

PT 652: Pastoral and Public Studio for Strategic Leadership
“The Studio”
Spring 2020

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Purpose: *PT 652 follows PT651 (Fall) and is its required completion.*

Theologically trained professionals serving congregational or social ministries, agencies, organizations and other institutions are continually presented with a changing context and the need for their organizations to respond. A key critical leadership challenge is to identify opportunities which are truly strategic and then to assist the organization to embrace the occasion.

The Studio is designed to be a crucible into which we bring ourselves – our gifts, hopes, vulnerabilities, strengths, weaknesses, uncertainties, experience – so that we may become transformed, effective leaders. We will consider this question, among others: ‘How can we act from the future that is seeking to emerge?’ (Scharmer) as we also seek to engage the *missio dei* (“the good news that God is a God-for-people,” Bosch).

Here there will be an opportunity for those preparing for pastoral and public leadership to combine instruction in leadership theory and theology with on-the-ground experience of discerning and developing leadership challenges and ministry opportunities. Alongside *The Studio*, students will be located in a ministry/leadership site, with a mentor/supervisor, where they will engage in a collaborative, creative, experiential and educational environment. A broad range of partners in church and society may become involved in the project, thus presenting learning opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration. In all cases, we will understand the leadership opportunity to be one of serving the community in a specific context. *The Studio* mentors and instructors will assist the students to research, prepare, exercise and evaluate their leadership in the context in which they are situated. In conversation with the Studio Instructor (in prerequisite course PT 502 *Leadership In Context*), students will have selected their learning sites and mentors on the basis of the criteria related to the promise of the best learning opportunity for their leadership.

Students in *The Studio* will:

- Be introduced to key concepts in pastoral and public leadership and mentored in the practices of leadership
- Practice peer learning, support and accountability
- Reflect critically and constructively on all aspects of *The Studio* team’s work: interpersonal relationships, analysis, planning, consulting, delivery, and evaluation of effectiveness of leadership offered

- Reflect theologically on the exercise of leadership in context

Prerequisites: Students will have successfully completed all assignments for PT651 before entering PT652.

Competencies Related to Course

- Knowledge and practice in fundamental leadership skills such as listening, storytelling, communication and assessment of context and people
- Essential leadership functions including development and leadership of a team, the ability to develop and deliver effective presentations, the ability to make tough choices and to assess the relationship of their own gifts and call to a particular project
- The critical self-knowledge, emotional and spiritual maturity necessary for effective leadership, including reflection upon their exhibition of key character attributes such as authenticity, integrity, courage, humility and service
- Ability to conduct contextual/critical analysis to inform/guide exercise of strategic leadership including executing of goals and direction arising from peer discussion on leadership situations, critical incidents and or verbatim reports.
- Ability to appropriately communicate theological insights and wisdom across sectors in collaborative pastoral and public settings. Ability to 'read' and 'participate' in the story of God
- Ability to work collaboratively and exercise conflict-management effectively
- Ability to work in a team to plan, problem-solve, implement and evaluate progress toward a particular goal or project
- An ability to articulate and follow an ethical and theological framework for decision-making and action

Course Organization

The course is built on two interconnected arenas for learning:

1. Students will be engaged in a leadership practicum for 8-12 hours per week of the term (excluding Reading Week). The practicum will be in a site with a mentor, both of which will normally have been approved at the end of PT502, *Leadership in Context*.
2. Students will meet in *The Studio* (PT652) on these scheduled dates: **Mondays**, January 20, February 3, February 24, March 9, March 30; **Tuesday**, April 14th – Time TBD for PT502 student presentations.

On-line access to the instructor will supplement in-class instruction.

This is the required completion of PT651 and together these two courses fulfill two units of Theological Field Education (TFE II).

Course Expectations and Assignments

These will be more fully described in the syllabus.

1. Be physically, emotionally, spiritually and intellectually present for the studio session and with other studio participants.
2. Students will be expected to work in small groups at various points in the course. In these groups students will reflect with others on leadership situations and provide feedback to others.
3. There will be a mix of oral and written presentations.

Required Texts

*Specific readings will be noted on the syllabus. Other shorter readings will be made available on Canvas. **Studio texts have not been pre-ordered at the UBC Bookstore**, although some may be available there. Students are advised to purchase online, from former students or access library reserve.*

Patrick Lencioni, *Overcoming the Five Dysfunctions of a Team: A Field Guide for Leaders, Managers and Facilitators*. Jossey-Bass, 2005.

Susan Scott, *Fierce Conversations: Achieving Success at Work and in Life, One Conversation at a Time*. Berkley Books, 2004 [2002]

Sara Miles, *Take This Bread: A Radical Conversion*. New York: Ballantine Books, 2007.

Beth Ann Estock and Paul Nixon, *Weird Church: Welcome to the Twenty-first Century*. Pilgrim Press, 2016.

Reference Texts

Some shorter readings may be assigned from these texts.

Dave Gibbons, *the monkey and the fish: Liquid Leadership for a Third-Culture Church*. Zondervan, 2009.

Sharon Daloz Parks, *Leadership Can Be Taught*. Harvard Business School Press, 2005.

Ronal A. Heifetz, *Leadership Without Easy Answers*, Belknap, 1994.

C. Otto Scharmer, *Theory U: Leading from the Future as It Emerges*. Berrett-Koehler, 2009.