



# Propaedeutic Stage

Seminarians enter formation in the Propaedeutic Stage. This stage lays the foundation of the formational journey, emphasizing human and spiritual development. Men live in a community of discernment and accompaniment, apart from the seminary, for 12 months to two years.

## Retreat & Formation at Dehon House



Participants start the discernment year in late summer with a retreat and orientation to the propaedeutic stage, living and praying at our Dehon House, *under the direction of priest formator* Fr. Zbigniew "Ziggy" Morawiec, SCJ, STL.

During the fall & spring semesters, the men continue their discernment, building a foundation emphasizing the human and spiritual dimensions of priestly formation. They have a daily horarium of communal liturgy, service, study, and formation sessions.

*"We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28 NABRE)*



### Periodic Catholic Studies sessions

will complement the rich, prayer-filled time addressing the following topics:

#### Fall 2023

Catholic Doctrine I (2 credits)

Catholic Spiritual Tradition & Priestly Identity I (2 credits)

Reading Sacred Scripture (2 credits)

Catholic Heritage I (3 credits),  
via excursions and pilgrimages

#### Spring 2024

Catholic Doctrine II (2 credits)

Catholic Spiritual Tradition & Priestly Identity (2 credits)

Reading Sacred Scripture (2 credits)

Catholic Heritage II (3 credits),  
via excursions and pilgrimages

Intentional learning excursions to Catholic sites will enrich the course content. The above classes fulfill requirements for loan deferrals and student visas.

### Pilgrimage in Rome

We are very excited to announce that we are collaborating with other propaedeutic programs for an immersive experience in Rome as part of the Catholic Heritage II course in the spring of 2024. This pilgrimage will engage men in the rich history, art and culture of Catholicism. Thanks to grants, much of the cost will be subsidized.

## Home for Propaedeutic Stage

The Dehon House, located on the campus of Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology, is a beautifully renovated five-bedroom home that serves as the communal living space for the Propaedeutic Stage. With two chapels, it provides an ideal space for discerners to grow in prayer, including “scriptural meditation and the art of lectio divina” that are essential to this stage in formation (PPF no. 123).



### Contact us today!

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An apostolate of the Priests of the Sacred Heart



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