



AMBROSE
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

PT601 Theology and Practice of Worship (3)

Fall 2012

Ambrose Seminary

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Course Description

This course will expose students to the various traditions of Christian worship; provide them with a biblical, theological, and philosophical framework for the evaluation of the theory and practice of these traditions; and thereby enable them to develop a clear understanding of the nature and practice of corporate worship. It will also give students experience in evaluating, planning, and leading services of worship.

Course Objectives

As a result of this course the student will

1. have a basic knowledge of biblical, theological, historical and philosophical aspects of worship.
2. understand how worship related to the overall mission and ministry of the church.
3. understand critically evaluate and appreciate worship styles that represent traditions or preferences different from their own.
4. appreciate the impact of environmental factors on the experience of worship.
5. demonstrate discernment and skill in planning and participation in leadership of a worship service.
6. articulate a grounded theology of worship.

Required Texts

Torrance, J. *Worship, Community and the Triune God of Grace*. Downer's grove: IVP 1996

Webber, R. *Worship Old and New*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan.

Recommended Texts

Basden, Paul. *The Worship Maze: Finding a Style to Fit Your Church*. Downer's grove: IVP. 1999

Engle, Paul E. ed., *Exploring the Worship Spectrum: 6 Views*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan. 2004

Forrester, D, and J. I. MacDonald and Gian Tellini. *Encounter With God: An Introduction to Christian Worship and Practice*. Edinburgh: T.&T. Clark, 1999.

Liesch, Barry. *The New Worship: Straight Talk on Music and the Church*. Grand Rapids: Baker. 1996

Long, Thomas G. *Beyond the Worship Wars: Building Vital and Faithful Worship*. The Alban Institute, 2002.

Morgenthaller, Sally. *Worship Evangelism: Inviting Believers into the Presence of God*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.

Peterson, David. *Engaging With God: A Biblical Theology of Worship*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1992

Redman, Robb. *The Great Worship Awakening: Singing a New Song in the Postmodern Church*. San Francisco: Jossey Bass. 2002

Saliers, Don. *Worship as Theology: Foretaste of Glory Divine*, Nashville: Abingdon. 1994

Schmidt, Clayton J. *A Theology of Liturgical Expression*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox. 2002

Segler, Frank M. *Christian Worship: Its Theology and Practice*. Nashville: Broadman. 1967



Webber, Robt. E. *Worship Old and New*. Revised Ed. Grand rapids: Zondervan. 1994

Weil, Louis. *A Theology of Worship*. Cambridge: Cowley. 2002

Willimon, William. *The Service of God: How Worship and Ethics are Related*. Abingdon: Nashville. 1983

Supplemental bibliography will be on reserve in the library. Students are encouraged to review the selections for their reading requirements.

Course Requirements

Students are expected to attend all classes in their entirety.

1. *Reading*: Students will read the required texts and will write response papers (one page each) to the chapters assigned each week. **Due: weekly**
2. *Reading*: In addition students will read 800 pages from the reading list and submit a 3 page report on each reading. The report will major (2 pages) on how the reading has affected or changed the student's theology and/or practice of worship. **Due: Oct. 24**
3. *Worship Spectrum Assignment*: Students will attend a worship service that is different from their own usual worship experience and conforms substantially to one of the worship forms discussed in *Exploring the Worship Spectrum, 6 Views*. Students will submit a 4 page critique and evaluation of that service using a format which will be supplied in class. **Due: Nov.6**
4. *Historical Worship Service*: Students will participate in a group experience of leadership, presentation and evaluation of an historic worship service as described and discussed in class. Evaluation will consist of group, class and professorial components. **Due: as assigned**
5. *Paper*: Students will prepare and submit a paper of not less than ten pages on the theme, "What is Christian Worship?" using a format to be presented in class. **Due: Dec.4** **OR**
Worship Service Planning and Design: Students will prepare a complete service suitable for use in a local church using a design and reporting format to be presented in class. **Due: Dec.4**

Course Assessment

Text Reading:	20%
Additional reading	15%
Spectrum Assignment	25%
In class Worship Service	20%
Worship design or paper	20%

Tentative Worship Chapel Dates

March
March
March
April