



## **MUWM5312 Guided Ministry Practicum 2: Planning for Corporate Worship New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Division of Church Music Ministries Fall 2020**

Dr. Michael Sharp  
Professor of Worship Studies  
Phone: (678) 756-5667  
Email: msharp@nobts.edu

### **Mission Statement**

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

### **Core Value Focus**

The seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. The core value focus for this academic year is *Spiritual Vitality*.

### **Curriculum Competencies**

All graduates of NOBTS are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in each of the following areas: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. The curriculum competency addressed in this course is: *Worship Leadership*.

### **Course Description**

The primary objective of this course is to help the student deepen an understanding of biblically-grounded corporate worship as well as sharpen skills in designing worship services for the congregation which are contextually-engaging. Additionally, the student will be challenged to see the worship planning task from a pastoral perspective, addressing issues related to planning special worship services, such as weddings and funerals. Working with a field mentor and faculty mentor, the student will explore the ministry of worship planning within the context of the student's local church.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

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

1. Understand basic principles related to (1) the purpose of the congregational worship gathering; (2) the biblical and classical elements which comprise the corporate worship service; (3) the creation of contextually-appropriate expressions within the framework of congregational worship; and (4) the pastoral nature of worship planning for the congregation.
2. Apply basic worship planning principles within the context of worship ministry in the local church.
3. Articulate a specific rationale for worship plans designed for the student's local congregation.

### **Embedded Assignment**

This course has no embedded assignment.

### **Textbooks**

- Cherry, Constance M. *The Worship Architect: A Blueprint for Designing Culturally Relevant and Biblically Faithful Services*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2010.
- Cherry, Constance M. *The Special Service Worship Architect: Blueprints for Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms, Holy Communion, and Other Occasions*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2013.
- Cherry, Constance M., *The Music Architect*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2016.
- Cherry, Constance M., Mary M. Brown, and Christopher T. Bounds. *Selecting Worship Songs: A Guide for Leaders*. Marion, IN: Triangle Publishing, 2011.

Additional articles/course content as assigned will be posted in Blackboard.

### Course Teaching Methodology

The course will involve the following methodologies: textbook reading and discussion, personal interviews with an approved field mentor in worship/music ministry, personal web-based conferences with the Faculty Mentor, worship planning observation and evaluation, and exercises in creative worship planning.

### Course Requirements

1. Meet with professor individually to overview the course and discuss assignments in detail.
2. Students will read four required texts during the semester and other articles/materials as assigned by the professor (see textbook list above). At the conclusion of the semester, the student will be required to provide documentation of weekly reading assignments. **Due date: See course calendar for schedule of reading assignments.**
3. Online worship services analysis. Through online resources, the student will identify a minimum of three different evangelical worship service **formats** and will compare how specific worship elements were incorporated into the worship service plan. Specific attention will be given to overall format, use of (and forms of) prayer, use of (and forms of) Scripture reading, verbal instructions, use of (and forms of) music, and worship leadership. The analysis for this project will be reported in a paper. **Due date: Mar 6**
4. The student will prepare three detailed worship service plans that hypothetically might be used in the local church where the student currently serves. The three worship services should be planned for the following contexts:
  - a. A general corporate worship service which incorporates the element of The Lord's Supper
  - b. A Christian wedding service
  - c. A Christian funeral service

A report should include a rationale for specific aspects of each plan (to be submitted in a narrative report as one single document). **Due date: Mar 3**

5. The student will personally interview an experienced field mentor (worship leader/minister of music) on assigned topics related to *worship planning and leading* three times during the semester. The field mentor must be approved in advance by the faculty mentor (see attached field mentor requirements). The student should write a thorough report of the discussion with the field mentor. Talking points for **on the interviews will be due on dates Feb 14, Mar 27, Apr 24**
6. Additionally, the student will participate in three video-conferences (Bluejeans platform) during the semester with the faculty mentor for the purpose of discussion and feedback relevant to progress in achieving the student learning outcomes. **Due dates: These Bluejeans web-meetings will be scheduled in advance in coordination with student and professor availability, generally during the week following the due date for mentor reports. (See course calendar.)**
7. Using the rubric provided in the textbook *Selecting Worship Songs*, the student will be given three different worship songs to analyze for use in corporate worship. The analysis will be reported in a brief report written in Turabian format. **Due date: Apr 17**
8. As a final synthesis assignment, the student will write a final reflection paper that outlines specific key principles the student believes should be important for planning congregational worship services. **Due date: May 4**

