Course of Study
Worship and Sacraments
Syllabus

I. Course Information

i. Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Anna Adams Petrin   Phone number: 202-664-5680
Office: TG-04   Email: apetrin@wesleyseminary.edu
                                          Note: **Email is the best way to contact me.**

ii. Course Description

Theological foundations, history, and practice of Christian worship with particular attention given to the sacraments and the liturgical calendar, ecumenical engagement, and the practice of liturgy in congregational life and faith.

iii. Course Objectives

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 rites of Christen 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. To provide students with the practical skills and to design and lead worship in their own contexts and opportunities to integrate these skills with their theological and historical knowledge.

iv. Text Books and Course Materials

1. Maxwell E. Johnson, *Images of Baptism*, Forum Essays 6 (Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, 2001).
2. Kimberly Bracken Long, *The Worshiping Body: The Art of Leading Worship* (Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 2009).
3. Laurence Hull Stookey, *Let the Whole Church Say Amen!: A Guide for Those Who Pray in Public* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2001).

4. Robin Knowles Wallace, *The Christian Year: A Guide for Worship and Preaching*, (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2001).
5. Other reading assignments will be posted to blackboard in .pdf format, and this is indicated by a **[BB]** sign in the course schedule. Students are requested to print and bring hard copies of the readings with them to class each day.

   v. Technical Requirements

   Microsoft Windows 7 or Higher
   - Windows 7, Windows 8, 8.1, or 10
   - Intel i3 or faster, CPU and at least 4 GB RAM
   - Up-to-date version of any PDF reader (Adobe or FoxIt)
   - Up-to-date version of Adobe Flash Player
   - Up-to-date version of Microsoft Windows Media Player (or other software that can play videos)
   - Microsoft Office 2013 or higher (sign up free for students here https://products.office.com/en-us/student/office-in-education)

   Mac OS/X
   - Mac OS X 10.11 or newer
   - Intel processor and at least 4 GB of RAM
   - Up-to-date version of any PDF reader (Adobe or FoxIt)
   - Up-to-date version of Adobe Flash Player (or see VLC below to play Adobe Flash FLV/F4V files)
   - Up-to-date word processor and presentation package (Mac Office 2016 – sign up to get free here https://products.office.com/en-us/student/office-in-education)
   - One of the following media players
     - VideoLAN VLC media player
     - Up To Date Quick Time

   Other Required Materials
   None.

II. Student Learning Outcomes & Course Requirements

Students will be introduced to the history and theology of Christian worship by (1) completing a set of readings each week surrounding a significant theme in Christian worship, (2) participating in a variety of worship experiences, (3) submitting weekly informal reading responses and two formal writing assignments related to worship participation and planning, (4) completing two pastoral-theological reflections, and (5) submitting two examinations in which students will be asked to demonstrate knowledge of the course material and to supply analysis of how the course material relates to their own worship context.

Course Requirements:
1. Reading Notes (Journals, Reading Quizzes) and Class Participation (25%)
2. Prayer Reflection (15%)
3. Sacraments Project (30%)
4. Final Examination (30%)

i.   Attendance & Class Participation (25%)

For each week of the course, students will be expected to complete the assigned reading and participate in reflection (both written and oral) in response to the reading. Prior to the in-person meetings of the course, students will be expected to complete two learning modules in preparation for our class time together. This will include assigned readings, journal entries, and reading quizzes. During the week of our class, students will be expected to turn in three sets of reading notes, as assigned in class.

Daily reading notes will be graded on a Pass/Fail basis. Students *must* turn in a hard copy of their answers at the beginning of class to receive a grade. Failure to do so will result in a failing grade on the assignment for that day. Otherwise, students will receive a failing grade only if their answers demonstrate repeated and clear ignorance of the reading.

Failing to attend class without notification to the instructor and a documented excused absence will result in a failing grade for the day. Following WTS policy more than three unexcused absences will result in failure of the course.

ii.   Prayer Reflection (15%)

Students will be expected to commit to a daily habit of prayer for the duration of the course and to submit a written reflection upon how this pattern of praying related to their worship leadership and/or participation during the week following our in-class meeting.

iii.   Sacraments Project (30%)

Students will be expected to compose one 6-8 page paper responding to the Sacraments module of the class. A formal assignment will be distributed in person and via blackboard at the beginning of the course.

vi.   Take Home Final Examination (30%)

This will take place during the final exam period. Students will be tested on what they have learned during the course of the semester, with a focus on the material covered during the second half of the semester. A detailed study guide will be distributed not less than two weeks before the examination. The examination will be completed on blackboard and due during the week following our in-class meeting.

