



Department of Justice, Peace, and Human Development

3211 FOURTH STREET NE • WASHINGTON DC 20017-1194 • FAX 202-541-3339 • WWW.USCCB.ORG/JPHD

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING CERTIFICATE PROGRAM
FOR HISPANIC/LATINO REGIONAL FACILITATORS



© Michael O'Neill McGrath, OSFS

Syllabus – Online English Sessions: June 11, 13, 18, 20, and 25

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM Eastern | 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM Central

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM Mountain | 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM Pacific

CONTACT DETAILS:

Organizations/Institutions: Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (JPHD-USCCB) and the National Catholic Association of Diocesan Directors for Hispanic Ministry (NCADDHM)

Respondent: Yohan Garcia, Catholic Social Teaching Education Manager, Office of Education & Outreach, JPHD-USCCB

Address: 3211 4th St. NE, Washington D.C., 20017

Contact information: 202-541-3373 | ygarcia@usccb.org

The [Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops](#) (JPHD-USCCB) collaborates with the [National Catholic Association of Diocesan Directors for Hispanic Ministry](#) (NCADDHM) in offering a Catholic Social Teaching formation opportunity and advocacy training for directors/coordinators of Hispanic/Latino Ministry with the intent to facilitate regional leadership formation through a “Train the Trainers” format. The [Catholic Social Teaching Certificate Program for Hispanic/Latino Regional Facilitators](#) seeks to address several of the recommendations made by the [V Encuentro National Process of Hispanic/Latino Ministry](#) (2018) and [Missionary Disciples Going Forth with Joy: National Pastoral Plan for Hispanic/Latino Ministry](#) (2023) about the formation needs of Hispanic/Latino Catholics and to build on their understanding of and commitment to Catholic Social Teaching.

Through the five sessions of the Certificate Program, participants become familiar with CST principles and values by studying the CST foundational documents, the major CST themes highlighted in “*Sharing Catholic Social Teaching: Challenges and Directions*,” and the Two Feet of Love in Action. Participants identify social challenges impacting Hispanic/Latino Catholics and reflect on CST in light of their experiences as Hispanic/Latino Catholics. Finally, participants learn about bilingual formational materials and resources available on the Church's social mission. Participants then work to integrate CST into their ministries and seek to share what they have learned with others.

The sessions follow the See-Judge(Discern)-Act methodology. This methodology, which was introduced in St. John XXIII's social encyclical [Mater et Magistra](#) and embraced by the [Latin American and Caribbean Episcopal Council \(CELAM\)](#), allows participants to:

- Interpret the “signs of the times” (Vatican II, *Gaudium et Spes*, no. 4).
- “Illuminate with an unchanging light the new problems that are constantly emerging” (*Caritas in Veritate*, no. 12).
- Put their faith into action: “Each day we have to decide whether to be Good Samaritans or indifferent bystanders” (*Fratelli Tutti*, no. 69).

LEARNING OUTCOMES: After completing the five sessions, participants will be able to achieve seven specific learning and action-oriented outcomes:

- Describe some of the key sources of the Church's social teaching.
- Promote the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching.
- Identify ways to adapt CST activities for various ages, ministries, and cultures.
- Identify CST biblical passages to mobilize their communities to address current social, political, economic, and religious realities within their local context.
- Find opportunities to link the Church's social teaching to liturgical catechesis and formation activities on the sacraments and the Church's social mission.
- Use different tools, resources, and best practices to analyze and act on the social challenges impacting Hispanic/Latino communities.
- Join local and regional efforts to create systemic change.

MATERIALS: After each session, participants will receive the recording and PowerPoint presentations used in each session which include numerous resources and tools. After completing the Certificate Program, participants will receive access to the *Catholic Social Teaching Facilitator's Guide* which contains material for faith groups, families, and individuals to

journey through CST in five sessions. Each session includes an outline, opening and closing prayer, CST themes and their implications on social issues impacting Hispanic/Latino Catholics, discussion questions, tips, and resources to put their faith into action, and homework assignments.

PARTICIPANTS (FACILITATOR'S) COMPETENCIES:

- Demonstrates a passion for social justice and a spirit of service.
- Applies essential skills of faith-based community organizing in concrete action in the local/regional community.
- Demonstrates a desire to put faith into action through advocacy on particular social justice issues such as immigration, racism, poverty, violence in all its forms, faithful citizenship, supporting women and children, climate change, etc.
- Acts and reflects critically in community, in a spirit of synodality.
- Collaborates with others on Hispanic/Latino Ministry and Social Action Concerns Offices/Groups to organize and build capacity to shape systems toward social justice and Gospel values, increasing participation in contemporary human life.
- Demonstrates the ability to act, reflect, and transform the current realities/issues impacting Hispanic/Latino Catholics by discerning the “signs of the times.”
- Demonstrates an ability to analyze social systems and institutions to discover the sources and drivers of injustice to create systemic change.
- Demonstrates ability to bring his/her skills into the public sphere beyond Church structures: social services, community organizing, education, and the political arena/advocacy.
- Integrates a foundational understanding of the CST principles and values as a guide to facing social challenges in the community from a faith perspective.

