CHRIST THE TEACHER INSTITUTE
Catholic Scholars Program
Description and Application for Rising Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors
2015/2016

CHRIST THE TEACHER INSTITUTE
The Christ the Teacher Institute (CTI) is a mission of the Sheil Catholic Center at Northwestern University. Its purpose is to form Catholic leaders for the Church and the world through the integration of scholarship, prayer, service, and leadership. The Institute oversees the Sheil Seminars, the Catholic Scholars Program, the Catholic Fellowships in Church Leadership, the Simpson Essay Prize, and the Sheil Speaker’s Series.

CATHOLIC SCHOLARS PROGRAM
In order to enter into an adult relationship with Christ, Catholic Scholars take seriously the commitment to deepen their understanding of faith, pray on a regular basis, serve the needs of others, and provide leadership that is distinctively Catholic. Catholic Scholars are theologically grounded, spiritually alive, articulate in their faith, and joyfully involved in Catholic tradition. Graduates of this program will be well-prepared to serve on parish councils, teach CCD, participate in liturgy committees and lead social justice efforts. In addition they are able to bring Christian principles to their families and careers. Those seeking entry into the program on a basic (3 quarter) or advanced (6 quarter) track may apply between May 1 and August 25. The program is normally 6 quarters in length (two years). At the end of the first year, the student, in discernment with the director, will have the option of leaving the program with a one year certificate. Seniors may enter the program for a one year certificate.

STIPENDS
Stipends help pay for the expenses of the Catholic Scholars Program and provide additional self-earned income to pay for Northwestern’s tuition. All first year Scholars will receive $2,000 (less the cost of service trips and/or retreats) Scholars who continue into the second year for the advanced certificate will receive an additional $3,000 which may be used to pay for additional retreats or service trips or for other expenses. Stipends are paid out at the end of the academic year, unless special arrangements are made. Students who become Catholic Scholars may decline all or part of their scholarship so that others might take advantage of the program.

The scholarship money given here will not reduce NU’s commitment to meet full demonstrated need. Any part of the scholarship not used for required costs of the program (i.e. cost of service trips) would be considered an outside source to reduce the self-help portion of the student’s financial aid award. In very rare instances, the scholarship may affect Northwestern scholarship assistance. No money is given for co-op or intern quarters away from campus or for fifth year students. Entry into the program assumes completion of at least the one year track. If a student drops out of the program without completing at least the one year track, the student is obligated to reimburse Sheil for all scholarship funds given up until the point of departure.
PROGRAM DIRECTOR

CTI is directed by Mary Deeley, who holds a Master of Divinity from Yale University and a PhD in Hebrew Bible and Early Christian Literature from Northwestern University. Dr. Deeley has worked and ministered on college, university, and seminary campuses since 1978. She has written many articles on scripture and liturgy and has lectured extensively on scripture, spirituality, ministry, and faith issues. She has particular interest in discernment and in leadership development. Dr. Deeley is the author of “Mothers, Lovers, Priests, Prophets, and King: What the Old Testament Tells Us About God and Ourselves,” “Daybreaks: Daily Reflections for Advent and Christmas,” and “Remembering God: Resting in the Midst of Life,” all from Liguori Press. Dr. Deeley interacts personally with the students, and teaches some of the Seminars for Christ the Teacher. She serves as an advisor to all Catholic Scholars and as the Pastoral Associate for the Sheil Catholic Center.

ELIGIBILITY

Any full-time student at NU, who is a practicing Catholic and is willing and able to meet the requirements, can apply to participate in Christ the Teacher Catholic Scholars Program.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Each participant must be involved and committed to a process of deepening their spirituality and achieving a more mature understanding of their Catholic faith and be willing to participate in the program until requirements are met. The program is designed to allow for study abroad or internships off campus during the process. No scholarship money will be given during the quarters off campus.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS in the ONE-YEAR TRACK (rising seniors only can apply - minimum 3 quarters)

1. Maintain a GPA of 2.8
2. One CORE and 2 other seminars which may be CTI CORE or elective seminars (or the equivalent in NU courses as determined by the director) in different areas
3. Regular engaged participation AND witness/leadership in SCC liturgy and activities (i.e. become a liturgical minister, serve in the nursery, organize an event or join a committee in CaSA (Catholic Students Association), join or lead a small faith group, teach CCD – there are more than 70 different ways to be involved beyond coming to mass)
4. Personal or group Spiritual Direction monthly
5. Participation in one SCC overnight retreat OR a weekly SCC small faith group or bible study during the year
6. Participation in three service projects OR SCC Alternative Student Break experience during the year
7. Participation in the theological reflection seminar at the end of each quarter for all Catholic Scholars

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS in the TWO-YEAR TRACK (minimum 6 quarters)

