

# **Religious Leadership in the Digital Age**

## **Spring 2021**

### **1) Mar 22 – 26, Leadership**

Monday, Intros, leadership setting, media experience and training.

Tuesday, Mahan remarks, “Net safety – Google yourself”.

Wednesday, Read and discuss: “Networked Religion: Considering How Faith is Lived in a Networked Society” in *Networked Theology*, Heidi A. Campbell and Stephen Garner, (pdf posted in Canvas).

Friday, Return to the week’s discussions and extend the conversation.

### **2) March 29 - April 2, Digital Culture, Networked Relationships**

Monday, Read and discuss: “Relating Media, Religion, and Culture,” in Mahan, *Media, Religion and Culture: An Introduction*, London: Routledge, 2014, (pdf posted in Canvas).

Tuesday, 1st synchronous Zoom session: 4:00 to 5:15 (Mountain Daylight Time)

Wednesday, Mahan remarks, “The digital metaphor”

Friday, Return to the week’s discussions and extend the conversation.

### **3) April 5 – 9, Church as Network**

Monday, Read and discuss: Mahan, *Church as Network: Reimagining Christian Life and Connection in Digital Culture*, Introduction & Chapter One: “Christian Life in Media Culture”, Forthcoming, (pdf posted in Canvas).

Tuesday, Mahan remarks, “The church in digital culture”.

Wednesday, Read and discuss: Mahan, *Church as Network: Reimagining Christian Life and Connection in Digital Culture*, Chapter Two, “Church in American Media Culture”, Forthcoming, (pdf posted in Canvas).

Friday, Return to the week’s discussions and extend the conversation.

### **4) April 12 - 16, Identity and Social Media**

Monday, Mahan, *Church as Network: Reimagining Christian Life and Connection in Digital Culture*, Chapter Three, “Identity”, Forthcoming, (pdf posted in Canvas).

Tuesday, Mahan remarks, “Identity.”

Wednesday, Guest speaker Heidi Ippolito remarks, “Social Media and Leadership”.

Friday, Return to the week's discussions and extend the conversation.

5) **April 19 – 23, Communities and Networks**

Monday, Read and discuss: Mahan, *Church as Network: Reimagining Christian Life and Connection in Digital Culture*, Chapter Four, "Communities and Networks", Forthcoming, (pdf posted in Canvas).

Tuesday, 2nd synchronous Zoom session: 4:00 to 5:15 (Mountain Daylight Time)

Wednesday, Read and discuss: Mahan remarks, "communities and networks."

Friday, Return to the week's discussions and extend the conversation.

6) **April 26 to April 30, Authority and Leadership**

Monday, Read and discuss: Mahan, *Church as Network: Reimagining Christian Life and Connection in Digital Culture*, Chapter Five, "Authority and Leadership", Forthcoming, (pdf posted in Canvas).

Tuesday, Locating ourselves in social media. Discussion of your own use of social media as a personal and professional platform and reflection on the use made by others you regard as leaders.

Wednesday, Read and discuss: "Leadership is Convening", in *Community: The Structure of Belonging*, Peter Block, (pdf posted in Canvas).

Friday, Return to the week's discussions and extend the conversation.

7) **May 3 – 7, Interview a Leader Reports (revise assignment)**

Monday, Class Canvas discussion of leadership interviews.

Tuesday, Class Canvas discussion of leadership interviews.

Wednesday, Class Canvas discussion of leadership interviews.

Friday, Return to the week's discussions and extend the conversation.

8) **May 10 – 14, A Theology of the Church in Digital Culture**

Monday, Read and discuss: Mahan, *Church as Network: Reimagining Christian Life and Connection in Digital Culture*, Chapter Six, “A Brief Theology of the Church as Network”

Tuesday, 3rd synchronous Zoom session: 4:00 to 5:15 (Mountain Daylight Time)

Wednesday, Read and discuss: Mahan, *Church as Network: Reimagining Christian Life and Connection in Digital Culture*, Chapter Seven, “Implications for Congregational Life.”

Friday, Return to the week’s discussions and extend the conversation.

Due: Social Media reflection paper

9) **May, 17 – 21, Implications for practice**

Monday, Canvas discussion of insights from social media reflection paper submitted on May 14.

Tuesday, Read and discuss: Mahan, *Church as Network: Reimagining Christian Life and Connection in Digital Culture*, Chapter Eight, “Implications beyond Congregations”

Wednesday, No discussion today – us this time to work on your final paper, which is due Monday, Monday, May 24 (Potential graduates, must submit by noon on Thursday, May 20 so I can confirm you as passing and keep you on the graduation list.)

Friday, Return to the week’s discussions and extend the conversation.

10) **May 24 – 28, Closing Discussions**

Monday, Due: Final 8-10 page, reflection on ministry in digital culture in light of your current and/or future leadership role.

Tuesday, Closing Discussion & Instructor Feedback

Friday, No need to return to the week’s discussions and extend the conversation, but your participation points and feedback will appear here.