NOTES:

- This Certificate Program is aimed at regional and national Catholic leaders serving the Hispanic/Latino community in the United States.
- The Certificate Program will be issued by the National Catholic Association of Diocesan Directors for Hispanic Ministry (NCADDHM). JPHD-USCCB handles the presentation of the content in collaboration with the National Team of CST Facilitators, composed of graduates of the Certificate Program.
- The *Catholic Social Teaching Facilitator's Guide* will be available to participants after the completion of the Certificate Program.
- The sessions will be recorded and made available to participants in the Certificate Program through NCADDHM's Zoom support system. Please note that certain content and images presented during the virtual sessions are subject to copyright matters, thus, please do not share any content on social media.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: We are particularly grateful to the planning team from both NCADDHM and JPHD-USCCB who met on numerous occasions and dedicated much of their time to the development and implementation of the *Catholic Social Teaching Certificate Program for Hispanic/Latino Regional Facilitators*. We are also grateful to the team of presenters from JPHD-USCCB and the National Team of CST Facilitators for their valued contributions and collaboration.

TEAM OF PRESENTERS:

Yohan Garcia



Yohan Garcia serves as the Catholic Social Teaching Education Manager of the Office of Education and Outreach in the Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. His responsibility consists of advancing the USCCB's pastoral priorities and plans by providing project management, bilingual resource creation, formation initiatives, and leadership development to advance the bishop's social mission, education, and outreach priorities. Yohan also serves as an Adjunct Faculty at the Institute of Pastoral Studies at Loyola University Chicago where he teaches a course on Catholic Social Ethics and Migration. Additionally, Yohan serves as an Advisor and Trainer of the *Thriving in Rural Congregations Program* of the Catholic Rural Life Conference and as an Advisor to the Commission on Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation of the Glenmary Home Missioners. Furthermore, Yohan is a member of the international network of Catholic Theological Ethics in the World Church where he serves in the Virtual Table on Migration and Borders in America. Previously, Yohan served as the National Formation Coordinator of National *Pastoral Migratoria* immigrant-led social ministry at the Archdiocese of Chicago and as Director of Religious Education at St. Jerome Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of New York. Yohan was born and raised in Puebla, Mexico, and migrated to the U.S. in 2003 in search of a better life. He earned his GED from Lehman College, an A.A. in Business Management from the Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC), a B.A. in Political Science from Hunter College, and an M.A. in Ethics and Society from Fordham University.

Ingrid Delgado



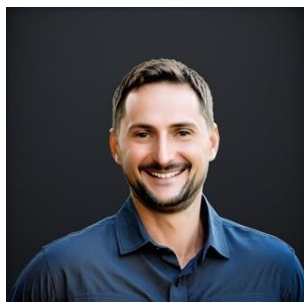
Ingrid Delgado serves as the Associate Director of the Office of Government Relations of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Ingrid previously served as a Policy Advisor for the Office of Domestic Social Development of the Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development of the USCCB. Additionally, she previously worked as an Associate Director for the Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops as well as in youth outreach and refugee resettlement programs for Catholic Charities of Central Florida. Her volunteer experience has included youth ministry and catechesis; living in San Juan de la Maguana, Dominican Republic, as a missionary; and serving on the boards of Hogar CREA International's Florida chapter, the Florida Pregnancy Care Network, and Floridians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty. Ingrid earned her B.A. at the University of Central Florida and an M.A. in Public Administration at Florida State University. Ingrid and her husband, Roberto, have been married for 23 years and reside in Virginia with their three children.

Helder Hernandez



Helder Hernandez serves as the Poverty, Education, and Outreach Coordinator for the Office of Education and Outreach in the Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. He has extensive experience working with legislators at both the state and national levels. Helder serves as Chair for the Parish Council and Hispanic Ministry of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Silver Spring, Maryland. In both roles, Helder has led workshops that instruct parishioners on the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching. He has also worked with the Archdioceses of Washington and Baltimore to support cultural diversity programming, training for Hispanic/Latino priests, and immigration services initiatives in collaboration with several organizations, including Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington and the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC). Helder is originally from Nicaragua and holds a B.A. in Political Science from Goucher College. In his spare time, he is a Catechist for Faith Adult Formation at St. Michael the Archangel Parish.

