



Interfaith Community and Collaboration: A Pilot Honors Seminar Naomi Yavneh Klos, Ph.D., Director, Loyola University Honors Program Fall 2017

Goals of the Seminar: Through an engaged and critically-thoughtful exploration of the basic tenets and complexities of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, with an emphasis

on social justice teachings, students will explore possibilities and develop strategies, and materials for interfaith collaboration.

The seminar draws upon the framework for interfaith leadership developed by Eboo Patel, founder and president of Interfaith Youth Core, to address the challenges and possibilities of developing community and collaboration across

faiths while recognizing and respecting diversity. Patel's 6 essential categories for interfaith leadership include "identity," "theory" (both regarding "inter" and "faith"), vision, knowledge base, skill set, and the intangible qualities of outstanding interfaith leaders. Following those categories, participants in this seminar are expected to develop an understanding of their own religious or spiritual identities and the multi-faceted complexities of each of the three Abrahamic faiths, as well as to put the skills addressed by Patel into action in the Honors, Loyola and New Orleans' communities.

Please note: the first iteration of this seminar is an experimental course. That is, our goal is to develop replicable structures and materials for strengthening interfaith understanding and community.



Chalmers and Klos

The first of the guest speakers for the course was Very Rev. Joseph Chalmers, O.Carm., who presented not only the Christian belief, but Christianity from a Carmelite perspective.

Carmelite NGO Organizes in Europe



Key members of the Carmelite NGO – EU met in Madrid on Sep 30th, to discuss major activities of the NGO in Europe. Pictured from left to right are: Eduardo Agosta Scarel, O.Carm., Andrea Ventimiglia, TOC, Esther Martin Lozano, TOC and Jose Luis Gutierrez, TOC.

One activity they discussed is sponsoring a conference for Catholic NGOs in The European

Union that are involved with the issue of immigration. The European Union, as well as the rest of the world, is involved in accepting and settling refugees from the war torn areas of the Middle East.

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