CURRICULUM VITAE

MARY E. HESS

A. BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

1. PERSONAL

Mary E. Hess
mhess@religioused.org
meh.religioused.org
slideshare.net/maryhess1
orcid id: 0000-0002-2219-0410
she, her, hers

2. DEGREES

PhD / 1998 / Boston College / Religion and Education
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 / Harvard University / Theological Studies
BA / 1985 / Yale University / American Studies, *cum laude*, "with distinction in the major"

3. EMPLOYMENT

Current

Professor of Educational Leadership at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota
- Promoted to Full Professor in 2014
- Tenured and promoted to Associate Professor in 2006
- Began at Assistant Professor in 2000

Affiliated faculty at San Francisco Theological Seminary in the University of Redlands, and Trinity Seminary at Capital University

Previous

2016 – 2017 / Patrick and Barbara Keenen Visiting Chair in Religious Education / University of St. Michael's College in the University of Toronto
1997-2000 / Post-doctoral Research Fellow and Director / Religious Education and the Challenge of Media Culture Project / Boston College
1997-2000 / Lecturer in Religious Education / Institute of Religious Education and Pastoral Ministry / Boston College
Fall 1999 / Visiting Lecturer in Religious Education / Yale Divinity School
1994 - 1997 / Consultant / Master's Program / Institute of Religious Education and Pastoral Ministry, Boston College

4. HONOURS

2011 / Established Scholar Research Award Honorable Mention, "Digital Storytelling as a Form of Faith Formation," National Association for Media Literacy Education
2005 – 2008 / Lexington Seminar Academic Leadership Mentoring Project (one of four faculty chosen from across the ATS, the only woman among them)
1999 / Felton Media Literacy Scholar

5. **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND ACTIVITIES**

2026 / Co-director / Wabash Workshop on "Teaching online"
2023 / Co-director / Wabash Workshop on "Becoming a white anti-racist educator"
2022 – 2024 / Member / Advisory Board, Tech in Churches Research project (https://www.techinchurches.org)
2020 – present / Member / Editorial Board, *British Journal of Religious Education*
2019 – present /Member / Editorial Board, *Journal of Religious Education* (Australian Catholic University)
2018 - 2021 / Member / Faculty Development Advisory Committee, Association of Theological Schools
2017 - 2018 / National Advisory Council of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men's Institutes
2014 – 2023 / Networking Coordinator / REA:APPRRE
2012 – present / Full Member / International Seminar on Religious Education and Values
2012 - 2017 / Member / Publications Board / Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion
2010 - 2011 / President / REA:APPRRE
2009 – 2010 / Director / Pre-Tenure Workshop for Theological School Faculty / Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion
2008 – 2023 / Consultant / Wabash Center
2003 – 2005 / Member, Editorial Board, *Journal of Religious Leadership*
2002 – present / Member / Editorial Board, *Religious Education*
2001 – present / Member / Editorial Board, *Journal of Media and Religion*
2001 – 2006 / Member / Editorial Board, *Journal of Lutheran Ethics*
2000 – 2003 / Member / Executive Board of APPRE
1998 – present / Member / Catholic Theological Society of America
1997 - 2005 / Member / International Study Commission on Media, Religion and Culture
1996 – present / Member / Religious Education Association

B. **<u>ACADEMIC HISTORY</u>**

1. **RESEARCH ENDEAVOURS**

Current research continues to focus on the intersections of digital media, theology, and pedagogy. An offshoot of that project interrogates the ways in which socialization into processes of racialization in the US interferes with nurturing authentic Christian faith. A further branch of that inquiry has focused on Christian mystics, contemplative practices, and the resources present in that stream of research for adaptive action in the midst of digital media. A new line of inquiry is exploring the ways in which the pressure of digital automation on economic structures and the social imaginary has collapsed human *being* into a sole concern with human *doing*.

Previous research projects included an exploration of open source religious resource creation and publication through *Feautor.org,* an exploration into conceiving of theological education as a missional apostolate, and an analysis of the implications of digital tools for pedagogical innovation in theological education.