Dr. Ricardo Simmonds



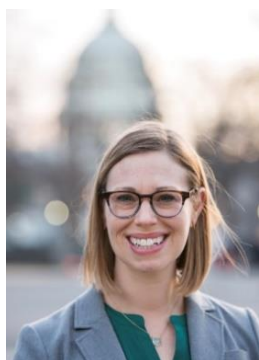
Dr. Ricardo Simmonds serves as an Environmental Policy Advisor for the Office of Domestic Social Development at the Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. He is a professional consultant and expert on integral ecology, focusing on the intersection of climate science, environmental policy, philosophy, and theology. He has represented the U.S. bishops on climate and environmental policy with members of the U.S. Congress and Administration, secular institutions, religious organizations, and The Holy See. His academic interest in environment, ethics, and religion developed during his undergraduate studies at *Bowdoin College* in Maine, and later in Peru at the *Facultad de Teología Pontificia y Civil de Lima*. He received an M.A. in Climate Science, Policy, and Philosophy from the University of Colorado Boulder, and his thesis was entitled “Truth and Climate Change: *Pragmatist Truth Confronted by Habermas and Ratzinger in the Context of Climate Change*”. In 2023, Ricardo earned his Ph.D. in Environmental Studies from the University of Colorado Boulder. He is the founder of *Creatio*, an environmental non-profit based in Colorado that integrates faith, ecology, and service to the poor in thought, prayer, and action.

Jill Rauh



Jill Rauh serves as the Director of the Office of Education and Outreach in the Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. She has authored dozens of resources on our Catholic social mission and speaks nationally about the work of the Church in this area. In her free time, Rauh volunteers with local faith-based community organizing, serves on the Advisory Board for the National *Pastoral Migratoria* immigrant-led social ministry, and is a proud wife and mother. Rauh holds a B.A. from Marquette University, an M.A. in Theology from Washington Theological Union, and an M.A. in International Affairs from George Washington University. Before joining the USCCB in 2007, she developed Catholic Social Teaching resources with the Education for Justice Project at the Center of Concern, worked in civic engagement with Hispanic/Latino youth, contributed to parish and campus ministry efforts, and served as an international volunteer with *Rostro de Cristo* in Ecuador, South America.

Emily Schumacher-Novak



Emily Schumacher-Novak serves as the Associate Director of the Office of Education and Outreach in the Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Emily has a passion for bringing together Catholics to work for peace and justice and sees creating community as a central element of building up the kingdom of God. Emily has written and spoken about the transformational nature of Catholic Social Teaching and our call as Catholics to be engaged members of our civic and global communities. Emily is proud to share the work of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) as an excellent example of the Church putting our faith into action. In her role, she oversees leadership development opportunities for emerging leaders and assists in translating our policy advocacy for grassroots engagement. She holds an M.A. in Systematic Theology from Marquette University and has advanced studies in Ignatian Spirituality. Emily has extensive experience in developing and accompanying young adults while working for ten years in Catholic Higher Education. Emily volunteered with CCHD in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee for many years and enjoys leading retreats and days of reflection whenever possible.

Carlos Flores



Carlos serves as the Director of Intercultural Ministries in the Diocese of St. Petersburg, Florida. He previously served as the Associate Director for Hispanic Ministry. Carlos is a member of the Catholic Relief Services Diocesan Chapter and the Racial Harmony Diocesan Committee. As a member of St. Patrick Parish in Tampa, Carlos has served in several ministries such as Spanish Choir Director, Edge Middle School Coordinator, RCIA Team Member, Lector, and Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. Carlos was born and raised in San Juan, Puerto Rico. He received his B.A. in Political Science from Iowa State University. While volunteering at his parish and the diocese, he was commissioned in June 2009 by the Lay Pastoral Ministry Institute of the Diocese of St. Petersburg. Carlos is currently pursuing an M.A. in Pastoral Ministry with Hispanics at Barry University, in consortium with the Southeast Pastoral Institute (SEPI).

Danny Rauda



Danny Rauda is a first-generation Salvadoran American based out of Portland, Oregon. Currently, Danny works at St. Anthony Catholic Church as the Coordinator of the Social Justice Ministry and hosts the Reclaiming Social Justice podcast. He is also a *Haciendo Caminos* Scholar and is in the process of completing his M.A. in Pastoral Studies at Loyola University Chicago Institute of Pastoral Studies Online Bilingual Program.

