

IN243WA 21st Century Leadership: Public, Connected, and Adaptive

Instructors: Nate Frambach

Required, MDiv and MA in Diaconal Ministry students (typically 2nd-year) One (1) semester hour.

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. (NB: part “B” of this course includes direct training in interpersonal boundaries.)

OBJECTIVES:

1. To articulate from a Christian theological perspective, leadership as gospel centered and publicly oriented (*practice of biblical and theological wisdom*).
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—along with other agencies, organizations, and institutions (*practice of evangelical listening and speaking the faith to others*).
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 (*practice of personal faith and integrity*).
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 (*practice of complex analysis*).

PROCEDURE:

A combination of lecture, guest presentations, 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 two (2) short writing assignments, hosting a leadership conversation, and class participation.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Required Reading

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

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.*

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.*

Kegler, Emmy. *One Coin Found: How God's Love Stretches to the Margins.* Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2019.

Thurman, Howard. *With Head and Heart: The Autobiography of Howard Thurman.* Mariner Books, 1981.

Additional Articles as Assigned

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. 25th Anniversary 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 edition. Boston, Massachusetts: Harvard Business Review Press, 2017.

Wheatley, Margaret J. *Leadership and the New Science: Discovering Order in a Chaotic World.* 3rd