

Wesley Theological Seminary
Course of Study School
Summer Intensive | Term 2 July 23 – August 3, 2018

CS-223 Worship and Sacraments

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Course Description

This course examines worship within The United Methodist Church including liturgy, sacraments, and special services. Attention will be given to the pastor's role as leader in worship.

Objectives

Students will be able to:

1. Articulate a theology of worship consistent with the Wesleyan tradition, including reflection on the theology and rhythm of the Christian year.
2. Articulate a Wesleyan theology of the sacraments and be competent in their administration.
3. Interpret theologically the Services of Christian Marriage and of Death and Resurrection, and be able to lead such services well.
4. Construct a worship service, and reflect theologically on the use of hymns, media, contemporary music, and lay leadership.

Required Texts:

Laurence Hull Stookey, *Let the Whole Church Say Amen! A Guide for Those Who Pray in Public*

Robin Knowles Wallace, *The Christian Year: A Guide to Worship and Preaching*

Hoyt L Hickman, *Worshipping with United Methodists, revised edition*

Don E. Saliers, *Worship Come to Its Senses*

Reference Texts: (Students should have most of these books from a previous course or licensing school. Please bring them to school to use in the classroom experience.)

The United Methodist Hymnal

The United Methodist Book of Worship

Gayle Carleton Felton, *This Holy Mystery*

Gayle Carlton Felton, *By Water and the Spirit*

James F. White, *Introduction to Christian Worship, 3rd edition*

Supplemental Texts:

L. Edward Phillips and Sara Webb Phillips, *In Spirit and Truth: United Methodist Worship for the Emerging Church*

Andy Langford, *Christian Funerals; Christian Weddings, revised edition; Blueprints for Worship*

Norman Shawchuck and Rueben Job. *A Guide to Prayer for Ministers and Other Servants*

Marjorie Thompson, *Soul Feast*

Written Assignments:

Required Papers:

The principal written requirements for class will be as follows:

- A. prepare and submit one 10-page paper, addressing Assignment A below. Please note Assignment A has two parts: #1 - The Order of Worship: The Basic Pattern and #2 - Sacramental understanding. **This paper should be posted on Blackboard no later than June 1, 2018.**
- B. prepare and submit a 4-page paper, addressing Assignment B below. Please note that Assignment B has two parts: #3 - Creating prayers based on Scripture and #4 - Creating a prayer of praise reflecting a sense of the soul. **This paper should be posted on Blackboard no later than July 23, 2018.**
- C. Three 1-page reflection papers to be completed during the student's time on the Wesley campus. Questions for these reflection papers will be provided by the instructor during class. **These papers will be due July 25, 27 and 31.**

Formatting:

Please format your paper to the following guidelines: 12pt font, double spaced, 1" margins, and page numbers. Be sure to include your name and the date on each paper you turn in. The length of each paper is indicated in the written assignments, required papers section above.

Citation and Plagiarism:

It is imperative that appropriate standards of academic integrity and citation be observed. The basic rule for citation is simple: when quoting another person's work, or referencing an idea published by another, cite the source. Keep in mind: either quoting verbatim from another person's work without citation or rephrasing another person's work in your own words without citation are equally forms of plagiarism. Gross plagiarism violations may result in a failing grade for the assignment at the professor's discretion.

When citing the source, please use parenthetical notes including the author's name, book title, and page number. The assignment requires the student to process and integrate the material course's readings into the paper; therefore, in no case should a paper include lengthy, verbatim quotes (e.g., an entire paragraph from the *United Methodist Book of Worship*). The work is your critical reflection upon the questions below. Be sure to include, at the end of your paper, a

bibliography of all your sources formatted according to the Chicago-Turabian Style Guidelines. (e.g., Hudson, Valerie, N. *Culture and Foreign Policy*. Boulder: L. Rienner Publishers, 1997.)

