

WESTERN SEMINARY - SACRAMENTO

Introduction to the Theology and Practice of Worship

DMS 502MN: 2 Credit Hours, "In - Ministry" format

Dan Kimball, M.A.

Adjunct Professor

dan@vintagefaith.com

Andrew Matzke, M.A.

Teaching Assistant

andy@sunriverchurch.com

SYLLABUS – FALL 2009

Sept 7 – Dec 18

COURSE SCHEDULE

October 14-16 (Wed 1-5pm, Thurs-Fri 8am-5pm)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

DMS 502 – The biblical concept of worship and the appropriate utilization of music in its public forms. Identifies the conditions, qualities, and ingredients that most enhance the integrity and meaningfulness of public worship. 2 hours.

COURSE CONTRIBUTION TO STATED DEGREE OUTCOMES

The objectives of this course are tied directly to the desired outcomes constructed specifically for the degree for which this course is a requirement. Below are the formal degree outcomes which this class supports:

BE A PERSON whose Christ-like character is worthy of being emulated, and whose integrity imparts credibility to his/her ministry.

- reflects biblical balance and skill in life management, appropriately fulfilling the roles and responsibilities mandated by God; (MFM 500; SFS 501, SFS 502; overarching)

BE ABLE TO think biblically and critically so that various truth claims can be effectively evaluated.

- has embraced a biblical world view; (THS 501, THS 502, THS 503, THS 508; overarching)
- able to apply the basic elements of critical analysis and sound reasoning; (MFM 500; overarching)
- sensitive to cultural variations in styles of thinking; (overarching)

- reflects an appropriately humble and charitable spirit in applying biblical criteria for truth. (overarching)

BE A true life-long learner, building upon his/her seminary training.

- committed to pursuing growth and learning in key areas of need; (MFM 500, overarching)
- able to access and manage information (including that available via computer/online resources) so that it is readily available when needed. (overarching)

As a result of taking this course, students will:

- Demonstrate a more thorough grasp of the theological basis and rationale for Christian worship.
- Possess a more thorough knowledge of the history of various worship practices throughout church history.
- Look at some of the current trends in worship and how these trends impact their own congregations and denominations.
- Demonstrate increased knowledge regarding how churches plan and prepare their weekly worship gatherings.

TEXTBOOKS

Please support your seminary by using the following link for all your Amazon purchases – a minimum of 4% comes to Western Seminary. Click [here](#) to order texts and other products.

Required Texts:

Best, Harold M. *Unceasing Worship: Biblical Perspectives on Worship and the Arts*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2004. ISBN: 0830832297

Drury, Keith. *The Wonder of Worship: Why We Worship the Way We Do*. Indianapolis, IN: Wesleyan Publishing House, 2004. ISBN: 0898272432

Kimball, Dan. *Emerging Worship: Creating Worship Gatherings For New Generations*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 2004. ISBN: 0310256445

Webber, Robert E. *Worship: Old and New*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1994. ISBN: 0310479908

White, James. *A Brief History of Christian Worship*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1993. ISBN: 0687034140

Recommended Texts:

Baker, Jonny and Doug Gay. *Alternative Worship: Resources from and for the Emerging Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2004.

Costen, Melva Wilson. *African American Christian Worship*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1993.

Dawn, Marva J. *Reaching Out Without Dumbing Down: A Theology of Worship for the Turn-of-the-Century Culture*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995.

Engle, Paul (editor) and Baston, Paul (editor). *Exploring the Worship Spectrum: Six Views*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2004.

Ford, Marcia, *Traditions of the Ancients: Vintage Faith Practices for the 21st Century*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2006.

Smith, Efrem. *The Hip-Hop Church: Connecting With the Movement Shaping Our Culture*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2006.

Wainwright, Geoffrey and Tucker, Karen B. Westerfield. *The Oxford History of Christian Worship*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2005.

Webber, Robert E. *Worship is a Verb: Eight Principles for Transforming Worship*. Peabody, Massachusetts: Hendrickson Publishers, Inc., 1992.

White, James. *Introduction to Christian Worship*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2000.

