Wesley Theological Seminary
Course of Study Online

July 11-15, 2022

CS 124: Transformative Leadership
Faculty: Rev. Dr. Aaron M. Bouwens
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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

Textbooks
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.

Assignments

Due June 11, 2022
Reading Integration 1 (25% of grade)
Read Ducking Spears Dancing Madly by Lewis Parks and Bruce Birch and read Finding our
Story: Narrative Leadership and Congregational Change, Larry Goleman, Editor. Write a 7-9
page, double-spaced paper. The first half should be devoted to Ducking Spears Dancing Madly.
Please identify the three to five most important learnings related to leadership that you gleaned
from this book and discussed how they relate to your personal leadership in your ministry
setting. The second half of your paper should discuss Finding Our Story. Describes specific clues
or strategies from the book that you might use to communicate more effectively in your current
ministry context.
Due on July 9, 2022

Reading Integration 2 (25% of Grade)
This assignment deals with your reading of *Church Leadership: Vision, Team, Culture, Integrity*, Revised Edition by Lovett H. Weems, Jr. Based on your reading of this book, discuss in turn each of the four key elements of leadership highlighted in this book. Describe why each is critical to effective leadership. Then discuss specific clues or strategies you might use to deploy this aspect of leadership more effectively in your current ministry context. This assignment should be 7-8 pages, doubled spaced.

Due July 16, 2022

Leadership Perspective (30% of grade)
Write a 3-5 page paper synthesizing the aspects of the course. This paper is intended to be more of a reflection and offering of your perspective than an academic retelling of information. Be sure to show how the reading has influenced your thinking, as well as how the class sessions have deepened your perspective. Finally, successful papers will show how your learning from this course will impact your practice of leadership as you provide pastoral leadership for the church. It will be helpful to start this paper before the end of the class sessions however, it will be helpful to not finalize the paper until the conclusion of the last session July 15, 2022.

All papers will be evaluated by the standards of the assignment, clarity of writing, accuracy, consistency, the ability to make a coherent argument, and fidelity to proper academic standards, including accurate quotation and citation of sources. Papers must include complete references. Proper citation of all sources is expected. Please submit all papers double spaced in Times New Roman, 12 point font, with 1 inch margins. Papers more than 1 page shorter or longer than the page requirements will be marked down accordingly.

Class Participation (20% of grade) All students are expected to be present and engaged during class time. A few, short additional readings may be provided for use during Zoom sessions in July. Students will be expected to demonstrate they have read and engaged with that material.

Zoom Sessions
All Zoom sessions will be from 1:30pm-3:45pm with a break in the middle. It is expected students will attend each session in its entirety. Limited exceptions can be made in consultation with the instructor.

Here is an outline of the material that will be primary to each day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday (7/11)</th>
<th>Tuesday (7/12)</th>
<th>Wednesday (7/13)</th>
<th>Thursday (7/14)</th>
<th>Friday (7/15)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spiritual Leadership</td>
<td>Principles of Leadership</td>
<td>Environment for Transformation</td>
<td>Practicing Leadership</td>
<td>Leading in Distracted Times</td>
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