

NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Division of Church Music Ministries

MUWM5201-01/5201-80 Advanced Readings in Worship
Spring Semester, 2015
(Semester Hybrid Workshop)

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Workshop Dates: Fri, Feb 27 –8:00AM-Noon; 1:00PM-2:30PM
Fri, May 1 –8:00AM -Noon

SYLLABUS

NOBTS Mission Statement: 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.

Division of Church Music Mission Statement: Developing excellence in Kingdom-minded music and worship leaders.

NOBTS Core Purpose, Core Values, and Curriculum Competencies Addressed

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

Core Values

1. *Doctrinal Integrity*- “Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it.” In this course, the emphasis will be on acquiring greater understanding of the Biblical teaching regarding worship.
2. *Characteristic Excellence* – “What we do, we do to the utmost of our abilities and resources as a testimony to the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” This course seeks to encourage each student to offer her/his very best in planning and leading God’s people in corporate worship gatherings.
3. *Spiritual Vitality* – “We are a worshipping community emphasizing both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary family for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word.” (The Seminary’s core value emphasis for the 2014-15 academic year) – This course aims to encourage students toward an ever-deepening personal relationship with Jesus Christ and the pursuit of worship as a way of life.
4. *Servant Leadership* – “We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us.” The content of this course should enhance the student’s understanding of worship ministry as a context in which s/he can selflessly serve Christ and His Church.

Core Competencies

1. *Servant Leadership* - see above
2. *Disciple Making*- discovering new ways to stimulate church health through a deeper understanding of worship ministry in the local church.

3. *Worship Leadership* –discovering new areas for personal growth as a worship leader in the local church and as a personal worshiper of Christ.

Course Description:

This course provides students with an integrated learning experience that focuses on reading foundational and current works on worship trends, aesthetics, the arts, evangelism, ethics, etc. Selected texts will assist students in deepening their understanding of biblical worship and in developing a balanced, holistic approach to worship practice.

Student Learning Outcomes:

At the conclusion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Understand foundational ideas regarding the ministry of worship as presented in some of the key resources within the field.
2. Through written reflection and discussions with peers, apply foundational ideas about worship within the local church context.
3. Articulate a knowledgeable evaluation of principle ideas presented in the reading materials selected for the course.

Methodology:

1. Selected text readings and book reviews.
2. Student-led discussion of relevant themes arising from the chosen texts.
3. Intensive class-room workshops focusing on peer-led discussion of assigned materials.

Textbooks:

Required for everyone:

- Best, Harold. *Unceasing Worship: Biblical Perspectives on Worship and the Arts*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity Press, 2003.
- Kauflin, Bob. *Worship Matters: Leading Others to Encounter the Greatness of God*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 2008.
- Woods, Robert and Brian Walrath (eds.) *The Message in the Music: Studying Contemporary Praise and Worship*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2007.

Also, choose one from this list:

- Beal, G. K. *We Become What We Worship: A Biblical Theology of Idolatry*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity Press, 2008.
- Chapell, Bryan. *Christ-Centered Worship: Letting the Gospel Shape Our Practice*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2009.
- Cosper, Mike. *Rhythms of Grace: How the Church's Worship Tells the Story of the Gospel*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 2013.
- Parry, Robin. *Worshipping Trinity: Coming Back to the Heart of Worship*. Waynesboro, GA: Paternoster Press, 2005.
- York, Terry and C. David Bolin. *The Voice of Our Congregation: Seeking and Celebrating God's Song for Us*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2005.

Course Requirements:

1. Each student must enroll in the course in Blackboard (www.nobts.edu) and regularly check the announcements and assignments for the course.
2. A formal book review will be written for each of the three required texts and the one individually assigned text (total of four texts). Each paper will be a minimum of 1500 words (approximately 6 pages, not including the header pages), double-spaced, using Times New Roman 12-point font. Any sources cited must be according to the standards of Turabian. The paper should seek to answer the following questions: What was the author's intended purpose of this book? How well was this purpose accomplished in the work? What were some of the strengths of the book? Were there any weaknesses? Conclude with a few ideas encountered in this book which may help you become more effective as a leader in the area of worship ministry. Format must include a cover page, bibliographic entry, and body of paper. Papers must be submitted in the appropriate folder in the Blackboard course shell. (www.nobts.edu). **Due dates are listed below in the course schedule.** A penalty is assessed for late work, and will not be accepted two weeks past the published due date.
3. Students are expected to stay up to date on the weekly reading and participate in the discussion forums as posted. Attendance at the intensive workshops is mandatory. During the workshops, each student will be prepared to collaborate with others to lead the group in discussion of prominent themes of the texts as assigned. Assignments for discussion leadership will be made by the professor early in the semester and posted on Blackboard. Guidelines for guiding the group discussion will be made available to the student several weeks prior to the workshop.
4. The workshops will be held **Fri, Feb 27, 8AM to Noon, and 1:00PM to 2:30PM; and Fri, May 1, 8Am to Noon, 2015**. Meetings will be held on campus of NOBTS and CIV to North Georgia.

Course Evaluation:

The grading scale will be according to those outlined in the current edition of the *NOBTS Academic Catalog*.

Four (4) book reviews (15% each)	60%
Blackboard Discussion Forum participation	20%
Workshop Presentations (2) on individually-assigned works	20%

Course Schedule:

Week	Text	Reading Assignment/Chaps	Assignment(s) due:
Jan 19	Begin reading <i>Worship Matters</i> (due at time of first workshop (Feb 27))		Syllabus Overview
Jan 26	<i>Worship Matters</i>	Kauflin, Ch 1-7	Forum Discussion
Feb 2	<i>Worship Matters</i>	Kauflin, Ch 8-13	Forum Discussion
Feb 9	<i>Worship Matters</i>	Kauflin, Ch 14-22	Forum Discussion
Feb 16	<i>Worship Matters</i> <i>Unceasing Worship</i>	Kauflin, Ch 23-32 Best, Ch 1-3	Forum discussion
Feb 23	<i>Unceasing Worship</i>	Best, Ch 4-6	Workshop, Fri, Feb 27 8:00AM to Noon and 1:00PM to 2:30PM Book review due at time of workshop on <i>Worship Matters</i>
Mar 2	<i>Unceasing Worship</i>	Best, Ch 7-9	Forum discussion
Mar 9	<i>Unceasing Worship</i>	Best, Ch 10-12	Forum discussion
Mar 16	<i>Unceasing Worship</i>	Best, Ch 13-14	Forum discussion Book review on <i>Unceasing Worship</i> due on Fri, Mar 20
Mar 23	<i>SPRING BREAK</i>		
Mar 30	<i>The Message in the Music</i>	Woods & Walrath, Intro, Ch 1-2	Forum discussion
Apr 6	<i>The Message in the Music</i>	Woods & Walrath, Ch 3-5	Forum discussion
Apr 13	<i>The Message in the Music</i>	Woods & Walrath, Ch 6-8	Forum discussion
April 20	<i>The Message in the Music</i>	Woods & Walrath, Ch 9-10, Conclusion	Forum discussion Book review on <i>The Message in the Music</i> due on Fri, Apr 24
Apr 27	Individual choice book		Workshop Fri, May 1 8:00AM to Noon Book review on <i>individual book</i> due on Fri, May 1
	Final Exam period		

Bibliography:

- Beal, G. K. *We Become What We Worship: A Biblical Theology of Idolatry*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity Press, 2008.
- Best, Harold. *Unceasing Worship: Biblical Perspectives on Worship and the Arts*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity Press, 2003.
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