

**MUWM5306 MUSIC THEORY FOR WORSHIP LEADERS**  
**New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary**

**Disclaimer:** This syllabus is intended to give the student a general idea of the content, format, and textbooks used for this class. The professor will submit a full syllabus at the beginning of the class which will contain a course schedule and the instructor's information.

**Mission Statement of The Seminary**

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.

**Mission Statement of The Division Of Church Music**

Developing excellence in Kingdom-minded music and worship leaders.

**NOBTS Core Purpose, Core Values, And Curriculum Competencies Addressed**

The purpose of the course is to carry out the mission of NOBTS as is reflected through the following core values and core competencies:

**Core Values**

1. Characteristic Excellence - The course expects to help the student to become more effective in musical leadership in his or her church by addressing the need for skill in music theory.
2. Spiritual Vitality - The course will encourage the worship leader to strengthen his or her devotional life through attention to the discipline of service.
3. Servant Leadership - A comprehension of the knowledge base presented through this course will enable the student to serve in his or her context more effectively as a musical facilitator of congregational worship experiences.

**Core Competencies**

1. Servant Leadership - The students will reflect on her or his role as a servant leader in facilitating worship in the local congregation.
2. Worship Leadership - Most obviously, the student will be challenged in learning to apply skills in music theory to the context of planning and leading musical worship within her or his local congregation.

**Course Description**

This course is designed to give the musical worship leader a basic knowledge of the fundamentals of music, with an emphasis on the kinds of music currently used in worship gatherings. Attention will be given to note reading, chord structure, chord symbol recognition, etc. There are no prerequisites for this course.

**Objectives**

1. To develop a basic understanding of how music is structured.
2. To develop the skill of note reading.
3. To develop a basic understanding of intervals, scales, and chords.
4. To develop the ability to read modern chord symbols with understanding.
5. To develop a basic understanding of arranging.

## **Course Methodology**

1. Weekly guided assignments in Blackboard throughout the semester.
2. Online exercises and drills.

## **Course Requirements**

1. Satisfactory completion of weekly assignments (learning modules) with individual student progress reports turned in.
2. Satisfactory completion of sectional quizzes (refer to course calendar).
3. Satisfactory completion of a hymn arrangement (melody and chord symbols) according to the guidelines provided by the instructor during the course.
4. Satisfactory completion of the final exam.

## **Grade Breakdown**

Weekly online learning assignments 20%

Sectional Quizzes (4) 40%

Participation in Wiki 10%

Original hymn arrangement 10%

Final Exam 20%

## **Textbook**

Bowersox, Steve. *The New Worship Musician's Theory Book*. Bowersox Institute of Music, 2007.

## **Netiquette Statement on Appropriate Online Behavior**

Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online on the Discussion Board. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity will be expected at all times in the online environment.