

Mary Elizabeth Hess

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Education

PhD, 1998, The Program in Religion and Education, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts. Dissertation: *Media Literacy in Religious Education: Engaging Popular Culture to Enhance Religious Experience*. Committee: Mary C. Boys, (Chair), M. Brinton Lykes, H. John McDargh.

MTS, 1992, Theological Studies, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

BA, 1985, American Studies, *cum laude*, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, "with distinction in the major."

Oshkosh North High School, 1981, Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Valedictorian.

Experience

Professor of Educational Leadership, Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN. 2014 – present.

Patrick and Barbara Keenan Visiting Professor of Religious Education, University of St. Michael's College, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON. 2016 – 2017.

Chair, Leadership Division, Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN. 2014 – 2015.

Associate Professor of Educational Leadership, Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN. 2006-2014.

Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership, Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN. 2000 – 2006.

Member, Publications Board (digital media committee), Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion. 2012 – present.

Networking Coordinator, Religious Education Association. 2014 – present.

President, Religious Education Association: An Association of Professors, Practitioners and Researchers in Religious Education. 2010-2011.

Director, Wabash Pre-Tenure Theological School Faculty Workshop. 2009 – 2010.

Member, Editorial Board, *Religious Education*, 2002 – present.

Member, Editorial Board, *Journal of Media and Religion*. 2001- present.

Member, International Study Commission on Media, Religion and Culture. 1997-2005.

Publications

Books:

Teaching Reflectively in Theological Contexts: Promises and Contradictions. Mary E. Hess and Stephen D. Brookfield, editors. Malabar, FL: Krieger Publishing, 2008.

Medios y Creencias: Perspectivas Culturales del Cristianismo en el Entorno Mediático. Mary Hess, Peter Horsfield, Adán Medrano y Juan Carlos Henriúquez. Translated by Elivira Maldonado. Mexico City: Universidad Iberoamericana; Plaza y Valdéz, S. A. de C. V., 2007.

Engaging Technology in Theological Education: All That We Can't Leave Behind. Mary E. Hess. New York: Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, 2005.

Belief in Media: Cultural Perspectives on Media and Christianity. Mary Hess, Peter Horsfield, Adán Medrano, editors. Burlington, VT: Ashgate Publishing Company, 2004.

Media literacy and religious education: Engaging popular culture to enhance religious experience. Dissertation written in the PhD program in Religion and Education, Boston College, March 1998. Available via UMI Dissertation Services.

Chapters in edited books:

“Gameful learning and theological understanding: New cultures of learning in communities of faith,” in *Authority and Leadership. Values, Religion, Media*, edited by Míriam Díez Bosch, Paul Soukup S. J., Josep Lluís Micó Sanz, Daniella Zsupan-Jerome. Blanquerna School of Communication and International Relations Facultat de Comunicació i Relacions Internacionals Blanquerna, 2017.

“Designing curricular approaches for interfaith competency or why does learning how to live in a “community of communities” matter?,” in *Teaching for a Multifaith World*, edited by Eleazar Fernandez, Pickwick, 2017.

“Teaching and learning comparative theology with millennial students,” in *Comparative Theology in the Millennial Classroom*, edited by Mara Brecht and Reid B. Locklin, Routledge, 2016.

Entries on “Mary Boys,” “Hill Monastic and Manuscript Library,” and “St. John’s Bible” in the *Encyclopedia of Christian Education*, edited by George Kurian and Mark Lamport, Rowman&Littlefield, 2015.

Interreligious Learning and Teaching: A Christian Rationale for Transformative Praxis, by Kristin Largen with Mary E. Hess and Christy Lohr Sapp, Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2014.

“Digital storytelling: Empowering feminist and womanist faith formation with young women,” in *Media, Religion and Gender*, edited by Mia Lövheim, Routledge, 2013, pp. 169-182.