The following class assignments presume that the student will have read all the required texts before beginning their written work, and that the familiarity with the required reading and with the reference texts will be reflected in all written work. Students should feel free in your responses to reference all course resources, as well as other sources the student finds helpful in crafting the assignment. **Reminder: Please note that responses should reflect an understanding of and appreciation for United Methodist doctrine, polity, and foundational sources; not the student's current ministry setting.**

ASSIGNMENTS:

ASSIGNMENT A

- Please complete assignment #1 and #2 below.
- 10 pages maximum
- Posted to Blackboard no later than June 1, 2018
- Assignment #1 – Order of Worship: The Basic Pattern

You have been appointed to a new charge effective July 1, 2018. The current pastor provides you with copies of recent worship bulletins from New United Methodist Church. You notice the basic form of the Sunday service at New United Methodist Church follows the outline below:

New United Methodist Church

Sunday, June 00, 2014

Prelude
Chiming of the Hour
*Call to Worship
*Hymn of Praise
Announcements
Children's Sermon
*Hymn
Prayer of Confession
Pardon
Offertory
*Doxology
Scripture Reading
Sermon
Holy Communion
*Hymn
*Benediction
*Postlude

You desire to introduce the congregation to an order of worship more in accord with the basic pattern for United Methodists found in the UMBOW, pages 13-32 and UMH pages 2-5; understanding that making this change will take time. The target date for the introduction of the new order is **First Sunday in October 2018, World Communion Sunday**.

- Using the lectionary for October 7, 2018 (Year B), prepare a complete order of worship for a Service of Word and Table. Include the specific hymns, scripture, prayers, Eucharistic prayer, prayer of confession, etc. that you would use and indicate why you have chosen them. (Note: if resources are to be used without editing or adaptation from either UMBOW, UMH, or Knowles Wallace, you need only provide the page/hymn number and title – for example, UMH 620 – One Bread, One Body or UMBOW #431 Prayer for World Communion Sunday or Knowles Wallace, page 4). Please include the text of other resources you may have chosen.
- Cite all resources used as a part of the liturgy you have created.
- Create a detailed comparison of the order of worship given to you by the previous pastor of New United Methodist Church and the order of worship you have created. Provide a commentary explaining the choices made in your preparation, both pastorally and theologically.
- **Assignment #2 – Sacramental Understanding**

On **Baptism of the Lord Sunday, January 7, 2018, Year B**, you will receive into church membership a family, as follows:

- *father*: never baptized, who has received appropriate instruction and now wishes to make a profession of faith
- *teenage daughter*: baptized as an infant, but never confirmed
- *infant son*: unbaptized
- *mother*: a faithful member of another United Methodist congregation, who now wishes to become part of the church where her family will belong
- *grandmother*: baptized in the Roman Catholic Church as an infant and confirmed there, but for years inactive.

Referring to “Baptismal Covenant I,” UMBOW, pp. 86-94, UMH pages 33-39, *By Water and the Spirit* by Felton, *The Christian Year* (Chapter 4) by Knowles Wallace.

- Create an annotated bulletin for the entire service of Baptismal Covenant I. The annotations should indicate the person(s) to whom each portion of the liturgy is addressed. You are, in effect, creating the “script” for this service, so all is administered in proper order, according to United Methodist doctrine and polity.

- Indicate your understanding of the differences and similarities between the questions put to each family member in brief, clear sentences; that you might use in your script to deepen the congregation’s understanding of all that is taking place in this liturgy.
- Create a 4-page sermon you might preach on this day, based on the lectionary texts for the day and informed by Felton’s *By Water and the Spirit*, addressing the following questions:
 - What is the meaning of baptism to United Methodists?
 - How does John Wesley’s understanding of grace inform United Methodist theology and practice of baptism?
 - What role does the congregation play in the Sacrament of Baptism?

ASSIGNMENT B

- **Please complete assignment #3 and #4 below.**
- **4 pages maximum**
- **Posted to Blackboard no later than July 23, 2018**
- **Assignment #3 – Creating prayers based on Scripture**

As the pastor, it is your responsibility to create the opening prayer or collect for the Sundays after Pentecost. Using guidance from Stookey (Exercises 1-5 and 17), write collects for the 16th and 17th Sundays after Pentecost (September 9 and 16) based on the assigned readings from the lectionary for those Sundays. You may also find Knowles Wallace and Hickman helpful in constructing your prayer.

- Pay close attention to the form of a collect.
- Pay attention to the images from Scripture that inform your praying.
- Pay close attention to writing with “vigorous verbs”.

