

Jesuit Online Summer Seminar on Religion and Technology
July 6- 31, 2020

(we will be meeting every weekday over Zoom at 9:00 am US Pacific time)

Week one: Philosophical Reflections on the Virtual Age

Monday July 6: Introduction;

- Introduction to the co-evolution of religion and technology
- Models for understanding technology's relationship to society

Tuesday July 7: communication technology and religion

- Mimetic religion
- Oral Religion
- The Axial Revolution

Wednesday, July 8: Critique of Scribal Religion Mimetic Sacrifice

- Archaic Religion: Mimetic Desire, Violence and Religious Sacrifice
- Plato's Axial Critique
- Jesus' Axial Critique

Thursday, July 9: The Print Revolution

- Paper and Print
- Print Christianity

Friday, July 10: Rational Religion

- Medieval Axial Arguments for the Existence of God
- Geometrical reason—objective orientation
- Deism and Design—third person orientation

Week Two: Theological Reflections on the Virtual Age

Monday July 13: The religion of subjectivity

- The apotheosis of the self: first person orientation
- Romantic Critiques of Industrial Technology: second person orientation

Tuesday, July 14: The virtual self.

- Virtual self
- Demons of the virtual self

Wednesday, July 15: Cyberpsychology: Patrick

- Cyberpsychology and Virtual Therapy

Thursday July 16: Virtual ontology

- Distributed agency and the internet of things
- Distributed cognition: embodied, embedded, extended

Friday : July 17: Latour's philosophy of religion

- The Technology of Religion
- The Religion of Technology

Week Three: Virtual Theology

Monday July 20: spirituality online: Nithin and Artur

- Religion as Refuge
- On Virtual Ritual

Tuesday, July 21: Transcendence: technological and religious.

- Artificial intelligence and the singularity
- Teilhard and Transhumanism

Wednesday, July 22: introduction to the second axial age

- Inter-religious dialogue as a model for evangelizing a secular and pluralistic digital culture.
- Laudato Si's critique of technology and adding ecology to faith and justice

Thursday, July 23: Virtual Theology

- Virtual trinitarianism: God as a network of divine personae
- Creation: Our Reality as God's Virtual Reality

Friday, July 24: Virtual Theology (2)

- Avatar Christology
- Virtual Mysticism

Week four: Digital Evangelization

Monday, July 27: High school and college digital ministry

High school digital evangelization: Christian Astran (Jesuit High, LA, ministry)

College digital evangelization: Meredith McKay (Gonzaga Mission and Ministry)

- Virtual Ecclesiology

Tuesday, July 28: Digital evangelization around the globe

Wednesday, July 29: student presentations:

Thursday, July 30: Student presentations:

Saturday August 1: debrief?