



Hartford International University for Religion and Peace
AM 667 Faith and Leadership in Times of Crisis
Fall Term 2024
Preliminary Syllabus

Instructor:

Lucinda Mosher, Th.D. | Director, Master of Arts in Interreligious Studies
lmosher@hartfordinternational.edu | Cell: (646) 335-2951

Office Hours: Dr Mosher teaches from her office in northeast Florida. She may be “visited” there via Zoom or phone and is available at some point in almost every day of the semester. Students are encouraged to use email to request a conversation. Typically, such requests are fulfilled within 24 hours.

Course Format: This is an asynchronous online course. Hence, there is no required weekly Zoom session. Students work independently on most assignments. Collegiality is fostered by the provision of three opportunities for course enrollees to meet as a group with Dr Mosher via Zoom (near the beginning, middle, and end of the semester) and by occasional assignments requiring collaboration between two or three classmates.

Course Description: The havoc wrought by the global onslaught of the novel coronavirus has been complexified during the ensuing years by domestic mass-casualty incidents (both naturally-occurring and human-orchestrated); by climate trauma; by warfare, asylum-seeking, and immigration; and by fierce attitudinal clashes (often exacerbated by bigotry and blaming) with regard to systemic racism, the nature and content of public education, access to certain medical procedures, and much more. As emergent occasions have melded, one into the next, the need for robust resources and strategies for sensitive leadership, deep understanding, and efficacious interreligious collaboration has become all the more apparent. This course seeks to address that need.

Through engagement with case studies, anecdotal accounts, scripture, devotional literature, theological discourse, interreligious scholarship, and lived experience, this course facilitates investigation of the nature of leadership, followership, and entrepreneurship. Working asynchronously yet collegially, students in this course undertake multireligious consideration of questions such as: To what strategic and spiritual resources might we turn in times of great stress. What are we to do when access to those resources is disrupted? How can any of us provide comfort, hope, and cautious wisdom with integrity (and what actions can we take) when anxiety, grief, fear, or divisive forces threaten to overwhelm or isolate? What sorts of collaborative efforts have proven effective?

Course Learning Outcomes

The course promotes:

- 1) Developing or deepening familiarity with spiritual caregiving resources on a range of issues from a range of religious traditions.
- 2) Developing or deepening familiarity with several exemplary leadership paradigms and skills.

This course addresses the following HIU program goals:

MAC: Progress toward command of the BCCI's *Common Qualifications and Competencies for Professional Chaplains*, particularly, Integration of Theory and Practice Competencies 1 through 6; Professional Identity and Conduct Competencies 3, 4, 7, & 8; Professional Practice Skills Competencies 3, 4, 5, & 7

MAIRS: Demonstration of ability to:

- Articulate one's own worldview or religious belief system while empathically and respectfully engaging people whose worldviews, religious practices, and religious beliefs differ from one's own.
- Express your ideas and perspectives clearly in oral and written communication.

DMIN: TBD