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leadership
ministry
spirituality
faith
identity