
Course of Study Worship and Sacraments Syllabus

I. Course Information

i. Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Anna Adams Petrin
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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 prepare for leadership in those liturgies.
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. 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

- Facility with the zoom online meeting format.

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 surrounding significant themes in Christian worship, (2) participating in discussion surrounding those readings (3) submitting informal reading responses and two formal writing assignments related to worship participation and planning.

Course Requirements:

1. Reading Notes (Journals, Reading Quizzes) and Class Participation (30%)
2. Patterns of Prayer Paper (30%) **Due Tuesday, July 20**
3. Sacraments Project (40%) **Due Friday, July 23**

i. Attendance & Class Participation (30%)

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 zoom meetings of the course, students will be expected to complete three learning modules in preparation for our class time together. Each module will include one journal entry (1p) engaging with the reading and materials related to that module. During the week of our class, students will be expected to turn in daily reading journals via blackboard each day of the meeting week, beginning on Tuesday (7/20, 7/21, 7/22, 7/23).

Failing to attend zoom meeting times 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. Patterns of Prayer Paper (30%)

Students will be expected to compose a shorter (6-8 page) paper on patterns of prayer and the liturgical year based on the pre-course modules. **Due Tuesday, July 20.**

iii. Sacraments Project (40%)

Students will be expected to compose one paper (8-10 page) responding to the Sacraments modules of the class. A formal assignment will be distributed in person and via blackboard at the beginning of the course. **Due Friday, July 23.**

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. 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.

vii. 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/>.

VI. Course Schedule

(1) Pre-Course Work

Week I: Introduction: The Study of the Liturgical Worship

Suggested May 24-28

Read:

- James K. A. Smith, "You Are What You Love" in *You Are What You Love: The Spiritual Power of Habit*, 1-25. **[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.

Write:

Journal reflection of 1-page due June 25.

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

Suggested: May 31- June 4

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]**

Write:

Journal reflection of 1-page due June 25.

Weeks 3-4: Christian Year & Liturgical Prayer

Suggested: June 7-11 & June 14-18

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]

Write:

Journal reflection of 2-pages due June 25.

(2) Daily Course Meetings

We will meet each morning (10-11:45) via zoom during the week of July 19-23. Further instructions about daily course work and modules will be given during our opening zoom meeting.

Day 1: Review and Discussion of Modules 1-3

Day 2: Rites of Christian Initiation

Read:

- Maxwell E. Johnson, *Images of Baptism*, Chs. 1-2.
- Laurence Hull Stookey, *Let the Whole Church Say Amen*, selected pages.

DUE: Patterns of Prayer Paper due by 11:59 pm.

Day 3: The Lord's Supper

Read:

- 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

Read:

- 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]

DUE: Sacraments Paper due by 11:59 pm.