

## **IN243W 21<sup>st</sup> Century Leadership: Public, Connected, and Adaptive**

Instructors: Nate Frambach and Kris Stache

Required, MDiv and MA in Diaconal Ministry students (typically 2nd-year) Two semester hours.

### **DESCRIPTION:**

Students in this course will be equipped to see themselves as servant leaders in relation to the Gospel, other individuals, the faith community, and the wider public. By studying systems theory, diverse forms of communication, and strategies for stewarding local resources, the course cultivates personal leadership skills, capacities, and assets for leadership. This course includes direct training in interpersonal boundaries.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

1. To articulate from a Christian theological perspective, leadership as gospel centered and publicly oriented.
2. To integrate one's own vision for public Christian leadership in light of the Triune God's mission in and through congregations and communities (agencies, organizations, and institutions).
3. To identify, affirm, and further develop one's gifts and skills for ministry, and empower others to identify, affirm, and develop their own skills and gifts for ministry.
4. To explore the systemic dimension of congregational life, deepen one's ability to engage in complex systemic analysis, and apply basic concepts from system's theory to one's own leadership.
5. To steward professional boundaries in relationship to the congregation as a system, with particular attention to the dynamics of sexual misconduct and one's own ethical commitments in relationship to stewardship of one's own life.

### **PASTORAL DIACONAL PRACTICES:**

- Practice of Biblical and Theological Wisdom
- Practice of Complex Analysis
- Practice of Personal Faith and Integrity
- Practice of Evangelical Listening and Speaking the Faith to Others

### **PROCEDURE:**

A combination of lecture, class discussion, assigned reading, and personal reflection will guide our shared learning. Regular attendance and active participation in all class work is expected.

### **EVALUATION:**

Students will be evaluated on several short writing assignments and class participation.

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

#### Required Reading

Nouwen, Henri J. M. *In the Name of Jesus: Reflections on Christian Leadership*. The Crossroad Publishing Company, 1992.

Mahlberg, Arden, Craig L. Nesson, Pamela Cooper-White, and Michael Cooper-White. *The Integrity of the Body of Christ: Boundary Keeping as Shared Responsibility*. Eugene, Oregon: Cascade Books, 2016.

Beaumont, Susan. *How to Lead When You Don't Know Where You're Going: Leading in a Liminal*

Season. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2019.  
*Becoming an Adaptive Leader* article found [here](#)

***Please choose one (1) of the following seven (7) books:***

- Channing Brown, Austin. *I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness*.  
Coleman, Monica. *Bipolar Faith: A Black Woman's Journey with Depression and Faith*. Minneapolis:  
Augsburg Fortress, 2016.  
Curtice, Kaitlin, *Native: Identity, Belonging, and Rediscovering God*.  
Duncan, Lenny. *Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in  
the U.S.*  
Evans, Rachel Held. *Searching for Sunday: Loving, Leaving, and Finding the  
Church*. Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, 2015.  
Henderson-Espinoza, Robyn. *Activist Theology*.  
Powell, Kevin. *The Education of Kevin Powell: A Boy's Journey into Manhood*.  
Reprint edition. Atria Books, 2016.

*Additional Articles as Assigned*

Highly Recommended

Fortune, Marie M. *Is Nothing Sacred?: The Story of a Pastor, the Women He Sexually Abused, and the  
Congregation He Nearly Destroyed*. Wipf & Stock Pub, 2008.

Recommended

- Bolsinger, Ted. *Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory*. Downers  
Grove, IL: IVP, 2015.  
Friedman, Edwin H. *A Failure of Nerve: Leading in the Age of the Quick Fix*. Seabury Books, 2007.  
Greenleaf, Robert K., and Stephen R. Covey. *Servant Leadership: A Journey into the Nature of  
Legitimate Power and Greatness 25th Anniversary Edition*. Edited by Larry C. Spears. 25 Anv  
edition. New York: Paulist Pr, 2002.  
Heifetz, Ronald, and Marty Linsky. *Leadership on the Line, With a New Preface: Staying Alive  
Through the Dangers of Change*. Revised ed. edition. Boston, Massachusetts: Harvard Business  
Review Press, 2017.  
Wheatley, Margaret J. *Leadership and the New Science: Discovering Order in a Chaotic World*. 3<sup>rd</sup>