Willimon, William. *Word, Water, Wine and Bread: How Worship Has Changed Over The Years*. Valley Forge, PA: Judson Press, 1980.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND DUE DATES

DATE	CLASS MEETING	ASSIGNMENTS DUE
Oct. 14	1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	The following assignments are due to the Teaching Assistant's email server by 1 pm (No hardcopies accepted): <i>Unceasing Worship</i> Book Report <i>A Brief History of Christian Worship</i> Book Report <i>Emerging Worship</i> Book Report One Worship Gathering Report
Oct. 15	8:00 am – 5:00 pm	None
Oct. 16	8:00 am – 5:00 pm	None
Dec. 18	No Class Meeting	The following assignments are due to the Teaching Assistant's email server by 5 pm (No hardcopies accepted): <i>The Wonder of Worship</i> Book Report <i>Worship: Old & New</i> Book Report Two Worship Gathering Reports Interview with Worship Leader Report Reflection Paper

Note that there are only two different deadline dates among all the assignments, the beginning of the first class session, and 5pm of the last day of the term (Oct. 14 and Dec. 18 respectively). All work is to be turned into the teaching assistant by email. Hardcopies brought to class are not forwardable to the TA and are not considered turned in.

This course consists of the following assignments that are designed to help students achieve the objectives stated above.

- ***Book Reports***

Submit a 2-page book report as you finish each book. You will submit book reports at the end of each book's reading. The 2-page report should include a one-page summary of what the book was about overall. Then write an additional page on what you agreed with, what you disagreed with and what you learned that you did not realize before reading the book.

Three of the book reports are due and are to be turned in to the Teaching Assistant's email server by the beginning of the first class session (Oct. 14). The remaining two are due and are to be turned in to the Teaching Assistant's email server by 5pm of the last day of the term (Dec. 18). Any written work brought to class is not considered turned in.

- ***Worship Gathering***

Visit three worship services and write a two-page report on each one. You will visit three Christian worship services (one can be a report on your own church). Each should be distinctly different from the others. One could be more "traditional", one could be more "contemporary", one could be more "emerging", one could be "Greek Orthodox" etc. The choice is yours as to which three worship gatherings you go to. If visiting other churches becomes difficult - because you are on staff at a church where you are required to be present every Sunday - you can try to go to a Sunday night, or Saturday night gathering which shouldn't be too hard to find. When the class meets we will have some sharing on these reports from students. You will write two-page reports for each experience.

One of the worship gathering reports is due and is to be turned in to the Teaching Assistant's email server by the beginning of the first class session (Oct. 14). The remainder are due and are to be turned in to the Teaching Assistant's email server by 5pm of the final day of the term (Dec. 18). Do not attempt to turn assignments in at class—they will not be accepted.

Answer the following questions:

1. What type of service is it (Denominational? Liturgical? Traditional? Contemporary? etc.)

2. Write out a basic outline of what happened during the worship gathering. Briefly describe:
 - a. What happened at each part of the gathering? What was the order of the service?
 - b. Which elements of the gathering had Scriptural origins for what they did *and* which were elements that were developed by the church throughout church history? If you can trace them, when did the church (not just the local church, but the historical church throughout history) begin to do what they did? (for example, approx. when did the church start using PowerPoint for the church to read lyrics, or when did communion begin being served in the manner in which it was served, or when did the church begin using organ music, etc.)
 - c. How did you observe “worship” occurring? Could you sense that the people there were worshipping? How or how not? (Worship is a heart issue, so many people may be worshipping but not expressing it too much, which doesn’t mean they aren’t worshipping.)
 - d. What did you find distracting or would you change in order to make the gathering more successful in terms of effecting worship in the genre that the church worshiped in?
 - e. What did you like or resonate with that you don’t normally do in the worship gathering you are part of at your church?
 - f. Describe the worship meeting place. How was the seating set up, what was the environment like décor-wise? How did the set up of the room influence the worship gathering itself?

- ***Interview with a Worship Leader***

Interview a worship leader or pastor who leads worship and do a written report. This must be from a church other than your own, and can be one of the churches that you visit. You will interview a worship leader or pastor whose regular responsibilities include the leading of worship. Write a two-page report on the interview.

