**Transformational Leadership for Church and Society – Religion 3900**

Religion 3900 will be taught in three sections for the Fall of 2015,

and three sections for the Spring of 2016

Instructor of Record: Bill Goettler, Associate Dean of Leadership Initiatives (william.goettler@yale.edu)

This series of 1 credit hour courses offers new ways to help students offer responsible, creative, and inspirational leadership in church and society by bringing in proven leaders from a range of arenas. Each course will be limited to 30 students. Public lecture will be open to the broader Yale and New Haven community.

These courses require extensive reading before the weekend event, as outlined below. In addition to the reading, class time includes instruction on Friday afternoon and evening, including a 90-minute public event with each invited guest, and then eight hours of class time on Saturday. A light supper and a working lunch will be provided.

**Register for each course separately on OCS. Since the course is also open to students at other graduate and professional schools at Yale, you will receive notification if you are among the first 25 from YDS to register, or among the 5 from other Yale schools who have successfully registered.**

**Goals of the Course**

Each course section aims to provide you with:

1. The opportunity to interact closely with and engage fully with widely recognized transformational leaders, as they present case studies from their own work and lives.
2. The challenge to think critically and responsibly about models of transformational leadership, and space to question the assumptions that you have had about such leadership.
3. The opportunity to read texts that address the broader issues of leadership closely related to the work of the presenter, and to gain acquaintance with leadership theory and practice within that field.
4. Consideration of the dynamics of race, class and gender within the leadership model being presented, and within your own opportunities for leadership.
5. Space for significant written response to both the readings and the two day presentation.
6. Enhanced skills in writing for publication, in the field of Leadership.
7. The ability to use electronic sources and social media.

**Assignments**

1. Participation. Full attendance for the 12 hours of class time is required. No part of either day’s class time can be missed. Please check the class hours below, and make certain that you can attend the entire program, before registering.
2. Reading assignments must be completed before the course begins. Theory addressed in the readings will be discussed during the class, and all participants are required to participate fully in those discussions.
3. Response paper. A 7-10 page paper responding to the Leadership theory encountered in the required reading, one theme addressed during the class presentation, and additional research done after the weekend class is over. The paper is due two weeks after the class takes place.

Each class will award one credit hour, on a Credit/No Credit basis. Only 3 credits earned from the courses may be applied to a YDS degree.  The course is eligible for elective credit only.

**Religion 3900-01**

**Transformational Leadership in the Black Lives Matter Movement.**

DeRay McKesson, Guest Lecturer

Class Time: Friday October 2, 4:00 – 9 p.m., Niebuhr Hall/Marquand Chapel

Saturday, October 3, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., Niebuhr Hall

A young leader of the Black Lives Matter Movement, DeRay McKesson will present case studies about the work of organizing, public advocacy, civil disobedience, and social change, through both Leadership of Presence, and Leadership in the Social Media.

All readings must be fully read before the first class session. The response paper may be in the form of a traditional academic reflection, or it may use the styles and forms of social media.

Reading List:

* Ta-Nehisi Coates, *Between the World and Me*, 2015, Spiegel & Grau, 2015, ISBN-10: 0812993543

Derrick Bell, *Silent Covenants: Brown v. Board of Education and the Unfilled Hopes for Racial Reform*. 2005, ISBN 9780195182477

*Ferguson & Faith: Sparking Leadership and Awakening Community,* Leah Gunning Francis, 2015, Chalice Press,  ISBN 9780827211056

*Our Demand Is Simple: Stop Killing Us*, Jay Caspian Kang, NY Times Magazine, May 4, 2015 <http://www.nytimes.com/2015/05/10/magazine/our-demand-is-simple-stop-killing-us.html>

“How the Black Lives Matter Movement Changed the Church” *Huffpost Religion*, August 8, 2015 <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/how-the-blacklivesmatter-movement-changed-the-church_55c4f54ce4b0923c12bcc8c0>