



TH3-611 Presentation Outline & Reflection Questions

Faith & Science – Friends, not Foes! How Can “Religious” Look in a Science Classroom?
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1. **What's my context for this presentation?**
 - Trained biologist with a wide-range of research experience
 - Long-time teacher at the university and high school levels
 - Lover of Creation
 - Practicing Catholic; happily married with 6 boys
 - Member of the Ignatian Spirituality (Charism) Committee, Past Member of the Ignatian Identity Committee, Mission and Vision Rep for a Curriculum Design Committee, Active in Pro-Life, Diversity and LBGTQ causes and serve on associated student/faculty clubs
 - Mission, Faith are important to me
2. **Why the perceived conflict between faith and science?**
 - Definitions seem to be contrary
 - Actually complimentary
Science teaches us about the heavens, the Bible teaches us how to get to heaven.
3. **Why care about faith in a science classroom (or any classroom outside of Theology)?**
 - Mission and Identity
 - What makes us a “Jesuit” school vs. a “good” school?
 - prayer, service, value, empathy, love, beauty respect – more than not cheating or plagiarizing data or lab reports or working well will your lab partners
 - To Know Him, To Love Him, To Serve Him
 - Real purpose: “To save souls” (Fr. Jim Burshek SJ, DSJ Day of Recollection August 2018)
“The Church teaches that what we believe as Christians and our act of believing it are in harmony with reason, and that God desires us to see the reasonableness of the things He has revealed so that we can better understand the world, ourselves, and God Himself.” (Baglow 2012)
 - Evangelization
 - Reduction in practicing Catholics
 - More “spiritual” than “religious”
 - More secular world
 - Need for our young people for a critical thinking aspect of faith
“The human person is truly the crossroads of science and faith. Our bodies are physical and subject to the laws of nature, and yet we are also intelligent, free persons. Therefore, to be a human being is to be a knower and lover of nature and spirit, because to be human is to be both natural and spiritual.” (Baglow 2012)

4. How does “Religious”, “Loving” and “Committed To Justice” look in my classroom?
- Classroom visuals/décor
 - Crucifixes, Grad-At-Grad Poster, Prayer for Generosity and Prayer to St. Ignatius, articles from Jesuit Magazine, The Review (STL Archdiocesan newspaper), the Post-Dispatch regarding bioethical topics
 - Prayer
 - Context related to class content or relevant events of the day/month
 - More than a “way of proceeding”
 - “Religious”, “Loving” and “Committed To Justice” to course content (see separate document in this folder)
5. How does it/can it look in your classroom/role at school?

Questions to Consider:

1. How important do you think Mission is in your classroom?
2. Do you think the incorporation of the Grad-At-Grad should be *required* in every course?
3. If you think Mission is important, do you think the Grad At Grad should be evident and intentional in every classroom or should the student be able to see, experience and be fosters in all Characters as a whole across his/her curriculum?
4. Is the Grad-At-Grad more of a way of proceeding or should our lessons be intentional and evident to those who are in your classroom?
5. How comfortable are you in talking about faith in a science classroom or science in a faith classroom?
6. Is your schedule such that you can collaborate with teachers in different departments? e.g. ask theology or campus ministry to come in and speak about the spiritual aspect of the act of reproduction during the reproductive unit
7. Are there resources/opportunities outside of your school that can help you with engaging ways to integrate faith/values/ethics into your lesson plans? e.g. alum who are Catholic OB/GYNs or pathologists, genetic researchers, conservationists, social workers with the poor and marginalized, law enforcement, government officials, lawyers, workers at organ donation sites, special school educators, etc.

6. **Have any resources?** (see separate document in this folder) **Please share your faith/science WEB pages or other resources in this shared Google folder, if you have any.**

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/15PcBlv5spfOltQHAttcST_WLCJ2wFwP?usp=sharing

7. **What are your best practices?** **If you are interested in sharing ways to incorporate faith in science and science in faith, please add your lesson plans to this shared Google folder. I would love to learn about more ideas.**

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13uqQ9SnP8Ayslc1sxnW7n3ykAy42A1UD?usp=sharing>