Course Syllabus

03PT526/01 – Worship

Reformed Theological Seminary
Charlotte, North Carolina

Spring 2013

Tuesday 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
February 5 - May 14

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Professor of Systematic Theology
Erskine Theological Seminary
Columbia, South Carolina

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

The biblical foundations of worship, including music, worship strategies, creative styles, and worship for special occasions are considered in this course. The goal is to prepare students to be worshippers and effective leaders in worship.

COURSE OVERVIEW

As indicated in the catalog description, the main goal of the course is to prepare and equip students to worship God, and where appropriate to lead others in worship. To that end the course will be organized into two parts. The first half of the course will provide an examination of the Biblical foundations for worship and the historical development of congregational worship from the time of the New Testament to the present day. Special emphasis will be placed on the reform of worship in the Protestant Reformation. The second half of the course will focus on the ordering of worship for the Lord’s Day and various special services of worship.

Part I: The Foundations and Development of Congregational Worship

A. Biblical Foundations
   1. The Nature of Worship
   2. Worship in the Old Testament
   4. The Regulation of Worship

B. Overview of Historical Developments
   1. The Early Church
2. Roman Catholic Worship
3. The Protestant Reformation
4. Post-Reformation Developments
5. Present Day

Part II: The Ordering of Public Worship

A. Lord’s Day Worship
   1. The Sanctification of the Lord’s Day
   2. The Parts or Elements of Worship
   3. Ordering the Parts
   4. Music

B. Special Services
   1. Weddings
   2. Funerals
   3. Days of Fasting or Thanksgiving
   4. Holidays

REQUIRED READING


7. Your denominational standard on worship, or one of your own choosing.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. **Attendance.** Class attendance is required.

2. **Mid-term examination.** A mid-term exam on the assigned readings and lectures will be given. It will consist of 25 short answer questions and 3 essay questions. It will be worth 40% of your final grade.

3. **A theology of worship paper.** This paper will be 5-7 pages covering the nature and ordering of public worship. Additional reading should be completed for this paper. At least three sources beyond the assigned readings should be completed. It will be worth 20% of your final grade.

4. **A paper on music.** This paper will be 5-7 pages and cover the principles to be followed in the use of music in the worship of God. Additional reading should be completed for this paper. At least three sources beyond the assigned readings should be completed. It will be worth 20% of your final grade.

5. **Worship portfolio.** This portfolio will include orders of service for Lord’s Day morning and evening worship, a service including baptism, and a communion service. A one page order of service will be given for each service. It will be worth 20% of your final grade.

SCHEDULE OF READING AND ASSIGNMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Meeting Date</th>
<th>Reading Completion</th>
<th>Assignments Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 5</td>
<td>Frame, chs. 1-5</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hart and Muether, chs. 1-5</td>
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<td>February 12</td>
<td>Chapell, chs. 1-5</td>
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<td>Hart and Muether, chs. 6-10</td>
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<td>February 19</td>
<td>Westminster Directory, all</td>
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<td>February 26</td>
<td>Frame, chs. 6-9</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chapell, chs. 6-12</td>
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<td>March 5</td>
<td>Old, chs. 1-5</td>
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<td>March 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 19</td>
<td>Review notes on reading and lectures</td>
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<td>Mid-Term exam taken this week</td>
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<td>March 26</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
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<td>April 2</td>
<td>Chapell, chs. 12-18</td>
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<td>April 9</td>
<td>Chapell, chs. 19-24</td>
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<td>April 16</td>
<td>Denominational standards</td>
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<td>April 23</td>
<td>Frame, chs. 9-13</td>
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<td>Kidd, chs. 1-4</td>
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<td>Theology of Worship paper is due</td>
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<td>April 30</td>
<td>Kidd, chs. 4-10</td>
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<td>May 7</td>
<td>Additional research</td>
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<td>May 14</td>
<td>Additional research</td>
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<td>Music paper is due</td>
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<td>May 21</td>
<td>Portfolio is due</td>
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## Course Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

Course: 03PT526/01 – Worship  
Professor: Mark Ross, visiting professor  
Campus: Charlotte  
Date: Spring 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><em><em>MDiv</em> Student Learning Outcomes</em>*</th>
<th><strong>Rubric</strong></th>
<th><strong>Mini-Justification</strong></th>
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| *In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.*  
*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.* |            |                        |
| **Articulation (oral & written)**  
Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks. | Strong     | The course aims to provide a solid introduction to the Biblical teaching on how God is to be worshiped and how the church has implemented that teaching across its history and in our contemporary context. |
| **Scripture**  
Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.) | Strong     | The course places a major emphasis on the Biblical foundations for Christian worship. |
| **Reformed Theology**  
Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards. | Moderate   | While the course will deal mostly with Reformed teaching on worship, and thus especially with Scripture, it will not deal comprehensively with Reformed doctrine on other topics. |
| **Sanctification**  
Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification. | Strong     | True worship of the Triune God can only proceed from a heart of love toward God. This will certainly be a major emphasis in the course. |
| **Desire for Worldview**  
Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God. | Moderate   | The course aims to instill a burning desire to worship God in the way he has revealed. |
| **Winsomely Reformed**  
Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.) | Strong     | The course aims at the discovery of God’s truth concerning worship and the manner in which we seek that must always reflect the character of the God we worship. |
| **Preach**  
Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm. | Minimal    | The course will consider the place of preaching in worship, but will not provide instruction in preaching. |
| **Worship**  
Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service. | Strong     | This is the main focus of the course. |
| **Shepherd** | Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide. | Minimal | Shepherding through worship leadership will be considered, but not shepherding in general |
| **Church/Wor душ** | Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues. | Moderate | Students will be encouraged to learn the standards and practices of their own denomination’s forms of worship |