The interview report is due and is to be turned in to the Teaching Assistant’s email server by 5pm of the last day of the term (Dec. 18).

The interview and written report should address, but not necessarily be limited to, the following questions asked of the leader:

1. How do you define worship?
2. What specific goals and objectives do you have for the church as you lead worship?
3. How do you go about planning for worship, both in terms of long-range planning and weekly planning?
4. How do you review the weekly gatherings? What do you look for in terms of evaluating?

5. Are you thinking of any specific age-group or style as you plan out the worship?
6. Why do you do each of the elements you have in the gathering? Are they the church's tradition, did you begin adding them, etc.?
7. If worship is holistic and involves all the senses, how do you plan out worship that involves various senses? Which senses are involved?
8. If you could change anything about the way your church worships on Sunday, what would it be?
9. What piece of advice would you give to a seminary student regarding the planning and leading of worship?

- ***Reflection Paper***

Write a 1,500- to 2,000-word reflection paper. You will write a reflection paper in which you explore your own theology and practice of worship.

It is due and to be turned in to be turned in to the Teaching Assistant's email server by 5pm of the last day of the term (Dec. 18).

Addressing the following questions:

1. What is your understanding of Christian worship? (Provide scriptural references where appropriate.)
2. Which worship model do you find most appealing?
3. What strengths and weaknesses (i.e. actual or potential benefits and liabilities) do you perceive with this worship model?
4. With the worship model you prefer, how much is based from Scripture and how much is based from the church developing the specific elements?
5. How specifically do you envision yourself being involved in the practice of worship?
6. What did you find most helpful in this course with regard to the theology and practice of worship? What would you suggest I change to make it better?

GRADING VALUES OF EACH ASSIGNMENT

Required Reading /Book Reports:	35%
Three Worship Services/Reports:	20
Interview and Report:	15
Reflection Paper:	30

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-
99-100%	95-98%	93-94%	91-92%	88-90%	86-87%	84-85%	81-83%	79-80%	77-78%	74-76%	70-73%

READING ASSIGNMENTS SCHEDULE

Prior to first class session: Read the following, write a two-page [Book Report](#) due at the beginning of the first class session.

Unceasing Worship
A Brief History of Christian Worship
Emerging Worship

Due by the end of the semester, Dec. 18: Read the following, write a two-page [Book Report](#) due by 5 pm of the last day of the term (Dec. 18).

The Wonder of Worship
Worship: Old and New

STANDARDS FOR WRITTEN WORK (MLA)

To help us identify your work, please use the following naming convention to name your files: DMS502MN_Lastname_Assignmentname (e.g. DMS502MN_Smith_UnceasingWorshipBookReport)

Papers must be written to a near-thesis standard. That is, minimum format standards must be met, as defined below. English grammar, idiom, and spelling must be up to graduate level. Always include a strong introduction paragraph (declare what you intend to show the reader) and conclusion paragraph. Qualities valued include clarity, succinctness, and precision.

This course employs the MLA (Modern Language Association) style guide. The basic elements are:

- Double-spacing, except for block quotes
- Single space block quotes
- Page numbers appear at the upper right on every text page
- Use footnotes or parenthetical citations.
- Footnotes and parenthetical references follow standard format.

Helpful web sites on MLA style include:

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>
<http://www.cws.illinois.edu/workshop/writers/citation/>

These websites are expanded and pasted into Western Seminary's "How to Write a Research Paper" located at <http://www.westernseminary.edu/papers/Faculty/WGuideNu.doc>

A good website with footnote/bibliography entries is:
<http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/Documentation.html>

For assignments that require the use of non-course texts and include a bibliography, of the resources mentioned in the bibliography for your project/paper, two must be from a physical library. Note the physical location of each book as an addendum to each bibliographical entry.

All work must reflect master's level use of the English language. Plagiarism will result in failure of assignment.

