

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

Associate Professor of Educational Leadership, Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN. 2000-present.

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

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

Member, Editorial Board, Religion and Education in the Public Sphere, 2010 – present.

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

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

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:

"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, 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, Trinity Press International, 2004, pp. 207-224.

"Practicing attention in media culture," in *Mediating Religion: Conversations in Media, Religion and Culture*, edited by Jolyon Mitchell and Sophia Marriage, 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:

"Learning religion and religious learning amid global cultural flows," *Religious Education*, Vol. 106, 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.

"A place for reflection, a chance to be honest in our location: Popular culture, media literacy and theological reflection in the years to come," in *Theological Explorations*, Vol. One, January 2000, the Duquesne University online journal in theology and ministry (<http://www.duq.edu/liberalarts/gradtheology/volume1.html>).

"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.

Book reviews:

Journal Keeping: How to Use Reflective Writing for Learning, Teaching, Professional Insight and Positive Change, Dannelle D. Stevens and Joanne E. Cooper, Stylus Publishing, 2009. Reviewed in *Teaching Theology and Religion*, Vol. 13, #4, October 2010, pp. 384-385.

Media Violence and Christian Ethics, Jolyon Mitchell. Cambridge University Press, 2007. Reviewed in *The Expository Times*, Vol. 120, #9, 2009, pp. 441-442.

Nurturing Child and Adolescent Spirituality: Perspectives from the World's Religious Traditions, edited by Karen Marie Yust, Aostre N. Johnson, Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, and Eugene C. Roehlkepartain. Reviewed in *Interpretation*, Vol. 61, #3, July 2007, pp. 328-330.

The Mediated Spirit, Peter Horsfield. Melbourne, Australia: The Uniting Church in Australia, 2002. Reviewed in *Religious Education*, Vol. 99, #2, Spring 2004, 206-207.

How the Way We Talk Can Change the Way We Work, Robert Kegan and Lisa Lahey, San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2001. Reviewed in *Journal of Religious Leadership*, Vol. 1, #1, Spring 2002.

Web Teaching Guide: A Practical Approach to Creating Course Web Sites, Sarah Horton. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2000. Reviewed in *Teaching Theology and Religion*, Vol. 5, No. 1, February 2002, p. 63.

The Child in Christian Thought, edited by Marcia Bunge. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2001. Reviewed in *Word & World*, Fall 2001, p. 440-442.

Caminemos con Jesús: Toward a Hispanic/Latino Theology of Accompaniment, Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1995. Reviewed in *Religious Education*, Fall 1999, 472-473.

Editorials:

Guest editorial, "Leadership and professionalism in religious education," *Religious Education*, Vol. 97, #4, Fall 2002, 301-303.

Editorial, "Curriculum and evaluation in religious education," *Religious Education*, Vol 95, #2, Spring 2000, 117-118.

Popular press:

"Living faith in a media world," *Lifelong Faith*, Vol. 2.3, Fall 2008.

"Media and violence: What's a person of faith to do?" *Lutheran Woman Today*, Vol. 22, #2, March 2008, pp. 14 – 17.

"Our hearts are restless: Living in media culture," *Clergy Journal*, Vol. LXXXIII, No. 1, pp. 14-15.

Curricula:

TeenCAP: An Assault Prevention Curriculum for Teens. National Assault Prevention Center, Columbus, OH. 1987.

Electronic resources:

Tensegrities. A weblog, published from March 2003 to the present, <http://www.religioused.org/tensegrities>.

Feautor.org. Member of the leadership collaborative and founder. 2008 – present.

Digital Tech and Theological Education. A wiki resource playground begun in 2007: <http://wiki.religioused.org/CC/HomePage>.

Mary Elizabeth Hess, a professional website, 2000 – present, <http://www2.luthersem.edu/mhess/web/Home.html>.

Affiliations

Religious Education Association / Association of Professors, Practitioners and
Researchers in Religious Education
Catholic Theological Society of America
American Academy of Religion