III. Submission of Work & Grading

i. *Late Work*

Assignments are expected to be submitted at the beginning of class on the assigned due date, unless the student has pre-arranged an exception with the professor. One-third of a letter grade will be subtracted for each day an assignment is late (*i.e. An assignment that earns a B letter grade, will receive a B- after one day, a C+ after a second day, and a C after a third day.*)

ii. *Viewing grades*

All assignments will be graded either on hard copy or by blackboard and returned to students in a timely manner.

iii. *Grading Scale*

93 – 100 = A (Excellent/Outstanding)
90 – 92 = A- (Outstanding)
88 – 89 = B+ (Very Good)
83 – 87 = B (Good)
80 – 82 = B- (Adequate)
78 – 79 = C+ (Adequate)
73 – 77 = C (Adequate)
70 – 72 = C- (Substandard)
69-0= F (Failing)

IV. Course Policies

i. *Expectations*
1. Students are expected to learn how to navigate Blackboard, including
    a. Finding and downloading reading assignments that are posted online, and
    b. Attending to course announcements.
2. Students are expected to address technical problems as soon as possible, either by contacting the professor for course questions or by contacting OIT to solve technical problems.
3. Students are expected to contribute to a classroom environment of civility and collegiality by
    a. Listening to the professor and colleagues attentively and with charity,
    b. Offering thoughtful contributions in charity and with civility, and
    c. Meditating and reflecting on points of difference with one another in order to
    d. *Come to an awareness of and an appreciation for how the differences between individuals and Christian traditions contribute to the advancement of the mission of God in the world.*

ii. *Inclusive Language Policy*

Bearing in mind that language reflects, reinforces, and creates social reality, the Seminary expects class conversation and written work to employ language that respects the equal dignity and worth of all human beings. In particular, linguistic sexism and racism are to be avoided. (WTS Student Handbook, 85.)

iii. *Weather Policy*

If the Seminary is open, we will have class. If the Seminary is closed, class is cancelled. If the Seminary is closed, there will be an announcement on the Wesley web site as well as a recorded message at the main switchboard number: 202-885-8600. I will also send the class an email via Blackboard, which uses your Wesley email address.

iv. *Accommodations/Disability Support*

Once admitted to Wesley, students needing accommodations must communicate with the Associate Dean for Community Life. Students will submit to the Office of Community Life relevant, current documentation from a qualified professional, which will be evaluated by a consultant with a degree in special education. All accommodations for classes are made by the Office of Community life on behalf of the student. Please see our page on Disability Accommodations for more information.

v. *Academic Honesty & Integrity Policy*

Wesley Theological Seminary considers plagiarism as a serious offense which will result in substantial penalties, including the possibility of academic dismissal. Students are expected to comply with all standards for academic honesty and integrity, both of the seminary and of the classes in which students are enrolled. The seminary regards the following as forms of plagiarism or academic dishonesty:

- copying from another student's work;
- giving or receiving unauthorized assistance to or from another student during an examination;
- using unauthorized material during an examination;
- presenting as one's own (i.e., without proper attribution) the composition or ideas of another;
- copying material from any sources, whether print or online.

All work submitted must be the work of the student submitting. Work from other sources must be thoroughly paraphrased or indicated as a direct quotation. In either case, the source of the material must be cited. Students are referred to the most current edition of Kate Turabian's *Manual for Writers of Research Papers* for instructions on source citations.

Furthermore, the mutilation, defacement, or stealing of library materials are also considered forms of academic dishonesty and a violation of the seminary's *Covenant of Professional Ethics and Behavior* (see "Use of Property") and are also subject to disciplinary action.

In questions of academic dishonesty, the professor will report the circumstances of the case to the Dean. In first instances of proven plagiarism or dishonesty, the student will receive a "Fail" grade for the course. Second instances will result in automatic separation from the Seminary. Please see the Wesley Theological Seminary Catalog for further details.

vi. Children in Class

Currently, the Seminary does not have a formal policy on children in the classroom. The policy described here is just a reflection of my own beliefs and commitment to student, staff, and faculty parents:

1. All breastfeeding babies are welcome in class as often as necessary;
2. For older children and infants, I understand that unforeseen disruptions in childcare often put parents in the position of having to miss class to stay home with a child. While this is not meant to be a long-term childcare solution, occasionally bringing a child to class in order to cover gaps in care is perfectly acceptable;
3. I ask that all students work with me to create a welcoming environment that is respectful of all forms of diversity, including diversity in parenting status;
4. In all cases where infants and children come to class, I ask that you sit close to the door so that if your small person needs special attention and is disrupting the learning environment, you may step outside until their needs have been met;
5. Finally, I understand that often the largest barrier in completing your coursework once you become a parent is the tiredness many parents feel in the evening once children have gone to sleep. While I maintain the same high expectations for all students in my classes regardless of parenting status, I am happy to problem-solve with you in a way that makes you feel supported as you strive to navigate your many competing demands.

