

Wesley Theological Seminary
Course of Study Program
Philadelphia Satellite School
Winter session | January 20-21; February 4 and February 18, 2017

Course: CS-124 Transformative Leadership
Faculty: Tom Haugh
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This program will be held the first weekend at the Comfort Inn in Essex, PA. The second and third meetings will take place at Westchester UMC in Westchester, PA. You will receive a letter of confirmation of your registration with further instructions regarding location and schedule.

Course Objectives

This course seeks to form the student's identity as a pastoral leader and change agent within congregations, the United Methodist Church, and the world by helping students:

1. Identify and understand the attributes of good leaders, biblically and theologically
2. Learn how discerning and communicating a vision and narrative leadership are essential to effectuating change in congregations
3. Understand the dynamics of change in congregational life
4. See leadership as an interactive, collaborative process that inherently involves group processes and forms others as leaders

Text Books

Church Leadership: Vision, Team, Culture, Integrity, Revised Edition (Abingdon Press, 2010)
by Lovett H. Weems, Jr.

Ducking Spears, Dancing Madly: A Biblical Model of Church Leadership (Abingdon Press, 2004) by Lewis A. Parks and Bruce C. Birch.

Finding our Story: Narrative Leadership and Congregational Change (Alban Institute, 2010)
Larry Goleman, Editor.

Pre-Class Written Assignments

Assignment One Due First day of class will be major part of our discussions be prepared to make a presentation.

Assignment Two due our second Class

Assignment One:

After reading “Finding our story: Narrative Leadership and congregational Change” By Larry Goleman, write a five to seven page paper divided into two parts :Part one reflecting on what Narrative have you personally embraced, do you think people recognize your narrative by how you lead? Has your personal narrative been helpful or full of conflict? Part two what do you think is the narrative of the church you are serving? Why do you think that is their narrative? Has it helped them or caused conflict? Has it helped them embrace the future or live in the past?

Assignment Two:

Based upon your reading of “Dicking Spears and dancing Madly” Write Three, essays three pages each on a biblical leader—good or bad—One must be a male, one a female, and one a surprise! What leadership qualities do the model? What of their narrative might you want to embrace or avoid in your leadership practices?

Method of Evaluation

This pre-course assignment does not require any research into text-based sources and thus there is no right or wrong answer to most of the questions. Students should not fear that their answers to questions like “Who is God?” and “Who is Jesus Christ?” do not measure up to some pre-determined level of expertise, for example. Instead, students will be graded on how carefully and reflectively they write, how well-formed their sentences and paragraphs are, and how seriously they take the assignment in general.

These pre-course assignment instructions should be read carefully to insure that students are following instructions correctly. Grammar and syntax will be taken into account in grading. The degree to which students are able to demonstrate the ability to reason and reflect insightfully is important to the ability to do well on the assignment.

The grading scale is listed below:

- A Outstanding
- A– Excellent
- B+ Very Good
- B Good
- B– Above Average
- C+ Slightly Above Average
- C Average
- C– Slightly Below Average
- F– Failing

Any questions should be directed to the course instructor at the contact information listed at the head of this assignment.