### Evaluation of Grade

The student's grade will be computed as follows:

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| On-time completion of assigned reading assignments           | 10% |
| Online worship services analyses report (3)                  | 15% |
| Original worship plans (Lord's Supper; Wedding; Funeral)     | 15% |
| Field mentor interviews/reports                              | 15% |
| Video conferences with professor (3)                         | 15% |
| Song analysis report   | 15% |
| Final Reflection paper (key principles for worship planning) | 15% |

### 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>.

## Help for Writing Papers 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 on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no 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

| Week beginning: | Course topic  | Reading Assignments | Projects Due*  |
|-----------------|---|---------------------|--|
| Jan 21          | <b>Course Overview</b><br>Foundations of worship planning           | TWA, 1-66           | Syllabus overview with Faculty Mentor (Time/Date: TBD)   |
| Jan 27          | Overarching movements in corporate worship                          | TWA, 67-121         |  |
| Feb 3           | The elements in worship planning                                    | TWA, 123-203        |  |
| Feb 10          | Stylistic considerations and the “relevance” question               | TWA, 205-271        | Conversation 1 with Field Mentor Report due Feb 14 (syll#5)  |
| Feb 17          | Music’s role in worship planning                                    | TMA, 1-116          | Web-conference w/professor Time/Date: TBD (syll#6)   |
| Feb 24          | Leading congregational song   | TMA, 117-265        |  |
| Mar 2           | The Christian wedding   | SSW, 11-60          | Online worship services analysis paper due Mar 6 (syll#3)  |
| Mar 9           | The Christian funeral   | SSW, 61-141         |  |
| Mar 16          | <b>SPRING BREAK</b>   |                     | <b>No assignments</b>  |
| Mar 23          | Celebrating the Lord’s Supper                                       | SSW, 143-189        | Conversation 2 with Field Mentor Report due Mar 27 (syll#5)  |
| Mar 30          | Evaluating songs for corporate worship (theological considerations) | SWS, 1-27           | Web-conference w/professor Time/Date: TBD (syll#6)<br>Original worship service plans/paper due Mar 3 (syll#4)                |
| Apr 6           | Evaluating songs for corporate worship (lyrical considerations)     | SWS, 29-38          | <b>Easter Week (no written assignment due)</b>   |
| Apr 13          | Evaluating songs for corporate worship (musical considerations)     | SWS, 39-52          | Song analysis report due Apr 17 (syll#7)   |
| Apr 20          | A team-approach to worship planning                                 |                     | Conversation 3 with Field Mentor Report due Apr 24 (syll#5)  |
| Apr 27          | Evaluating corporate worship planning                               |                     | Web-conference w/professor Time/Date: TBD (syll#6)<br>Final reflection paper due prior to web conference [by May 4] (syll#8) |
| May 8-13        | <b>FINAL EXAM PERIOD</b>  |                     |  |

(TWA) *The Worship Architect*; (SSW) *The Special Service Worship Architect*; (TMA) *The Music Architect*; (SWS) *Selecting Worship Songs*

## Selected Bibliography

Adams, Jere V., ed. *Handbook to The Baptist Hymnal*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1992.

Allen, Ronald and Gordon Borrer. *Worship: Rediscovering the Missing Jewel*. Portland, OR: Multnomah Press, 1982.

- Allen, Ronald. *The Wonder of Worship*. Nashville, TN: Word Publishing, 2001.
- Arn, Charles. *How to Start a New Service*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1997.
- Barry, James C. and Jack Gullledge. *Ideas for Effective Worship Services*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1977.
- Beach, Nancy. *An Hour on Sunday*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 2004.
- Begbie, Jeremy, ed. *Beholding the Glory: Incarnation through the Arts*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2000.
- Berkeley, James D., ed. *Leadership Handbooks of Practical Theology*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1992. vol. 1: Word and Worship.
- Bertrum, M.H. *Worship in the Name of Jesus*. St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1968.
- Best, Harold M. *Music through the Eyes of Faith*. San Francisco: Harper, 1993.
- Bloy, Myron B., Jr. *Multi-Media Worship: A Model and Nine Viewpoints*. New York: The Seabury Press, 1969.
- