

“The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.”

We are here not merely to get an education or to give one. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

“ . . . you shall not worship any other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God— otherwise you might make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land and they would play the harlot with their gods and sacrifice to their gods, and someone might invite you to eat of his sacrifice, . . .” (Exodus 34:14-15; NASB)

“Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples. Ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name; Bring an offering, and come before Him; Worship the LORD in holy array.” (1 Chron 16:-29; NASB)

“Come, let us worship and bow down. Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker. For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.” (Psalm 95:6-7; NASB)

“ . . . an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.” (John 4:23-24; NASB)

“And they sang the song of Moses, the bond-servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, ‘Great and marvelous are Your works, O Lord God, the Almighty; Righteous and true are Your ways, King of the nations! Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy; For ALL THE NATIONS WILL COME AND WORSHIP BEFORE YOU, FOR YOUR RIGHTEOUS ACTS HAVE BEEN REVEALED.’” (The Revelation 15:3-4)

“We believe that the Bible is the Word of God in the highest and fullest sense, and is the unrivalled authority in determining the faith and practice of God’s people; . . .” *NOBTS Articles of Religious Belief* (Article I – Sole Authority of Scriptures)

“[The Holy Bible] reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. . . . The first day of the week is the Lord’s Day. It is a Christian institution for regular observance. It commemorates the resurrection of Christ from the dead and should include exercises of worship and spiritual devotion, both public and private. Activities on the Lord’s Day should be commensurate with the Christian’s conscience under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.” *The Baptist Faith and Message 2000* (Article I – The Scriptures; Article VIII – The Lord’s Day)

DESCRIPTION:

This introductory course will enable the student to plan, facilitate, and give spiritually-directed leadership to people in worship by studying theological and historical foundations, church music, and worship practices. Additional attention will be given to platform behavior.

COMPETENCIES ADDRESSED:

Servant Leadership -- To serve churches effectively through team ministry; and
Worship Leadership -- To facilitate worship effectively.

CORE VALUES:

spiritual vitality, characteristic excellence, doctrinal integrity

COURSE METHODS:

Recorded lectures, WebEx, discussion threads, book reviews, worksheets, DVDs, and student presentations will be used.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

The Bible

Engle, Paul and Basden, Paul (ed.) *Exploring the Worship Spectrum: 6 Views* (Zondervan, 2004)
Sharp, Michael and Smith, Argile. *Holy Gatherings* (available from the authors, LifeWay campus bookstore in New Orleans, Barnes & Noble, and Amazon.com)

OBJECTIVES:

By the end of the course the student who satisfactorily fulfills the requirements should be able to:

1. Understand the biblical, theological, and historical foundations of Christian worship as a form of religious expression;
2. Appreciate the forms of biblical worship in the light of the broader cultural environment in which Israel and the Church expressed their faith;
3. Understand the worship elements, as well as various designs and philosophies, used in the planning of Christian worship in evangelical churches;
4. Evaluate a variety of worship forms in light of a biblical theology of Christian worship;
5. Appreciate important worship issues facing local churches today;
6. Lead worship in a local church based upon principles for faithful worship that brings glory to God and transformation to those worshipping; and

7. Value staff relationships in planning and leading worship.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. **BLACKBOARD:** You will create an account on Blackboard and enroll in this course, using the authorization code given by the professors via an initial email to successfully enrolled students. Please make sure to register on Blackboard in the correct PATH5300 section. **DUE: First Friday of Semester**

Important Note: *Please post all assignments in the appropriate Blackboard section. Because of inherent date-stamp limitations, need for teaching assistants to access materials, and the enormous volume of daily emails, documents emailed to the professors will not be accepted.*

2. **WebEx DISCUSSIONS:** Each student **MUST** attend and participate in the three WebEx class sessions. These sessions will take place during weeks one (1), seven (7), & thirteen (13). **DUE: Weeks 1, 7, & 13**
3. **BOOK REVIEW:** Each student will prepare a review of the textbook *Exploring the Worship Spectrum* by Paul Engle (editor). The review should include the following: author and bibliographic entry; a brief summation of the material presented from each of the six divisions of the book addressing the various perspectives; and a personal “take away” section in which the student provides commentary on helpful aspects gleaned from each section. Consult “Guidelines for a Book Review”. **DUE Week 5**
4. **WORSHIP ASSESSMENT CRITERIA:** Based on course readings and sample assessment tools as well as outside resources, students will develop a 2 – 3 page worship assessment instrument to be used in the observation and written evaluation of two distinct worship services. **DUE Week 8**
5. **WORSHIP OBSERVATIONS:** Attend and construct a written observation of two distinct worship services (e.g., Jewish, Eastern Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Charismatic, Vineyard, Episcopalian). Using the biblical worship assessment tool developed, each student will attend and observe both an aesthetic and a kinesthetic worship service. Observe as sincere “seeker of God” and be open to be open to encountering His Presence. Strengths and weaknesses as well as recommendations for improvement will be reported in separate 1500-word evaluation essays (one for each of the three services). An on-site observation of the worship services is required rather than video observation. **DUE Week 10**
6. **DESIGN WORSHIP SERVICES:** Design three distinct worship services using each of the three following models: aesthetic; kinesthetic; and blended, using a theme. Information on these models will be provided in course lectures and *Holy Gatherings*. Designs should include a worship guide outline as well as a double-spaced, two- to three-page commentary explaining how the particular worship elements are used and how they should flow in the particular worship service plan. Issues such as logistics, sequence of

events, planning intention, and potential impact upon worshipers should be noted in the plan. **DUE Week 12**

7. **GROUP PROJECT PRESENTATION:** Students will collaborate in small groups to explore and present material related to issues of worship as presented in the text *Exploring the Worship Spectrum*. Group presentations will focus on engaging the class in a discussion of the assigned topics. **DUE Week 14**
8. **FINAL EXAM:** Each student will write a 250 word response to **each** of the assigned questions. These questions will be posted on Blackboard during the final week of the course. **DUE Week 14**

FINAL GRADE: determined as follows . . .

1. WebEx attendance, participation, and meaningful contributions to class discussion	10%
2. Book review	10%
3. Worship service designs	20%
4. Group presentation project	10%
5. Observation and Evaluation of two worship services	25%
6. Final Exam	25%

Late Work: Assignments turned in past the date due will incur a minimum penalty of one letter grade per day. Assignments will not be accepted more than two weeks past the date due without express prior permission of the professors. In such cases a grade of D will be the maximum grade given. **Note: In order to receive credit for the class, all assignments must be completed.**

DISCLAIMER:

Flexibility is a critical attitude to ministry faithfulness. Therefore, students will be expected to keep a good attitude when things change. This syllabus proposes a course of study for a given time period. However, occasionally things change. The professors reserve the right to adjust the syllabus when they reasonably think that doing so will enhance the learning experience of the students.

IN CASE OF A DECLARED CAMPUS EVACUATION, students are to check the NOBTS electronic Blackboard at www.nobts.edu within four days of evacuation.

SUPPLEMENTAL TEXTS:

- Adams, Jere V., ed. *Handbook to The Baptist Hymnal*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1992.
- Allen, Ronald and Gordon Borrer. *Worship: Rediscovering the Missing Jewel*. Portland, OR: Multnomah Press, 1982.
- Arn, Charles. *How to Start a New Service*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1997.
- Barry, James C. and Jack Gullede. *Ideas for Effective Worship Services*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1977.
- Beale, G.K. *We Become What We Worship*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2008.
- Begbie, Jeremy, ed. *Beholding the Glory: Incarnation through the Arts*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2000.
- Berkeley, James D., ed. *Leadership Handbooks of Practical Theology*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1992. vol. 1: *Word and Worship*.
- Bertrum, M.H. *Worship in the Name of Jesus*. St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1968.
- Best, Harold M. *Music through the Eyes of Faith*. San Francisco: Harper, 1993.
- Block, Daniel I. "Guarding the Glory of God: Ezekiel's Design of Sacred Space." Unpublished ETS paper.
- Bloy, Myron B., Jr. *Multi-Media Worship: A Model and Nine Viewpoints*. New York: The Seabury Press, 1969.
- Bowman, Clarice. *Restoring Worship*. Nashville: Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1951.
- Bradshaw, Paul F. *The Search for the Origins of Christian Worship*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1992.
- Brenner, Scott Francis. *The Way of Worship: A Study in Ecumenical Recovery*. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1944.
- Brink, Emily R., ed. *Authentic Worship in a Changing Culture*. Grand Rapids: CRC Publications, 1997.
- Burkhart, John E. *Worship: A Searching Examination of the Liturgical Experience*. Philadelphia: The Westminster Press, 1982.
- Carroll, Joseph S. *How to Worship Jesus Christ*. Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 1984.
- Carson, Tim and Kathy Carson. *So You're Thinking About Contemporary Worship*. St. Louis, MO: Chalice Press, 1997.
- Christensen, James L. *Contemporary Worship Services*. Old Tappan, NJ: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1952.
- _____. *Creative Ways to Worship*. Old Tappan, NJ: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1966.
- Corbitt, J. Nathan. *The Sound of the Harvest: Music's Mission in Church and Culture*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1998.
- Cox, Harvey. *Fire From Heaven*. Cambridge, MA: Da Capo Press, 1995.
- Davis, H. Grady. *Why we Worship*. Philadelphia: Muhlenberg Press, 1961.
- Dawn, Marva J. *Reaching Out Without Dumbing Down: A Theology of the Turn-of-the-Century Church*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995
- Doran, Carol and Thomas H. Traeger. *Open to Glory: Renewing Worship in the Congregation*. Valley Forge: Judson Press, 1983.
- Erickson, Millard. *The Postmodern World*. Wheaton: Crossway Books, 2002.
- Eskew, Harry and Hugh T. McElrath. *Sing with Understanding*. Nashville: Broadman, 1980.
- Flynn, Leslie B. *Worship: Together We Celebrate*. Wheaton: Victor Books, 1978.
- Forbis, Wesley, ed. *The Baptist Hymnal*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1991.

