Introduction to Mosaic Conference

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| Instructors:Stephen Kriss, PhDRose Bender, M.DivSteve’s Contact:814-242-6143 skriss@mosaicmennonites.orgRose’s Contact:484-274-5715 rbender@mosaicmennonites.org **Class Location**Mosaic Conference Office: 100 Longacre Center, 1000 Forty Foot Rd, Lansdale, PA 19446Various (see below)Class Dates & TimesThursday, April 20, 7:30-9:30pm EST Zoom9-5 EST Thursday-Sunday, May 17-20 in person PA Saturday, June 10 (6 hours-time TBD) Zoom |  | Course OverviewLearn how Mosaic Conference (and Mennonites) came to be, how the conference works, how decisions are made, and what it means to be a part of our conference together.  Course ObjectivesBy the end of this class, students will * have developed a basic understanding of Mosaic Conference with an eye toward the intercultural, missional, and formational priorities.
* have a basic understanding of the broad arc of Anabaptist story from 1500s until today with a glimpse toward migration, mission, and movement.
* have begun or continued conversation around intercultural engagement and transformation rooted in Biblical understandings of faith, mutuality, and witness.

Required Texts* *A Shared Understanding of Ministerial Leadership: Polity Manual for Mennonite Church Canada and Mennonite Church USA* (MennoMedia, 2017)
* Law, Eric H. F, *The Wolf Shall Dwell with the Lamb: A Spiritualty for Leadership in a Multicultural Community* (Chalice Press, 1993)
* Roth, John, Stories: How Mennonites Came to Be (Herald Press, 2008)
* Other required readings and articles will be posted online.

**Assignments** Beyond the readings, each student is responsible for 1) 3 forum posts describing how you have been practicing and learning from Sabbath-keeping. 2) a 2-paragraph forum response to the Mosaic Conference website. 3) Sharing your Pathway to Anabaptism. 4) first-person monologue on a noteworthy Anabaptist. 5) Reading log/response (more details to come) |

**Course Schedule**

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| DATE | Subject | Details/assignments due:  | Location |
| April 20 | Intro to class | * Review Syllabus—and due dates and forum assignments
* **Select individual for the** Great Cloud of Witnesses assignment (see explanation at bottom of syllabus)
* Pathway stories of teachers
* Sabbath exercise
* Brief intro-to Anabaptists in Europe
 | Zoom  |
| May 17 | The Early Anabaptist story and Conference history | * Peruse the Mosaic Conference website and respond to forum assignment
* Prepare your own personal journey to Anabaptism, sharing your baptism, your call, etc.
* Read Roth text-respond to questions
* Respond to Sabbath Practice forum 1-2 times.
* Relevant Great Cloud of Witness monologue prepared
* Documents discussion (Schleitheim, Dordrecht, Bender—Anabaptist vision, Global Convictions)
 | Meet at Mennonite Heritage Center @ 9am; Afternoon session @ Zion Mennonite Church |
| May 18 | Trace the first Mennonites coming to Germantown through creation of Franconia and Eastern District | * Relevant Cloud of Witnesses and Pathway stories shared
* Sabbath Practice
* Documents: Quaker-Mennonite Letter against Slavery
 | Meet at Germantown Historic Meetinghouse, Rittenhouse Town in morning, and Philadelphia Praise Center, Norristown/Nueva Vida  |
| May 19 | Formation of Mosaic Conference  | * From Europe to Americas—notes/migration
* Peace tradition traced
* Pathways shared/cloud of witnesses
* **Documents:**: Hershey 1775 and Christian Newcomer reading
 | Meet at Mosaic Conference office classroom |
| May 15 | Polity Case Study; Sabbath retreat |  | Swamp & Fern Rock Retreat  |
| June 10 | Church Polity | * Eric Law book read/response due
* Polity handbook
* Intercultural polity
* Final forum responses due
 | 6 hours on zoom—time TBD |

**Requirements for Students taking for Academic Credit**

Any student who would like to receive academic credit for this course must inform the instructor of record (PhD/DMin) before the class begins.  Depending on the credit desired (certificate, undergraduate, or seminary), extra reading, papers, field research, assignments, and/or face time with the instructors may be required.  Mosaic Institute does not guarantee that academic credit will be granted by your institution but will provide the materials necessary to apply for advanced standing through an institution of your choice (some institutions have prior agreements with Mosaic Institute).  There may be extra fees required by Mosaic Institute as well as the accrediting school.

# Great Cloud of Witnesses Assignment: each student will prepare a 1-page, first person monologue that they will share in class. Select a person from the list of noteworthy Anabaptist men and women below. Get to know that person through research. Prepare a 500-word introduction of that individual written in the first-person to read to the class and to hand in. Creativity is encouraged. Bibliography is required. (list is below—if you have other ideas of who you would like to do, please ask.

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| Conrad Grebel  | **John H. Oberholtzer (1809-1895) Tracy** |
| **Felix Manz (1498 -1527) Kevin** | John M. Brenneman (1816-1895)  |
| Balthasar Hubmaier (1480-1528) | John F. Funk (1835-1930) |
| Michael Sattler (1490-1527)  | John S. Coffman (1848-1899)  |
| Claesken Galedochter (d. 1563) | **Annie C. Funk (1874-1912) Michelle** |
| **Menno Simons (1496-1561) Chidi** | Peter Martin Friesen (1849-1914)  |
| Helena of Freyberg (1491-1545)  | Daniel Kauffman (1865-1944)  |
| Pilgrim Marpeck (1495-1556) | Amanda Musselman (1869-1940)  |
| Hans Denk (1500-1527) | N.B. Grubb |
| Peter Riedeman (1506-1556)—(Hutterites) | Anna J. Allebach (1874-1918)  |
| Margaret Helwart (Kitchen Evangelist) | Benjamin B. Janz (1877-1964) |
| Gerhard (Gerrit) Roosen (1612-1711) | Kratz, Clayton (1896-1920)  |
| Thieleman J. van Braght (1625- 1664) | Orie O. Miller (1892-1977) |
| Jacob Amman (1644-1730) | Harold Bender (1897-1962) |
| Benedict Brechbuhl (1666-1720) | **Christmas Carol Kauffman (1901-1969) Susan** |
| Hans Herr (1639-1725) | **James(1888-1978) and Rowena (1892-1970) Lark (ramona)** |
|  | Peter J. Dyck 1914-2010 |
| William Rittenhouse (1664-1708) | John Howard Yoder (1927-1997) |
| Christopher Dock (1698–1771) | Doris Janzen Longacre (1940-1979)  |
| Christian Herr (1750-1853)-Lancaster Conference | Vincent Harding (1931-2014) |
|  | Hubert Brown (1945-) |
| Benjamin Hershey (1697-1789) | Phyllis Good |
| Martin Boehm (1725-1812)  | Alfred Neufeld |
| Christian Newcomer (1749-1830) | Ruth Brunk Stoltzfus (1915-2008) |
| Jacob Hochstetter-(Amish; 1757 Hochstetler Massacre) | Lois Barrett  |
|  | Juan Martinez (Mennonite Brethren) |
| Joseph Funk (1778 – 1862) –(VA, publisher) | Eleanor Kreider |
|  | Mesach Krisetya |