

THE CONTENT OF THIS DESCRIPTION IS NOT A LEARNING CONTRACT AND THE INSTRUCTOR IS NOT BOUND TO IT. IT IS OFFERED IN GOOD FAITH AND INTENDED AS A HELPFUL GUIDE TO THE STUDENT.

TITLE: Leadership through Conflict

TERM: Spring 2024-2025

PROFESSOR: Leanna Fuller

CREDIT HOURS: 3

REGISTRATION: LIMITED TO: 12
AUDITORS: 2

UNLIMITED _____
NO AUDITORS _____

(permission of instructor required)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Through lectures, readings, and discussions students will explore the dynamics of leadership in settings of conflict, particularly that of the local parish. Current conflict theories will be explored; however, the emphasis of the class is on the identity and awareness of the leader when serving in conflicted contexts. Students will be expected to build bridges from other coursework to the material presented in this class, and to practical case studies involving conflict.

CLASS OBJECTIVES:

By the end of this course students will:

- Develop skills in analyzing patterns within congregations and other organizations.
- Integrate insights from biblical, theological and other disciplinary resources as they pertain to leadership in the midst of conflict.
- Be able to narrate the importance of conflict and change as central challenges in contemporary ministry, and articulate pastoral strategies for coping with them in constructive and imaginative ways.
- Strengthen their identities as leaders by refining the capacity for self-awareness and reflection.

PREREQUISITES: N/A

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/READINGS:

- Christena Cleveland, *Disunity in Christ: Uncovering the Hidden Forces That Keep Us Apart* (InterVarsity Press, 2013), ISBN: 978-0830844036, \$11.69
- Donna Hicks, *Dignity: Its Essential Role in Resolving Conflict* (Yale University Press, 2011), ISBN: 978-0300261424, \$16.74
- Speed B. Leas, *Discover Your Conflict Management Style* (The Alban Institute, 1997), ISBN: 978-1566991841, \$16.90
- John Paul Lederach, *Reconcile: Conflict Transformation for Ordinary Christians* (Herald Press, 2014), ISBN: 978-0836199031, \$7.24
- Peter L. Steinke, *Congregational Leadership in Anxious Times: Being Calm and Courageous No Matter What* (The Alban Institute, 2006), ISBN: 978-1566993289, \$26.02
- Other articles as assigned by the instructor.

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING Written assignments will include case study responses, a write-up of an interview with a leader in ministry, and a final paper/project. Grading will be based on attendance, class participation, and written assignments.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance at all classes is required. More than 2 absences may constitute failure in the course.