



# MM102 Christians in a Disruptive and Digital World

Dr Lai Pak Wah/ Dr Tan Seng Kong | 1.5 CR

## Course Purpose

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Disruptions have been a key concern for business leaders in the last two decades, as noted in Clayton Christensen's *Innovator's Dilemma* (1997). Since then, we have seen not only traditional businesses disrupted but also the pace of disruption accelerating due to the advent of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR). As the recent COVID19 pandemic has shown, the Church is also not immune to disruptions. Christian leaders now find themselves grappling with how to disciple Christians in a rapidly changing world, up against challenges as wide ranging as the stress of remote work, economic recessions, shifts in geopolitics and economic structures, and the unfamiliarity of ministering in a digital world.

### Dates (2021)

Feb 18  
Mar 4, 18  
Apr 1, 15  
May 6

(7:15-10pm)

### Credits

1.5 CR

### Class Format

Blended Learning  
(Online Lectures &  
Tutorials)

**Pre-requisite: NIL**

### Location

Zoom Room

### Fees\*

S\$225(Credit)  
S\$120 (Audit)

The aim of this course is to survey the above challenges and to introduce the theological, spiritual, and interdisciplinary resources that can enable the Church to disciple Christians and to further God's kingdom in this new normal. Students will also have opportunities to dialogue with industry experts and practitioners on the challenges of digital disruptions and consolidate their learning through a group project.

## About the Lecturers

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**Dr Lai Pak Wah** is a lecturer of Church History and Historical Theology at BGST. A graduate from BGST (Grad Dip CS) and Regent College, Vancouver (MCS, ThM), Dr Lai completed his PhD at Durham University, where he specialised in Christianity in Late Antiquity, that is, the history, theology and spirituality of the 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> century church fathers (also known as Patristic Studies). Besides his research on John Chrysostom, Dr Lai has also published on the interface between theology & medicine in *The Dao of Healing: Christian Perspectives on Chinese Medicine*. Previously, Dr Lai was a full-time lecturer at the School of Business, Singapore Polytechnic, and engaged in investment promotion work with the Singapore Economic Development Board. He is the current Principal of BGST.



**Dr Tan Seng Kong** is our Lecturer of Systematic and Spiritual Theology. He is a graduate from Regent College, Vancouver (MA, Spiritual Theology). Seng Kong completed his PhD in Systematic Theology at Princeton Theological Seminary, where he focused his research on Jonathan Edwards's doctrine of salvation. Seng Kong was trained as an architect and with his family, worships at Bethel Assembly of God.



## Academic Information

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### Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be familiar with the theological, spiritual and interdisciplinary perspectives on disruptions, and know how to apply these principles to the key disruptive and digital trends shaping the world through a ministry project.

### Assignments

1. Reading Journal: (40%)
2. Digital Ministry Project Presentation & Paper (60%)

### Required Texts:

1. Brynjolfsson, Erik, and Andrew McAfee. *Machine, Platform and Crowd: Harnessing Our Digital Future*. New York: W. W. Norton, 2017.
2. Gans, Joshua. *The Disruption Dilemma*. Cambridge, MA: MIT, 2016.
3. Osterwalder, Alexander, Yves Pigneur, Fred Etienne, and Alan Smith. *The Invincible Company: How to Constantly Reinvent Your Organization with Inspiration from the World's Best Business Models*. John Wiley & Sons, 2020.
4. Ott, Kate. *Christian Ethics for a Digital Society*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2019.
5. Phillips, Peter M. *The Bible, Social Media and Digital Culture*. Routledge Focus on Religion. Routledge, 2019.

For more information, contact us at **Biblical Graduate School of Theology**  
50 Kallang Pudding Road, #07-01, AMA Building Singapore 349326  
Tel: 65-62276815 ♦ bgst.edu.sg ♦ Email: registration@bgst.edu.sg