“Media ethics and religion,” in *Religion and Ethics*, edited by Paul Myhre, St. Mary’s Press, 2013, pp. 48-64.

“Learning the Bible in the 21st century: Lessons from *Harry Potter* and vampires,” in *Teaching the Bible in the Parish (and Beyond)*, edited by Laurie Jungling. Minneapolis, MN: Lutheran University Press, 2011.

“Preface,” in *Common Worship in Theological Education*, edited by Todd E. Johnson and Siobhan Garrigan. Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications, 2010.

“From ICT to TCI: Communicative theology(ies), pedagogy and web 2.0,” in *Kommunikative Theologie: Zugänge – Auseinandersetzungen – Ausdifferenzierungen*, edited by Matthias Scharer, Bradford E. Hinze, and Bernd Jochen Hilberath. Wien: Lit Verlag GmbH & Co., 2010, pp. 130 – 149.

“Responding to the challenges of religious storying in a digital age: Building new opportunities through feautor.org” in *Erzählen - Reflexionen im Zeitalter der Digitalisierung / Storytelling – Reflections in the Age of Digitalization*, herausgegeben von Yvonne Gächter, Heike Ortner, Claudia Schwarz und Andreas Wiesinger, unter Mitarbeit von Christine Engel, Theo Hug, Stefan Neuhaus und Thomas Schröder. Innsbruck: Innsbruck University Press, 2008, pp. 112-126.

“Listening and learning to teach in theological contexts: An appreciative inquiry model,” in *Revitalizing Practice: Collaborative Models for Theological Faculties*, edited by Malcolm Warford. New York: Peter Lang, 2008, pp. 67-97.

“Go and make learners! Supporting transformation in education and evangelism,” in *Christian Education as Evangelism*, edited by Norma Cook Everist. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2007, pp. 101-111.

“Media literacy,” in the *Encyclopedia of Religion, Communication and Media*, edited by Daniel A. Stout. New York: Routledge, 2006, pp. 245 – 250.

“L'éducation religieuse dans le contexte de la culture médiatique: la pratique de l'imagination,” in *Témoigner de sa foi, dans les médias, aujourd'hui*, sous la direction de Guy Marchessault, Ottawa: Les Presses de l'Université d'Ottawa, 2005, pp. 351-371.

“Growing faithful children in media cultures,” in *The Ministry of Children's Education*, Professors of Christian Education at the ELCA Seminaries, Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2004, pp 126-150.

“The Bible and popular culture: Engaging sacred text in a world of ‘others,’” in *New Paradigms in Bible Study*, edited by Robert Fowler, Edith Blumhofer, and Fernando Segovia, New York: T & T Clark International, 2004, pp. 209-226.

“Practicing attention in media culture,” in *Mediating Religion: Conversations in Media, Religion and Culture*, edited by Jolyon Mitchell and Sophia Marriage, New York: T&T Clark/Continuum, 2003, pp. 133-142.

“Rich treasure in jars of clay,” in *The Conviction of Things Not Seen: Worship and Ministry in the 21st Century*, edited by Todd E. Johnson. Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press, 2002, pp. 123-140.

“Media literacy as a support for the development of a responsible imagination in religious community,” in *Religion and Popular Culture: Studies on the Interaction of Worldviews*, edited by Daniel Stout and Judith Buddenbaum. Ames: Iowa State University Press, 2001, pp. 289-311.

Journal articles:

“White religious educators resisting white fragility: Lessons from mystics,” *Religious Education*, Vol. 112, #1, Winter 2017, pp. 46-57.

“Learning with digital technologies: Privileging persons over machines,” *Journal of Moral Theology*, Vol. 4, #1, Winter 2015, pp. 131-150.

“Learning amidst transforming traditions,” in *Theological Education*, Vol. 49, #1, Winter 2014, pp. 9-16.

"A new culture of learning: What are the implications for theological educators," in *Teaching Theology and Religion*, Vol. 17, #3, July 2014, pp. 227-232.

