

University of Texas at Austin  
Maymester 2022

Gov 379s, TC 357, and LAH 350

# Pope Francis's Catholic Church: The Making of the Modern Papacy

Meeting Dates: (May 25 – June 17)  
Meeting Place: Rome

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## Course Description

This course, taking place in Rome, is the second course in a two-course series. It will focus upon Vatican structure, papal succession, and the Vatican politics. Much more than our spring course, this will be a seminar in nature. In accord with that, each student is expected to do all the readings before the class meeting – a good classroom conversation and a student's good grade depends upon it.

## Special Needs

The University of Texas at Austin provides, upon request, appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. To determine if you qualify, please contact the Dean of Students at 471-6259; 471-4641 TTY. If they certify your needs, I will work with you to make appropriate arrangements.

## Grades

**I have a zero-tolerance policy on cheating.** Grades will be determined according to the following formula:

- 15% Attendance. Just show up. No excuses for missing a meeting or tour will be granted.
- 30% Class Participation, Seminar Quizzes, and Homework Assignments. Throughout the course you will have seminar quizzes and, perhaps, homework assignments. There will be no excuses for missing these quizzes and no extensions will be given on homework assignments.
- 55% Semester Project. This project consists of a preliminary paper, a halfway through paper, a final paper, and a presentation.

## Course Readings

The course readings consist of the following:

- Michael Walsh. 2003. *The Conclave: A Sometimes Secret and Occasionally Bloody History of Papal Elections*. Lanham: Sheed & Ward.
- John L. Allen, Jr. 2006. *All the Pope's Men: The Inside Story of How the Vatican Really Thinks*. Doubleday: New York.
- John L. Allen, Jr. 2015. *The Francis Miracle: Inside the Transformation of the Pope and the Church*. Time Books: New York.
- Jon M. Sweeney. 2007. *Light in the Dark Ages: The Friendship of Francis and Clare of Assisi*. Paraclete Press: Brewster, Massachusetts.
- A course packet to be uploaded to Canvas (designated as a hollow circle).

## Seminars Schedule

(Hollow circle readings will be posted to Canvas; filled in circles, will not)

A. Papal Succession, Part 1 (May 26)

- Walsh, *The Conclave*
- Forrest Maltzman, Melissa Schwartzberg, and Less Sigelman. 2006. “Vox Populi, Vox Dei, Vox Sagittae.” *PS: Political Science and Politics*.

B. Papal Succession, Part 2 (May 27)

C. Inside the Vatican (May 28)

- Allen, *All the Pope's Men* (chapters 1-5)
- Excerpts from Thomas J. Reese's *Inside the Vatican*

D. Pope Francis the Person (May 31)

- Allen, *The Francis Miracle*
- Ross Douthat. March 16, 2018, “Pope Francis Is Beloved. His Papacy Might be a Disaster.” *The New York Times*.
- Michael Sean Winters. March 21, 2018. “Douthat’s Francis Book is Poorly Sourced, Inadequate Journalism.” *National Catholic Reporter*.

E. Francis's Election (June 6)

- John L. Allen, Jr. March 3, 2013, “Profile: New Pope, Jesuit Bergoglio, was Runner-up in 2005 Conclave.” *National Catholic Reporter*.
- David Gibson. March 16, 2013, “The Story Behind Pope Francis’ Election” *USA Today*.
- John L. Allen, Jr. March 14, 2013, “Running the Numbers Behind Pope Francis’ Election.” *National Catholic Reporter*.
- Barbie Latza Nunez. March 14, 2013, “Conspiracy Theories Behind Pope Francis’s Election.” *The Daily Beast*.
- David Gibson. April 10, 2013, “Why Didn’t Anyone Predict Bergoglio?” *Commonweal*.

F. The Next Election (June 7)

- Colin Bertram. December 10, 2020, “The Contentious Relationship Between Pope Francis and Pope Benedict.” *Biography*.
- John Cornwell. October 31, 2018, “Pope vs. Pope.” *Vanity Fair*.
- Gerard O’Connell. October 28, 2020. “Analysis: Pope Francis’ Newest Cardinals Will Help Pick His Successor. Who Are They?” *American Magazine*.
- Edward Pentin. “Pope Francis’ 8<sup>th</sup> Consistory of New Cardinals Expected in 2022.” *National Catholic Register*.
- John L. Allen, Jr. November 17, 2015, “Who’s Going to Replace Francis? Maybe One of These Guys.” *Crux*.
- “Who Will be the Next Pope? 8 Main Candidates.”

G. St. Francis and St. Clare (June 8)

- Sweeney, *Light in the Dark Ages: The Friendship of Francis and Clare of Assisi*

H. Popes and Wars (June 13)

- Frank J. Coppa. “World War II and the Holocaust.” *Britannica*.
- Theresa Machemer. May 5, 2020. “Newly Unsealed Vatican Archives Lay Out Evidence of Pope Pius XII’s Knowledge of the Holocaust.” *Smithsonian Magazine*.
- Gerard O’Connell. December 29, 2021. “Pope Francis’ Action-Packed Agenda for 2022” *American Magazine*.
- Timothy Bella and Sammy Westfall. May 4, 2022. “Don’t be ‘Putin’s Altar Boy,’ Pope Warns Russian Orthodox Leader.” *The New York Times*.

I. Student Presentations