



MEDIA ADVISORY: UNH Hosts 'Mixing Politics And Religion: The Catholic Church And The World'

Contact: [Lori Wright](#)
603-862-0574
UNH Media Relations

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WHAT: Mixing Politics and Religion: The Catholic Church and the World

WHEN: Thursday, Nov. 2, 12:40 to 2 p.m.

WHERE: University of New Hampshire Memorial Union Building, Theatre II

BACKGROUND: Five professors will discuss their new book "The Catholic Church and the Nation-State: Comparative Perspectives." The book is co-edited by Chris Reardon, associate professor of political science at UNH. In addition to Reardon's chapter about the Catholic Church in China, UNH political science professors Alynna Lyon and Mary Malone, and professors Christine Kearney and Paul Manuel of St. Anselm College also contributed chapters to the book. Michele Dillon, professor of sociology at UNH whose research is focused on the Catholic Church, will moderate the discussion and provide special commentary.

With an in-depth exploration of the five primary challenges facing the church — theology and politics, secularization, the transition from serving as a nationalist voice of opposition, questions of justice, and accommodation to sometimes hostile civil authorities — the book demonstrates how national churches vary considerably in the emphasis of their teachings and in the scope and nature of their political involvement.

"A book that astutely crosses the theology-political science divide to probe the relation between faith and culture. The authors capture multiple tensions and ambiguities as the Catholic Church faces challenges of secularization, nationalism and democracy across the globe," says Clarke E. Cochran, professor of political science at Texas Tech University.

The event is free and open to the public and is sponsored by the UNH Department of Political Science, Center for the Humanities and College of Liberal Arts.