"A new culture of learning: Digital storytelling and faith formation," in *Dialog*, Vol. 53, No. 1, Spring 2014, pp. 12-22.

"Loving the questions: Finding food for the future of theological education in the Lexington Seminar," in *Theological Education*, Vol. 48, 2013, No. 1, pp. 69-89.

"A new culture of learning: Implications of digital culture for communities of faith," in *Communication Research Trends*, Vol. 32, No. 3, 2013, pp. 13-20.

"The pastoral practice of Christian hospitality as presence in Muslim-Christian engagement: Contextualizing the classroom," in *Theological Education*, Vol. 47, No. 2, 2013, pp. 7-12.

"Mirror neurons, the development of empathy, and digital story telling," *Religious Education*, Vol. 107, No. 4, July-September 2012, pp. 401-414.

"Life on screen and other musings on faith, food and media," *Word & World*, Vol. 32, No. 3, Summer 2012, pp. 252-258.

"Learning religion and religiously learning amid global cultural flows," *Religious Education*, Vol. 106, No. 4, July-September 2011, pp. 360-377.

"Learning religion and religiously learning: Musings on a theme," *Religious Education*, Vol. 105, No. 3, May-June 2010, pp. 234-237.

"What difference does it make? E-learning and faith community," *Word & World*, Vol. 30, No. 3, Summer 2010, pp. 281 – 290.

"Resisting the human need for enemies, or what would Harry Potter do?," *Word & World*, Vol. 28, No. 1, Winter 2008, pp. 47 – 56.

"From Crawfordsville to Saint Paul: Promoting reflections on teaching and learning as part of a seminary's institutional culture," with David J. Lose and Matthew L. Skinner, *Teaching Theology and Religion*, Vol. 10, No. 3, July 2007, pp. 178-179.

"What difference does it make? Digital technology in the theological classroom," *Theological Education*, Vol. 41, No. 1, 2006, pp. 77-91.

"Possible new futures for our journal on the world wide web," *Religious Education*, Vol. 100, No. 1, Winter 2005, pp. 78-88.

"Better off for all that we let in: Being Catholic while teaching at a Lutheran Seminary," *Listening: Journal of Religion and Culture*, Vol. 39, No. 3, Fall 2004, pp. 441-451.

"Transforming traditions: Taking popular culture seriously in religious education," *Religious Education*, Vol. 99, No. 1, Winter 2004, pp. 1-9.

"Searching for paradise: Libraries and media culture in the theological context," *ATLA Proceedings*, 2003, pp. 127-139.

"Marriage on TV," *Word&World*. Vol. XXIII, No. 1, Winter 2003, pp. 48-56.

"All that we can't leave behind: Pedagogy and theology in cyberspace," *Teaching Theology and Religion*. Vo. 5, No. 1, February 2002, pp. 30-38.

"Collaborating with people to study 'the popular': Implementing participatory action research strategies in religious education," *Religious Education*, Vol. 96, No. 3, Summer 2001, pp. 271-293.

"From trucks carrying messages to ritualized identities: Implications of the postmodern paradigm shift in media studies for religious educators," *Religious Education*, Vol. 94, No. 3, Summer 1999, pp. 273-288.

"A current snapshot of media literacy in relation to religious education," *Connections: The Newsletter of the Association for Communication in Theological Education*, Vol. 6, #2, Spring 1999.

"White religious educators and unlearning racism: can we find a way?" *Religious Education*, Vol. 93, No. 1, Winter 1998, pp. 114-129.

"The social construction of knowledge, media culture, and the creation of border communities in religious education." *Religion & Education*, Vol. 23, No. 1, Spring 1996.

Affiliations

Religious Education Association / Association of Professors, Practitioners and
Researchers in Religious Education

Catholic Theological Society of America

American Academy of Religion

Association of Practical Theology

National Association for Media Literacy Education

International Seminar on Religious Education and Values