

Coping Notes for Our Time

Religion in America Adjusted Syllabus *Spring 2020*

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Principles

1. Nobody signed up for this.
 - Not for the sickness, not for the social distancing, not for the sudden end of our collective lives together on campus
 - Not for an online class, not for teaching remotely, not for learning from home, not for mastering new technologies, not for varied access to learning materials
2. The humane option is the best option.
 - We are going to prioritize supporting each other as humans
 - We are going to prioritize simple solutions that make sense for the most
 - We are going to prioritize sharing resources and communicating clearly
3. We cannot just do the same thing online.
 - Some assignments are no longer possible
 - Some expectations are no longer reasonable
 - Some objectives are no longer valuable
4. We will foster intellectual nourishment, social connection, and personal accommodation.
 - Accessible asynchronous content for diverse access, time zones, and contexts
 - Optional synchronous discussion to learn together and combat isolation
5. We will remain flexible and adjust to the situation.
 - Nobody knows where this is going and what we'll need to adapt
 - Everybody needs support and understanding in this unprecedented moment

Helping Others

- Go to <https://sangabpres.org/responding-to-covid-19/> for local mission ideas
- Remember to give blood if you can—but call ahead for an appointment (they are trying to maintain proper space between blood draws)
- LA County has suggestions for helping the community at <https://covid19.lacounty.gov/covid19/how-you-can-help/>
- Have fun! See Santa Clarita Sheriff's tweet from March 28 at <https://twitter.com/SCVSHERIFF/status/1244121696543469568>:

If you saw patrol cars near Soledad Canyon/ Shadow Pines Blvd in Cyn Country this afternoon, everything was fine. We heard of a boy who needed some cheer because his b-day party was cancelled. When we learned he loves police, we did a drive-by.

HOW TO ATTEND CHURCH ONLINE

GET OUT OF BED AND GET DRESSED

it will put you in the right mindset for worship

GO THROUGH YOUR NORMAL SUNDAY ROUTINE

minus the "hurry up, we're late" part

GATHER TOGETHER AS A FAMILY

no multitasking; worship is a family activity

STREAM TO YOUR LARGEST SCREEN IF POSSIBLE

it will feel like you are really "there"

SING ALONG LOUD AND PROUD

it may feel weird, but it also feels weird to the people leading worship in an empty room

PREACH WITH THE PREACHER

say amen, clap, shout and take notes; have a time of prayer at the end; make your home a sanctuary