C. **SCHOLARLY AND PROFESSIONAL WORK**

1. Books (sole or joint author)

- *Create, Share, Believe: Storying Faith in a Post-Church World*, manuscript in development.
- *Becoming a White Antiracist: A Practical Guide for Educators, Leaders, and Activists*. With Stephen Brookfield, Stylus Publications, 2021.
- *Engaging Technology in Theological Education: All That We Can't Leave Behind.* Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, New York, 150 pages, 2005

2. Books (sole or joint editor)

- *Teaching Reflectively in Theological Contexts: Promises and Contradictions.* Primary editor, along with Stephen D. Brookfield. Krieger Publishing, Malabar, FL, 267 pages, 2008
- *Belief in Media: Cultural Perspectives on Media and Christianity.* Joint editor along with Peter Horsfield, and Adán Medrano. Ashgate Publishing Company, Burlington, VT, 236 pages, 2004 (this book was translated into Spanish and appeared in 2007 from Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico City, Mexico)

3. Articles and essays in peer-reviewed journals.

- "Shifting epistemologies, shifting our stories—Where might we find hope for a world on the brink of climate catastrophe?" *Religions 13*, no. 7: 625, July 2022, https://doi.org/10.3390/rel13070625.
- "Finding learning amidst the maelstrom: Storytelling, trauma and hope," *Teaching Theology and Religion*, December 2020, https://doi.org/10.1111/teth.12567.
- "Finding a way into empathy through story exercises in a religious studies classroom" *in Religious Studies News*, January 2020, http://rsn.aarweb.org/spotlight-on/teaching/empathy/story-exercises-religious-studies-classroom.
- "Why games and gaming might be the best way and place in which to consider the meaning and purposes of theological education" in *Cross Currents*, July 2019, https://doi.org/10.1111/cros.12361.
- "Guest editor's note," Special issue on Games and Learning, *Wabash Journal Teaching Theology and Religion***,** https://doi.org/10.1111/teth.12452, October 2018/
- "Adaptive action as a form of reflective practice in pastoral leadership," *Reflective Practice: Formation and Supervision in Ministry,* Vol. 38, 2018, pp. 10 – 24.
- "Exploring the epistemological challenges underlying civic engagement by religious communities," *The Good Society Special Issue: On Reintegrating Facts, Values, Strategies*, Vol. 26, #2-3, pp. 305-322.
- "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.
- "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.
- "White religious educators and unlearning racism: can we find a way?" *Religious Education,* Vol. 93, No. 1, Winter 1998, pp. 114-129.

4. Chapters in multi-author books or encyclopedias:

- "Religious education in the US" as "Religionsunterricht in den USA" WiReLex, https://www.die-bibel.de/ressourcen/wirelex/7-inhalte-iv-didaktik-der-religionen/religionsunterricht-in-den-usa, 2026
- "Teaching solidarity in civil society for love of neighbor," in *Forming Leaders for a Public Church: Vocation in 21st Century Societies*, edited by Samuel Yonas Deressa, and Mary Sue Dreier, Lexington Fortress, 2023, pp. 123-138.
- "Youth, education, and media," in *The Handbook of Religion and Communication*, edited by Yoel Cohen and Paul Soukup, Wiley-Blackwell, 2023, pp. 257-269.
- "Teaching formation in a digital age" in *Formation of Teachers for Catholic Schools: Challenges and Opportunities in a New Era*, edited by Leonardo Franchi and Richard Rymarz, Springer, 2022, pp. 117-127.
- "Theme-centered interaction: Intersections with reflective practice in North American religious contexts," in *Theme-Centered Interaction in Higher Education: A Didactic Approach for Sustainable and Living Learning*, edited by Sylke Meyerhuber, Helmut Reiser, Matthias Scharer, Springer, 2019.
- "Storying faith: The promises and contradictions of new media in Catholic religious education," in M. T. Buchanan and A.-M. Gellel (eds.), *Global Perspectives on Catholic Religious Education in Schools*, Springer, 2019.
- "Using digital media and storytelling to unearth racism and galvanize action," in *Teaching Race: How to Help Students Unmask and Challenge Racism*, edited by Stephen D. Brookfield, Jossey-Bass, 2018, pp. 253-272.
- "Pursuing racial justice in the US: What religious educators need to learn from the #blacklivesmatter movement," in *Values, Human Rights, and Religious Education*, edited by Jeff Astley, Leslie J. Francis, and David Lankshear, Peter Lang, 2018, pp. 1-17.
- "Learning practices for people of faith," in *United Against Racism: Churches for Change,* edited by The National Council of Churches of Christ. Friendship Press, 2018, pp. 140-147.
- "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.