- Foster, Richard. *Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home*. San Francisco: Harper, 1992.
- Gaddy, Welton. *The Gift of Worship*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1992.
- Gaines, Steve. *When God Comes to Church*. Nashville: B & H Publishing Group, 2007.
- Greeven, H. "Proskuvvnew, proskunhth", " TDNT 6.758-766.
- Guinness, Os. *Prophetic Untimeliness*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2003.
- Hardin, Grady. *The Leadership of Worship*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1980.
- Hill, Andrew. *Enter His Courts with Praise! Old Testament Worship for the New Testament Church*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1993.
- Hurtado, Larry W. *At the Origins of Christian Worship: The Context and Character of Earliest Christian Devotion*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing, 1999.
- Hustad, Donald P. *Jubilate! Church Music in the Evangelical Tradition*. Carol Stream, IL: Hope Publishing Company, 1981.
- _____. *True Worship: Reclaiming the Wonder and the Majesty*. Carol Stream, IL: Hope, 1998.
- Johnston, Robert K. *Reel Spirituality: Theology and Film in Dialogue*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2000.
- Jones, Cheslyn, Geoffrey Wainwright, and Edward Yarnald. *The Study of Liturgy*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1978.
- Kendall, R.T. *Before the Throne*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1993.
- Leisch, Barry. *People in the Presence of God: Models and Directions for Worship*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.
- _____. *The New Worship: Straight Talk on Music & the Church*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996.
- Martin, Ralph P. *The Worship of God*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1982.
- _____. *Worship in the Early Church*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1964.
- Maxwell, William D. *A History of Christian Worship*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1936.
- Noland, Rory. *The Heart of the Artist*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1999.
- Ortland, Anne. *Up With Worship: How to Quit Playing Church* revised ed., Venture, CA: Regal Books, 1982.
- Owens, Ron. *Return to Worship: A God-centered Approach*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1999.
- Pass, David B. *Music and the Church: A Theology of Church Music*. Nashville: Broadman, 1989.
- Peterson, David. "Worship in the New Testament." In D.A. Carson, ed. *Worship: Adoration and Action*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1993. Pp. 51-91.
- Preuss, H.D. "hwj hwh hwj}T@v]hi" TDNT 4.248-56.
- Rayburn, Robert G. *Oh, Come Let Us Worship*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1980.
- Segler, Franklin M. and Randall Bradley. *Understanding, Preparing for, and Practicing Christian Worship*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1996.
- Sharp, Michael and Argile Smith. *Holy Gatherings: A Leader's Guide for Engaging the Congregation in Corporate Worship*. New Orleans: Self-published, 2006.
- Siewart, Alison, ed. *Worship Team Handbook*. Downer's Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1998.
- Stähli, H.P. "hwj hwh hist. 'To bow down.'" *Theological Lexicon of the Old Testament*. 1.398-400.
- Sweet, Leonard. *Aqua Church: Essential Leadership Arts for Piloting Your Church in Today's Fluid Culture*. Loveland, CO: Group, 1999.

- Towns, Elmer. *Putting an End to Worship Wars*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1997.
- Vanderwell, Howard, ed. *The Church of All Ages*. Herndon, VA: The Alban Institute, 2008.
- Warden, Michael, ed. *Experience God in Worship*. Loveland, CO: Group, 2000.
- Webber, Robert. *Signs of Wonder: The Phenomenon of Convergence in Modern Liturgical And Charismatic Churches*. Nashville: Abbott Martyn, 1992.
- _____. *The Complete Library of Christian Worship*. 7 vols. Nashville: Star Song Publishing Group, 1993.
- _____. *Worship Old and New*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1982.
- Wells, David. *The Courage to Be Protestant*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2008.
- White, James Emery. *Opening the Front Door: Worship and Church Growth*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1992.
- White, James F. *Introduction to Christian Worship*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1982.
- White, James F. and Susan J. White. *Church Architecture: Building and Renovating for Christian Worship*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1988.
- White, Susan J. *Christian Worship and Technological Change*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1994.
- Wiersbe, Warren W. *Real Worship: It will Transform Your Life*. Nashville: Oliver Nelson, 1986.
- Williamson, Robert L. *Effective Public Prayer*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1960.
- William, William H. and Robert L. Wilson. *Preaching and Worship in the Small Church*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1980.
- Willimon, William. *The Service of God: Christian Work and Worship*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1983.
- _____. *Worship as Pastoral Care*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1979.
- Wren, Brian. *Praying Twice: The Music and Words of Congregational Song*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2000.
- Wright, Tim and Jan Wright, eds. *Contemporary Worship: A Sourcebook*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1997.