

## SYLLABUS

### I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Skill development in the preparation and leadership of corporate worship experiences and pastoral rites. The student will survey Biblical and historical models, explore the nature, significance and use of music, and lead experiences of worship and pastoral care. 3 hours academic credit.

### II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course is designed as an introduction to the philosophy and skills of congregational worship leadership and the pastoral rites (e.g. baptism, communion, weddings, funerals, etc.) for the individual responsible for the quality of the church corporate worship experiences. While this primarily denotes the senior or sole pastor in a local church, it includes those who serve as (or assist) congregational worship leaders.

A. **Cognitive Objectives.** As a result of taking this course, the student will be able to:

1. articulate a biblical-theological philosophy of worship;
2. identify theological and historical developments in Christian worship in its various forms;
3. describe creative alternatives available to the local church ministry of worship.

B. **Affective Objective.** As a result of taking this course, the student will be able to:

1. defend a biblical theological philosophy of worship;
2. embrace the spiritual significance of the pastorally-led rites for the church.

C. **Behavioral Objectives.** As a result of taking this course, the student will be able to:

1. design and lead corporate worship events which are spiritually edifying and psychologically satisfying for the participants using culturally relevant elements for the expression of worship;
2. integrate corporate worship planning and leadership development into the comprehensive planning strategy of the local church;
3. demonstrate sound theological and practical leadership for the pastoral services and rites associated with baptism, communion, marriage, funerals, and discipline.

### III. COURSE TEXTBOOKS

#### A. Required

Allen P. Ross, *Recalling the Hope of Glory: Biblical Worship from the Garden to the New Creation*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 2006. 591 pp.

Laurence Hull Stookey. *Calendar: Christ's Time for the Church*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 1996. 186 pp.

James F. White. *Protestant Worship: Traditions in Transition*. Louisville, KY: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1989. 216 pp.

#### B. Recommended

James D. Berkley. *Leadership Handbook of Preaching & Worship*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1997.

Marva J. Dawn. *A Royal "Waste" of Time*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1999. 370 pp.

Lee Eclov. *Pastors Service Manual*. Evangelical Free Church of America. Binder, 2000.

Thomas G. Long, *Accompany Them With Singing: The Christian Funeral*. Louisville, KY: Westminster/John Knox Press, 2009. 214 pp.

### C. Supplementary Bibliography

A bibliography of selected works for the study of Christian worship will be provided with the notes for the course.

## IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### A. Reading Assignments (25%)

The student must read all books, course notes and supplemental handouts according to the schedule given in class.

### B. Required Assignments (60%)

1. Worship Workshops (20%). As part of a team each student will prepare two corporate worship experiences (approx. 12 minutes) for the class. Each event will be focused on an assigned passage of scripture. Every team member must participate in the design and execution of the assignment and significant class participation is expected. Following each workshop, the class will interact with the team over the experience. DUE as assigned.
2. Worship Service Participation (5%). During the semester each student must participate once in the leadership of a congregational worship service (other than preaching) as chairperson, music (song leader, worship team, etc.), prayer, scripture reading, drama, etc. If the student's church cannot accommodate this requirement, the student may interview the individual responsible for corporate worship planning in that church. DUE last class period (email message report is sufficient).
3. Personal Philosophy Paper (15%). The student will write a short paper (a maximum of 3 typed double-spaced pages) organized summary of his/her personal (provisional) philosophy of worship representing a thoughtful interaction with the subject matter of the course. The paper must include a *formal* [a comprehensive, single sentence] definition of congregational worship reflecting the semester study, a discussion of corporate worship parameters, and a strategy for dealing with one area of tension in the local church over worship. DUE last class period (April 30).
4. Short assignments (15%). Three one-hour assignments will be required. Further information for the successful fulfillment of each assignment will be provided in class. DUE as assigned
  - a. Worship Tradition. The student will describe the worship tradition of his/her church.
  - b. Service plot. The student will graphically describe the aesthetic structure of an actual Sunday morning congregational worship service at his/her church.
  - c. Psalm metricization. The student will write a metrical arrangement of a psalm with a consistent meter, rhythm, and poetic scheme.
  - d. Institution Narrative memorization. Each student must memorizes and recite publicly the institution narrative (1 Co. 11:23-26) in either the KJ or NAS versions with no mistakes.

### C. Contract Assignments (up to 20%)

To allow individual tailoring of the course to the student's own church background, interests, and prior experience in worship leadership a student may choose from the following assignments. Each assignment is worship a maximum of 10% of the course grade. ALL ARE DUE one week before the last class of the semester (April 24) but may be handed in prior to that time. (10 hrs each)

1. Reading & Research. The student will read an additional 350 pages under the professor's supervision and report/evaluate the reading: if a survey, summarize (one page single space) each work; if a focused topic, a five-page (single space) summary of the field of reading.
2. Historical Critique. The student will attend the primary worship service from three distinct historical worship traditions drawn from the following list: Oriental/Eastern Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Episcopal/Anglican, Reformed (e.g. Presbyterian, Congregational), Anabaptist (e.g. Mennonite, Huguenot, Hutterite), Methodist, Revivalist (e.g. Baptist, Bible Church, Salvation Army), Pentecostal/Charismatic. The student will submit a single paragraph report (typed, single space) of each experience, commenting on the environment, service order/focus, congregational participation.