GRADING

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-
99-100%	95-98%	93-94%	91-92%	88-90%	86-87%	84-85%	81-83%	79-80%	77-78%	74-76%	70-73%

CLASS POLICIES

Attendance and Late Assignments: Students are expected to attend all class meetings. Students who miss class are responsible for missed work, and are encouraged to ask another student to audiotape the class or take notes. Unexcused absences and tardiness will impact a student's grade. Students who anticipate an absence should discuss it in advance with the instructor. Students who report an absence in advance will be able to turn in work originally due the missed session, as late as the following week with no loss in grade, after which there will be the loss of one letter grade for that work. Students who do not report an absence in advance can turn in work later than the missed session with a loss of one letter grade for that work.

Students who miss more than three hours of classtime will not pass the course, unless they arrange with the teacher to complete additional assignments.

Incompletes: Faculty members determine their own procedures and due dates for the completion of course assignments. The final deadline for submitting all course work is the last day of the semester as noted in the Academic Calendar and in the Sacramento class schedule. In the case of serious illness, family emergency, or similar extenuating circumstances, the **teaching assistant** for this class may, **if it is initiated by the student**, grant an extension. A 1-3 week extension is typical in all except the most extreme cases, and in all cases the standard decrease of a full letter grade for late work applies. Extensions desired by the student beyond 3 weeks, with TA support, must be approved by the Sacramento Academic Coordinator, with 5 weeks after the end of the course being the longest possible extension for work being due to the TA; for this semester that date is **Saturday, 1/23/10**. (This allows a 6th week for the grading of work and a grade change request to be filed.) A temporary notation of "I" (incomplete) is assigned until a final grade can be determined. Under no circumstances may the six-week period (allots 1 week to the TA and Academic Coordinator for grading and grade change petition) be extended except by petition and approval of the Administrative Committee in Portland.

The Availability of Disability Services at Western Seminary: Western Seminary is committed to responding to the needs of students with disabilities as outlined in both the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Western students are assisted individually as their needs dictate. It is the responsibility of students with disabilities to identify themselves and the nature of the disability. Any student who has a disability should contact the seminary's Disability (Section 504) Coordinator, Ken Epp, at 503-517-1815/1-877-517-1800, ext. 1815. His office is at the Portland campus. Students at the northern California campuses may contact Carrie Priest (Student Services Coordinator – San José) or PJ Oswald (Director of Student Development – Sacramento), or they may contact Dr. Epp directly. Appropriate forms will be provided and must be submitted to the Disability Coordinator's office.

LIBRARY AND INTERNET RESEARCH – SACRAMENTO

All class assignments with a research element require library research annotated as such in the bibliography. A minimum of two resources must be from a physical library. Note the physical location of each resource as an addendum to each bibliographical entry.

For complete library information including: hours of operation, interlibrary loan, local library resources, etc., please:

- Visit www.westernseminary.edu/sacramento
- Click the link "Library Services" in the right navigation pane.

Reserve Collection

The library carries all required readings for this course.

Print Resources

Use the Western-Arcade Library catalog to find books and other materials. To search the library collection:

- Visit <http://www.westernseminary.edu/Library/SAC> .
- Click the link "Search the Library Collection Online".

Periodical & Research Databases

As you complete your assignments for this course, don't forget about the resources in the Western research databases. Remember to evaluate and cite your information too. To access the Western research databases:

- Visit <http://www.westernseminary.edu/Library/SAC> .
- Click the link "Research Databases" from the bottom menu.
- Click the link "Ebsco Host Research Databases".
- Log in. [**User ID:** westsem / **Password:** seminary]
- Click the link "EBSCOhost Web".
- Click the database(s) you wish to use. Start with *ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials*.

To cite your information, consider the following MLA composers:

<http://www.noodletools.com> and <http://www.citationmachine.net>

Western-Arcade Library offers a variety of ministry related software for student use including BibleWorks, Logos Bible Software, and SeminaryLibrary.

Course Packs (if applicable)

To access the course pack(s) for this course:

1. Go to the library homepage: <http://www.westernseminary.edu/Library/SAC>
2. Click the link 'Course Packs'.

Reference and Research Contact Information

David Holifield, M.A., M.L.S. / (916) 488-3720, ext. 7 /

dholifield@westernseminary.edu