A) Interfaith Dialogue, Leadership and Public Service

| Instructor | Imam Khalid Latif  
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Office Hours | By appointment only | Class | Wednesdays, 4:55-7:25 pm

Required Reading:
Eboo Patel, *Acts of Faith*

Description:
The course is geared for students who are currently active or looking to be active in their own spiritual or religious community, as well as seeking to engage communities beyond their own. Students will be exposed to methods and best practices of dialogue and leadership as well as focused development of strategies and objectives around service. This will be supplemented by an in-depth case study of Muslim-Jewish relations in NYC following 9-11. Themes and questions around identity, legitimacy, coalition-building, short-term and long-term planning, and personal integrity will be explored.

Requirements and Evaluation:
1. 25% Class participation – students are expected to attend all class sessions, to be on time, and to complete the assigned readings before each class. Students may be called upon to comment about the readings or the class discussion.
2. 5% Participation in two shared religious experience, one on campus, one off campus (determined in consultation with the instructor)
3. 30% Service Group Project – creating a service project proposal, one page outline, and 5-7 minute oral presentation. (15% for proposal, 5% for actual service)
4. 20% In Class Presentations, Group & Individual
5. 20% Final paper – Topic TBD. This paper will be 8 to 10 pages in length
6. Students taking the course for 2 credits are exempt from the final paper

Leadership

9/05

**Introduction: Religious Diversity and Multifaith Leadership**

Class overview

**Assignment 1:** Group Presentations assigned on “Characteristics of Leadership” in different Religious Traditions
9/12

**Characteristics of Religious Leadership**

In-class presentation of groups 1 to 5

Class Discussion: What makes someone a good leader in their own religious community? How does this compare to what makes someone a good leader in a Multifaith Context?

Text: Telegram from Abraham Joshua Heschel to John F. Kennedy

Issues: Religion in public life, use of the word “God”, what has changed in America since the 1950’s, religious diversity, what constitutes leadership.

**Assignment 2:** Presentations Continued, reading Eboo Patel’s “Acts of Faith” pp 1-77

9/19

**Characteristics of Religious Leadership**

In-class presentation of groups 6 to 10

Class Discussion on “Acts of Faith”

**Assignment 3:** Finish Reading “Acts of Faith”

9/26

**Local vs. Global Leadership**

Class Discussion on “Acts of Faith”

**Film Screening:** In God’s Name

“In God’s Name” marks the first time that this distinct group of leaders has appeared in one program allowing the viewer to see them in intimate settings, including their homes and personal places of worship. These spiritual beacons speak out about violence and hatred and reveal their own thoughts about faith, peace, unity, tolerance and hope. Ultimately, through the eyes of these 12 very different religious figures, the filmmakers discover the common ground among believers around the world.


10/03

**Bridging Personal Narrative and Religious Leadership**

Class Discussion on Ganz Reading, Importance of Personal Narrative

**Assignment 5:** Preparing your personal narratives