3. Hymnal Evaluations. The student will prepare a single-page evaluation form for hymnal (per the discussion in the class notes) and use it to evaluate four hymnals (as opposed to songbooks or song collections), each hymnal on one page (single space). This study may be done synchronically (hymnals from a single historical period) or diachronically (hymnals developed in a denomination or cultural setting over time) according to the criteria described in the class lecture notes.
4. Pastoral Rites. The student will attend a minimum of five pastoral rites during the semester (i.e. wedding, funeral, baptism, pastoral visitation, ordination, dedication, etc.) of which there can be no more than two of the same rite. For each event the student will provide a detailed liturgical plan of the event (one-page) and a typed summary of observations of the experience.
5. Nicene Creed memorization and recitation. The student will memorize the Nicene Creed (without the *filioque* clause), recite it to the professor, and answer questions concerning its implications posed by the professor.
6. Liturgical Theology. The student will observe and evaluate (maximum 5 pages double-space) a specific element of a specific congregation's corporate worship – people (e.g. leadership, musicians, choir), liturgy (e.g. "story," music, prayers, scripture, responses), or environment (e.g. architecture, acoustics, instrumentation) practice using Smith's *Desiring the Kingdom* (ch 5) analyses as a model (detailed description of liturgical action/function and the significance this communicates explicitly and implicitly)..

**D. Quizzes and/or Exams**

There will be no quizzes or exams in the course.

**V. COURSE POLICIES**

**A. Weight Given to Course Requirements for Grading**

- |                                  |  |           |
|----------------------------------|--|-----------|
| 1. Reading                       |  | 25%       |
| 2. Required Assignments          |  |           |
| a. Worship Workshops             |  | 20%       |
| b. Worship Service Participation |  | 5%        |
| c. Personal Philosophy Paper     |  | 15%       |
| d. Short assignments             |  | 15%       |
| 3. Optional Assignments          |  | up to 20% |

**B. Class Participation**

Classes incorporate training in worship skills and experiences. Every student is expected to participate in these exercises under the direction of the professor according to his or her ability as appropriate.

**C. Late Assignments**

In general, the due dates as given in the syllabus will be followed and the grade penalties for late work applied according to the standards as set forward in the current issue of the student handbook. Where an assignment requires involvement in an extracurricular situation, some latitude will be permitted.

**D. Absences**

Regular attendance is a means of personal growth in the individual exercises and a personal expression of your vision of God, as well as a requirement of the course. The absence policy is as set forward in the current issue of the student handbook

**E. Letter/Numerical Grade Scale**

A+ 99-100	B+ 91-93	C+ 83-85	D+ 75-77	F 0-69
A 96-98	B 88-90	C 80-82	D 72-74	
A- 94-95	B- 86-87	C- 78-79	D- 70-71	

**VI. COURSE SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMTION**

DTS does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the operation of any of its programs and activities. To avoid discrimination the student is responsible for informing the Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities and the course instructor of any disabling condition that will require modifications.

**VII. COURSE LECTURES AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE**

No.	Date		Lecture Topic	Assignments Due
1	8/29	Syllabus, Introduction	The Reason and Object of Worship	
2		A Biblical Philosophy of Worship	A. The Biblical Priorities	
3	9/5		B. The Biblical Vocabulary	
4			C. The Role of Remembrance	
5	9/12	The Changing Face of Worship	A. Old Testament Paradigms	Ross Reading
6			B. New Testament to Reformation	
7	9/19		C. Reformation to the Modern Age	
8			Your Worship Tradition & Values	White reading
9	9/26	Participation in Worship	The Traditions	Tradition analysis
10			Creativity through the Senses	
11	10/3	Aesthetics, Spirituality and Worship	A Christian Theology of Art	
12			Dramatic Theory and Worship	
13	10/10		Tone, Theme & Transitions	
14			Memory, Prescience, & Flow	
15	10/17	Music and Hymnody	Music for Dummies	
16			Leading the Congregation's Song	
17	10/24		From Antiquity to the Reformation	
18			Psalmody & Early Hymnody	
19	10/31		Revivalist Hymnody	metricized psalm
20			Evaluating Christian Music Today	Service plot
21	11/7	Pastoral Care	Weddings	
22			Funerals	
			<i>Reading Week (11/15,17)</i>	
			<i>Thanksgiving Break (11/22,24)</i>	
23	11/28	The Ministry Quadrad	Baptism & Catechism	
24			The Eucharist & Community	
25	12/5		Discipline	Stookey reading
26			Ordinations/Dedications	
27		Preparing Strategies	Long-term Planning & Staffing	
28	12/12		A Conflict Matrix for Worship Worship, Missions & Growth	Philosophy paper Participation requirement