The Lived Religion in the Digital Age (LRDA) project of Saint Louis University invites applications from instructional faculty at any rank (including graduate students, adjuncts, contingent, and tenure stream) to support new and/or redesigned courses that address topics, themes, or subjects relevant to the study of lived religion in the digital age. We define the “digital age” as a historical periodization that has conditioned new lived experiences and new modes of understanding the past. We invite applications from instructors whose courses focus on religion in the digital age and from those who use digital tools and methods to better understand previous generations. Examples may include courses that focus on local religion and public life, that incorporate local fieldwork or site visits into course learning assessments, or that utilize digital technologies as principle research and/or teaching tools, among other possibilities. Fellows will have training in religion, theology, anthropology, sociology, digital humanities, political science, urban studies, American studies, communication, history, museum studies, fine and performing arts, or related fields, and may have expertise in any tradition, period, or method of study.

We ask that fellows agree to contribute their completed syllabus and assessments to LRDA and allow the project to post these documents in a pedagogical section of the project website. Through this initiative, we hope to contribute to rigorous and impactful teaching at the intersections of religion, public life, and digital culture.

The 2021 project theme is Religion, Migration, and Diaspora. We are especially interested in supporting courses that attempt to bring students into interaction with histories and experiences of migration and diaspora—both voluntary and forced—through site visits; urban, community, or neighborhood studies; and/or digital storytelling, including integrations of GIS skills and methods, podcasting, digital journalism, and video editing. Proposals that bring students into meaningful interaction with religious traditions through regional exchanges or other immersive opportunities and that seek collaboration with community partners, across disciplines of study, and/or across teaching contexts are encouraged. Joint proposals will also be accepted.

To apply, please submit 1) a brief (2 double-spaced pages) course design that describes the institutional context and includes learning objectives, likely sources and assessments, and expected dates of instruction; 2) a CV from each instructor of record for the proposed course; and 3) a proposed budget that includes other funds received or applied for. If your course involves travel, we request that your course design address your compliance with your university’s student travel policies. We anticipate making multiple awards. Typical awards will be $300-$500. Proposals for awards up to $1,500 will be considered on a case by case basis.

Please email completed applications as a single PDF to livedreligion@slu.edu with “Teaching Fellowship Application” in the subject line. Applications will be accepted through January 31, 2021, and awards announced in February 2021. For questions about the fellowship, email project directors Dr. Rachel Lindsey (rachel.lindsey@slu.edu) or Dr. Pauline Lee (pauline.lee@slu.edu).

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