vii. SafeAssign

You may be asked to submit one or more of your writing assignments to Blackboard's SafeAssign plagiarism prevention service. Assignment content will be checked against Internet sources, academic journal articles, and the papers of other Wesley Theological Seminary students for common or borrowed content. SafeAssign generates a report that highlights any potentially unoriginal text in the submitted paper. The report may be submitted directly to the instructor or the instructor may elect to have students submit initial drafts through SafeAssign so that you will receive the report allowing the opportunity to adjust and ensure that all source material has been properly cited.

viii.   Blackboard Administration

Blackboard Learn automatically records all student and faculty activities including: the first and last access to the course, the pages accessed, the number of discussion messages read and sent, chat room discussion text, and posted discussion topics. This data can be accessed

by the instructor to evaluate class participation and to identify participants having difficulty, or to verify academic honesty.

Courses will be unavailable to students two months after the course has ended. Please be sure to save any course material, content, or readings prior to the course completion. If you need the course after it has become unavailable, you must contact the instructor.

ix. Technical Support
Students must attempt to solve technical problems and contact their instructor when technical problems do arise.
If you experience technical problems, please exercise one or all of the following options:
- [Blackboard Training Materials](#)
- Call Blackboard Support at (202) 885-6091
- Email Blackboard Support at edtech@wesleyseminary.edu

If you have lost your password, or have a problem that is not specifically Blackboard related, please contact Solutionworx at support@solutionworx.com or by phone at (703) 961-1840

V. Other Resources

i. Library
Library hours can be found here: https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/library/hours/.
Information on access the library databases from off campus can be found here: https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/library/.

ii. Writing Center:
The Seminary Writing Center can be found here:
https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/community-life/academic-and-access-support/writing-center/

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VI. Course Schedule

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(1) Pre-Course Work

Week I: Introduction: The Study of the Liturgical Worship

Read:
- Frank Senn, "The Repetoire of Rites," in *Christian Liturgy*. **[BB]**
- Kimberly Bracken Long, "Called Out from the Body," "The Embodied Nature of Worship," and "Heart" from *The Worshiping Body*, pp. 1-34; 111-119.

Week 2: Formation for Liturgical Prayer: History, Theology, and Ritual

Read:
- Don E. Saliers, "Liturgy as Prayer," in *Worship as Theology*, 85-138. **[BB]**
- Laurence Hull Stookey, *Let the Whole Church Say Amen*, 11-33.
- Melanie Ross, *Evangelical versus Liturgical? Defying a Dichotomy*, 1-32. **[BB]**
- Watch: "The Paschal Mystery" **[BB]**

(2) Daily Course Meetings

Day 1: Christian Year & Liturgical Prayer
Read:
- Adolf Adam, "Cosmic Time and Human Life" and "Sunday as the Original Celebration of the Paschal Mystery," in *The Liturgical Year*, 1-4 and 35-56. **[BB]**
- Robin Knowles Wallace, *The Christian Year*, chs. 1 & 4 **[BB]**
- Paul F. Bradshaw, "Whatever Happened to Daily Prayer?" 10-23. **[BB]**

Day 2: Rites of Christian Initiation
- Maxwell E. Johnson, *Images of Baptism*, Chs. 1-2.

- Laurence Hull Stookey, *Let the Whole Church Say Amen*, *selected pages*.

Day 3: The Lord's Supper
- Georgia Frank, 'Taste and See': The Eucharist and the Eyes of Faith in the Fourth Century," 619-643. **[BB]**

Suggested, not assigned:
> Jerome Murphy-O'Connor, "Eucharist in First Corinthians," in *Living Bread, Saving Cup*, ed. Kevin Seasoltz, 1-29. **[BB]**
> Hans Boersma, "The Eucharist Makes the Church."**[BB]**

Day 4: Liturgies of Life
- Richard Rutherford with Tony Barr, "Origins" in *The Death of a Christian: The Order of Christian Funerals*, 3-20. **[BB]**
- Service of Christian Burial from the *BOW*
- Kimberly Bracken Long, *From This Day Forward*, 1-40. **[BB]**
- Service of Christian Marriage from the *BOW*

Day 5: Liturgical Ethics / Modern Liturgical Celebration
Read:
- Don E. Saliers, "Liturgy and Ethics: Some New Beginnings," in *Liturgy and the Moral Self*, 15-38. **[BB]**
- Maxwell E. Johnson, "Can We Avoid Relativism in Worship?: Liturgical Norms in Light of Contemporary Liturgical Scholarship," 135-154. **[BB]**

Suggested, not required:
> John D. Witvliet, "Making Good Choices in an Era of Liturgical Change," in *Worship Seeking Understanding*, 269-278. **[BB]**

Post-Course Work: Please complete the final exam, found on blackboard by 5:00 pm on the Friday one week from the last day of class.