Daniel Villar



Daniel Villar is the Director of the Office of Ethnic Ministries at the Catholic Diocese of Richmond, VA. He received a B.A. in Religious Studies with minors in Sociology and Philosophy from Florida International University and an M.A. in Systematic Theology from St. Leo University. Daniel is a member of the National *Pastoral Migratoria* Network (REDNPM); the current Chair of the Formation Committee and Board Member of the National Catholic Association of Diocesan Directors for Hispanic Ministry (NCADDHM); the Region IV Co-Chair for the V Encuentro Process; collaborates with the Office of Social Ministries through the Encounter Migrant Ministry in his diocese; and has done advocacy work virtually and at Capitol Hill for the past 6 years representing Virginia as captain for two of those years. Finally, Daniel serves as a member of the Office of New Americans Advisory Board (ONAAB) for the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Leyden Rovelo-Krull



Leyden is the Director of the Office of Hispanic Ministry at the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph. She is an engaging and humorous Catholic Ministry Leader, Content Creator, and Speaker, known for her ability to connect with diverse audiences. As the daughter of Honduran and Puerto Rican immigrant parents, Leyden brings a unique perspective to her work in Hispanic ministry. With a specialization in human development, Leyden is passionate about promoting Catholic Social Teaching through community outreach, content development, and formation. She is highly credible in her field, having planned and developed online content for National Migration Week in collaboration with the USCCB's Department of Migration and Refugee Services. Currently serving as the State Coalition Lead for Missouri in partnership with Catholic Relief Services, Leyden develops relationships with U.S. Senate Offices and advocates for important issues. Leyden is also a nationally recognized speaker, working with organizations such as the Saint Paul Street Evangelization team and the Catherine of Siena Institute. She is a graduate of *Summa Cum Laude* with a degree in Legal and Policy Studies from Fordham University. She is currently seeking a place to park her RV, her husband, and two puppies overlooking a lake.

Rhonda Gonzales Sepúlveda



Rhonda Gonzales Sepúlveda is a sixth-generation Texan, Native Houstonian, and a dynamic community resource as a natural networker and connector. She has spent much of her career at Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston where she currently serves as the Parish and Government Relations Coordinator. Rhonda has testified at state senatorial and congressional sessions and worked with legislators, clergy, social workers, and key civic leaders to promote systemic change in legislation that benefits the community and its constituents on issues ranging from payday lending, education, and other aspects that enhance the dignity of life, with a special emphasis on disenfranchised populations. Rhonda facilitates Catholic Social Teaching sessions at New Employee Orientations, parishes, and at the Archdiocesan Proclaim Conference 2021. She has also served on the Catholic Charities USA Parish Social Ministry National Board. She currently serves in her second term as Treasurer and Advocacy Committee Member, LULAC Council 60; Executive Committee Member and Organizer, The Metropolitan Organization (TMO); Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston Organizer, Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops Advocacy Day Planning Committee; and is a member of other local organizations that foster faith, diversity, equity and inclusion.

SCHEDULE OF SESSIONS:

Session One (June 11 | 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. ET): Exploring Catholic Social Teaching and the Social Challenges Impacting Hispanic/Latino Catholics. Facilitators:

- Ingrid Delgado, Associate Director, Office of Government Relations, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
- Yohan Garcia, Catholic Social Teaching Education Manager, Office of Education & Outreach, Dept. of Justice, Peace and Human Development, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
- Leyden Rovelto-Krull, Director, Office of Hispanic Ministry, Diocese of Kansas City – St. Joseph
- Daniel Villar, Director, Office of Ethnic Ministries, Diocese of Richmond

Session Two (June 13 | 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. ET): Life and Dignity of the Human Person and Our Call to Family, Community, and Participation. Facilitators:

- Emily Schumacher-Novak, Associate Director, Office of Education & Outreach, Dept. of Justice, Peace and Human Development, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
- Danny Rauda, Social Justice Coordinator, St. Anthony Catholic Church, Archdiocese of Portland
- Rhonda Gonzales Sepúlveda, Parish and Government Relations Coordinator, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

Session Three (June 18 | 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. ET): Rights and Responsibilities and the Option for the Poor and Vulnerable. Facilitators:

- Helder Hernandez, Poverty Education and Outreach Coordinator, Office of Education & Outreach, Dept. of Justice, Peace and Human Development, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
- Leyden Rovelto-Krull, Director, Office of Hispanic Ministry, Diocese of Kansas City – St. Joseph
- Daniel Villar, Director, Office of Ethnic Ministries, Diocese of Richmond

Session Four (June 20 | 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. ET): Economic Justice/The Dignity of Work and Rights of Workers, Solidarity, and Care for God's Creation. Facilitators:

- Dr. Ricardo Simmonds, Environmental Policy Advisor, Office of Domestic Social Development, Dept. of Justice, Peace and Human Development, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
- Carlos Flores, Director, Office of Intercultural Ministries, Diocese of St. Petersburg
- Rhonda Gonzales Sepúlveda, Parish and Government Relations Coordinator, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

Session Five (June 25 | 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. ET): Putting Our Two Feet of Love in Action through Social Justice and Charitable Works. Facilitators:

- Jill Rauh, Director, Office of Education & Outreach, Dept. of Justice, Peace and Human Development, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
- Carlos Flores, Director, Office of Intercultural Ministries, Diocese of St. Petersburg
- Danny Rauda, Social Justice Coordinator, St. Anthony Catholic Church, Archdiocese of Portland