After you have completed your collect, write a reflection (no more than one page) on the process of writing. What in Stookey’s exercises challenge you as one who prays in public? What in Stookey encourages and nourishes your public prayer? How do you think about the connection of prayer and Scripture? From a Wesleyan perspective, how would you understand the role of Scripture in all public prayer?

- **Assignment #4 – Creating a prayer of praise and identifying a sense of the soul**

As a pastor, you will ground your leadership of worship in a theology of worship, in an understanding of the purpose of worship, in an embodied expression of liturgy, and by the spirit and sense of worship that lives in you. Using the resources in Stookey (exercise 1) and Saliers (in its entirety), the UMBOW and the UMH:

- Create a prayer of pure praise, following Stookey’s instructions in exercise 1. Include the text of the prayer in your paper.
- Reflect on the senses of the soul Saliers identifies as essential to worship. Identify which sense you seek to express in your prayer of praise. How did this sense inform your writing of the prayer? How does this sense of the soul inform the ways in which you plan and lead worship?
- Using the UMH and the UMBOW, describe how you see this same sense of the soul and your own sense of pure praise reflected in the worship resources of the United Methodist Church? Be specific. Which hymns? Which resources? Which part of the Baptismal prayer over the water or the Eucharistic prayer, for example, call forth this same sense of praise and this same sense of the soul? How does this ground your ministry and leadership in a United Methodist theology of worship?
- Which of Saliers senses challenges you most? How do you experience this challenge as you plan and write for worship? How might you cultivate a deeper appreciation of this sense of the soul?

Grading:

The instructor assumes that everyone in the class is capable of the work required to receive a “B” grade for each assignment. The following interpretations of the meaning of each grade have been developed to help class members review their work to identify strengths and challenges.

A “B” means that the basic elements of the assignment have been faithfully included, the argument is internally coherent, and clearly articulated.

A “B+” means the assignment is also well crafted.

An “A-” means that the assignment is not only well crafted, but it also probes the issues with considerable insight.

An “A” means the assignment is well crafted, reveals considerable insight, and moves beyond the range of the student’s prior knowledge to begin to construct new perspectives and meanings for the subject. In other words, it shows the student’s imagination at work; it has a creative edge.

A “C+” means that the assignment lacks clarity or focus, tends to reveal more the writer’s opinions than the results of the writer’s analysis, and lacks reflective insight into the issues being discussed.

A “C” means that the assignment does not move beyond the reporting of information from readings and/or class discussions to engaging them with issues being discussed; it may indicate inappropriate or misuse of data and readings.

A “C-“means that despite some moments of focused discussion and insight, major gaps exist in the development of the argument or discussion.

An “F” means the individual needs to see me immediately.

Grades will be reduced a step (e.g. from B to a B-) for the two major assignments handed in after the start of class, and a full letter grade for any assignments 24 hours past due.

Assignments over 48 hours past due will be lowered two letter grades. Please make an appointment to speak with the instructor if an assignment is over 72 hours past due. Please note no absences are allowed due to the intensive nature of this class. Any student who misses a class should see the Course of Study Director immediately.

Final course grades are mailed to the student, GBHEM in Nashville and the student’s conference representative by September 30. Grades are not posted on-line.

Inclusive Language

In both oral and written contributions to the course, students are expected to be conscious of the power of language in theology. Inclusive language respects both gender and racial diversity, and students should demonstrate awareness that language about persons and God expresses values and impacts theological ideas in the details of race and gender connotations. Both gender and race are socially-constructed categories, and changing language is part of bringing justice to theological discourse.

Academic Policies

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all classes in their entirety. Faculty members have the authority to set attendance policies for courses and those policies will be included in the course syllabus. Deviation from the attendance policy may result in reduction of grade or loss of credit for the course.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is regarded as a serious offense and will result in substantial penalties, including the possibility of academic dismissal. The faculty regards the following as form of plagiarism or dishonesty:

- Copying from another student's paper.
- Giving or receiving unauthorized assistance to or from another student during an examination.
- Using unauthorized material during an examination.
- Borrowing or presenting as one's own (i.e. without proper attribution) the composition or ideas of another.

Please refer to your Wesley Student Handbook (on-line) for more information about Wesley's academic policies or contact the Course of Study office 202-885-8688.