



# MUSR9302 Reading Colloquium 2: Contemporary Trends in Church Music

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary  
Division of Church Music Ministries  
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## NOBTS MISSION STATEMENT:

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

## DESCRIPTION

This D.M.A. reading colloquium in contemporary trends in church music consists of discussions covering various readings in the field of current church music thought and practice. This colloquium centers on readings in the areas of controversy that every church, and especially church staff, should be aware of and have a loving, Biblical response to. The colloquium will meet approximately once a month during the semester for discussion periods. The meetings will consist of student-lead discussions of reading list articles as well as other possible selections assigned by the professor.

## STUDENT OUTCOMES

The primary outcome of this colloquium is that students grasp and begin to grapple the larger scope of current issues being addressed, or ignored, by churches. The research on these topics should be seen as an opportunity to examine the full scope of positions - pros/cons, biblical/cultural beliefs, concepts that the presenter agrees with, and disagrees with. With this converging of the music ministry fields, students should be better prepared for practicing, teaching, and researching the breadth of current church music practice.

## REQUIREMENTS

- A. All colloquium members are to read all the articles on the reading lists for the topics listed below. Each student will be prepared to lead one 20-25 minute lecture/discussion per workshop, with accompanying slide presentation. Once the lecture is presented, leaders are expected to field questions and stimulate discussion by asking key questions about the topic. **A copy of each written review, with footnotes and bibliography, should be emailed to the professor on the Tuesday prior to each workshop.** At the end of the lecture, a copy should be provided for each student.
- B. Non-presenting colloquium members are expected to read all the assigned materials on the reading lists for this course and write a brief review (2-3 pages, single spaced) of the articles listed (by topic) in each segment. The review should not be a replay of what the material said - it should be an interaction with the texts presented. Reviews should be written in Turabian style, Times New Roman 12 point font, with parenthetical citations (not footnotes). prepare, respond, challenge, ask questions, and participate actively in the discussions. Failure to participate will affect one's final grade for the colloquium. All written assignments should be submitted **via email PRIOR** to the time of the meeting in Word or WordPerfect format only; **no .pdf files please**, no exceptions. Reviews sent after the beginning of the seminar meeting will be considered late and will receive a late penalty of 1 letter grade per day.

C. Due to the compressed time frame of the colloquium, *no absences, or partial absences, are allowed.*

## **COURSE TEACHING METHODOLOGY**

The course will meet in three seminar meetings: **Fri, Feb 11; Fri, March 25 (web/CIV); and Fri, April 29, from 10:30 a.m.-1:15 p.m.** Course content will be engaged through reading and group discussion of selected materials, along with writing formal reviews for each resource.

## **EVALUATION OF GRADE**

The student's grade will be computed as follows:

Attendance and participation in colloquium meetings	20%
Nine (9) formal reviews	50%
Leading discussion of assigned texts	30%

**Final grade is Pass/Fail**

## **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. [Selfserve@nobts.edu](mailto:Selfserve@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the [Selfserve.nobts.edu](http://Selfserve.nobts.edu) site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. [BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu](mailto:BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System [NOBTS.Blackboard.com](http://NOBTS.Blackboard.com).
3. [ITCSupport@nobts.edu](mailto:ITCSupport@nobts.edu) - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. [www.NOBTS.edu/itc/](http://www.NOBTS.edu/itc/) - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

## **WRITING STYLE GUIDE**

Writing assignments should follow the NOBTS/Leavell College Manual of Form and Style (revised August 2019). To access this manual on the seminary website, please use the following link: <https://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf>.

## **WRITING HELP AT “THE WRITE STUFF”**

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer.

## **PLAGIARISM**

NOBTS has a zero tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

## **COURSE SCHEDULE:** (Discussion leaders to be assigned)

1. February 11 - First Colloquium meeting
2. March 25 - Second Colloquium meeting
3. April 29 - Third Colloquium meeting

**All the following articles are required reading for all students on the day that topic is presented.** (Links in Bibliography)

### **Staff Leadership Relationships in the Church Workplace**

Manner – *20 Things Pastors and Worship Leaders Say to Each Other More Often*

Wright – *How to Argue Well*

### **Church Leader Credibility Crisis in Current Culture**

Briggs - *Reversing the Credibility Crisis Pastors Face: Suggestions from Barna Research*

Muchow – *What Constitutes “Moral Failure”?*

## **The Church Music Education: Dead & Buried? Needs a Make-over? Sleeping Giant?**

Orme – *Kara Powell and #1 Reason Why Youth Leave Church*

Rohwer - *Church Music as an Education Enterprise*

## **Church and Bi, Homo, Trans Culture**

Johnston – *Three Reasons Why Pastors – and Other Church Leaders-Should Talk About Homosexuality in the Church*

Rainer – *Preparing Your Church for Transgender Guests*

## **Continuing Personal Spiritual Formation**

Brown – *8 Habits of Healthy Spiritual Leaders*

Stone – *Why Every Leader Needs Silence and Solitude*

Stone – *How to Break the Power of Hurry*

## **Church Architecture & Public Perception**

Zandstra – *5 Elements of an Engaging Church Facility*

Hutchison – *5 Trends Defining Church Youth and Children's Spaces*

## **Gender Relationships in the Church Workplace**

Wilkin - *Your Church Doesn't Hate Women, So Let Them Know*

Briggs – *Mike Pence, the 'Billy Graham Rule,' and How Not to Exclude Women*

Briggs – *Beth Moore Leans on Tenure to Call Out Sexism in the Church*

## **Church Music & Social Media**

Williams – *10 Ways You Can Use Twitter to Make a Positive Impact*

Kruger – *5 Warning Signs for the Church in a Facebook Culture*

Franks – *8 Tips for an Effective Church Blog*

## **Cultivating Volunteers**

Hudson – *Why Volunteer Burnout is Not Their Fault*

Metschke - *How to Get and Keep Great Volunteers*

## **Multigenerational Worship**

Grasty – *5 Ways to Make Worship Family Friendly in Your Church*

Huyser-Honig – *Combining Two Worship Services Renews Congregation*

Whittaker – *You've Made Me Learn to Love Contemporary Music*

## **Performance IN or VS Worship**

Smith – *Welcome to the End of Entertainment Worship*

Manner – *How to Evaluate Worship from the Inside*

## **Singleness in Ministry**

Shaw – *How Can You Live Without Sex?*

Bearss – *Is Singleness an Advantage or Disadvantage in Ministry?*

## **Reflecting Heaven – Multicultural Congregations & Worship**

Manner – *6 Ways to Embrace Cultural Diversity in Worship*

Kell – *Why Church Leaders Should NOT be "Color Blind"*

## **The New Choir**

Brown – *How Choirs and Bands Can Work Together*

Brown – *The State of the Choir*

## **Church and Community**

Luz – *Why Community Matters for Worship*

Monrose – *The Role and Importance of the Church in Community*

## **Continuing Education for Church Staff**

Duncan - *Is Seminary Necessary to be in Ministry?*

Frame – *Is Seminary Relevant? The Pro Argument*

Belder – *Is Seminary Relevant? The Contra Argument*

## **Conflict in Music Ministry – Leave or Not to Leave**

Kirkpatrick -- *Worship Leadership & Conflict: What Do You Do  
When You Have to Leave Your Church?*

Chapman – *When It's Time to Leave*

**Worship Team Management**

Noland – *When Conflict Arises*

Langton – *How to Deal with Difficult People in Your Worship Team (9 Things to Consider)*

**Worship – New Thoughts**

Dummer – *Don't Call Me a Worship Leader. Seriously.*

Manner - *How Can Social Distance Worship Be Good?*

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