1. Maintain a GPA of 2.8
2. Four core seminars in theology, liturgy, morality, and scripture plus 2 other seminars (or equivalent in NU courses as determined by the director) chosen from the other disciplines
3. Participation in the theological reflection seminar at the end of each quarter, designed to help the student integrate his or her faith and learning into the overall life experience as a Northwestern student and a Catholic young adult
4. Regular engaged participation AND witness/leadership in SCC liturgy, SCC activities, and personal prayer (See # 8 for examples of participation). All Scholars are expected to come to mass at Sheil at least weekly and to pray daily
5. Personal spiritual direction
6. Participation in at least one overnight retreat OR a weekly SCC small faith group or bible study each year
7. Participation in an Alternative Break immersion trip and at least three additional service opportunities. (The latter can be fulfilled with another alternative break trip in the second year).
8. Practice Christian leadership by “Putting on the mind of Christ” in our leadership development component. Apply what is learned by taking an active role in Sheil ministry or activity for at least three quarters (i.e. become a liturgical minister, serve in the nursery, organize an event or join a committee in
CaSA (Catholic Students Association), join or lead a small faith group, teach CCD – there are more than 70 different ways to be involved. 

9. Completion of a final integrative paper in the last year
10. All Catholic Scholars are encouraged to take at least one course in the Catholic Studies program during their undergraduate years, although this is not a strict requirement.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE
The following materials must be submitted to the SCC office no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 26, 2015:

1. The official Catholic Scholar application form can be downloaded from the Sheil website: http://www.sheil.northwestern.edu/christ_the_teacher/catholic_scholars_program.html. For more information, contact m-deeley@northwestern.edu. Please submit only the one-page form along with your other material
2. A 1-2 page typed statement indicating the applicant’s reasons for wanting to participate in the program and willingness and ability to meet the requirements, especially the time commitments; past or current leadership positions, if applicable, and cumulative GPA. Applicants may also note their financial situation if they wish.
3. A letter of recommendation from one of the pastoral leaders at Sheil or another pastoral leader, youth minister, or campus minister who can attest to the applicant’s commitment to the Catholic tradition, involvement in a faith community, as well as potential for leadership and reflection.
4. A letter of recommendation from a professor or academic advisor who can attest to the applicant’s potential to successfully complete additional college level coursework and extracurricular requirements
5. The following applies only to students who came into the program in Fall 2013. Students applying to complete an advanced track after doing a basic track need only submit the form and the essay. If accepted and in most cases, these scholars will receive the same amount of scholarship they received in their first year.

SELECTION PROCESS
A committee composed of the director of the program, the director of Sheil and permanent community members will review all the fully completed applications received by the deadline. They will make their selections on the following criteria:

1. Student’s enthusiasm and purpose in applying for the program as demonstrated in the application essay
2. Commitment to embracing all aspects of faith and learning from them.
3. Leadership potential
4. Academic abilities and current level of engagement as demonstrated in the recommendations
5. Ability to manage the time demands
6. Willingness to participate until the requirements are met.
Applications will be accepted between May 1, 2015 and August 26, 2015.
Please type or print all responses on this application.

I am applying to be a Catholic Scholar ______
I am a senior and will apply for the one-year certificate ______

Name:

Last Name First Name Middle Initial

Permanent Address:

Street, City, State / Zip Code:

Your Home Phone: (__________)________________________

NU Address:

Please include zip code if you are not living in a NU residence hall.

Your Cell Phone (__________)________________________
NU Email: ___________________@u.northwestern.edu
Other E-mail if you are using that_____________________________________________________

(For students attending area parishes other than Sheil)
Home Parish: ________________________________ (Name and City)
Pastor (if not Sheil Director): __________________________________________________________

Cumulative GPA: ________
Sheil Activities participated in __________________________________________________________

Leadership Positions at Sheil or At NU __________________________________________________________

Past Sheil Seminars taken

_________________________________________________________
Characteristic of Christ you would most like to take on

I would pursue this program even if you did not offer a stipend    ___yes     ____no

I will be a full-time student at Northwestern University in the 2015/2016 academic year. I am practicing Catholic and I intend to fulfill the program requirements. I understand that if I do not complete at least the first year track, I must reimburse Sheil for any stipend money I received to that point.

Signature: ___________________________ Date: _____________________________

Applications and recommendations can be submitted electronically to Mary Deeley: m-deeley@northwestern.edu or by mail addressed to

The following items must be submitted with this application form:

1. Pages 4 and 5 of the application completed
2. A 1-2 page typed statement indicating the applicant’s reasons for wanting to participate in the Catholic Scholars Program and willingness and ability to meet the requirements, especially the time commitments; parish or college leadership roles, honors and cumulative GPA. Applicants may also note their financial situation if they wish.
3. A letter of recommendation from a pastor/chaplain or another pastoral minister who can attest to the applicant’s commitment to the Catholic tradition, involvement in the faith community, and demonstrated potential for leadership (Recommendation Forms are included in the CT Packet)
4. A letter of recommendation from a professor, academic advisor, or leadership supervisor who can attest to the applicant’s potential to successfully complete university level coursework in addition to current course load. (Recommendation forms may be downloaded separately from http://www.sheil.northwestern.edu/christ_the_teacher/catholic_scholars_program.html). If you prefer a word document or if you have any questions, please email Mary Deeley: m-deeley@northwestern.edu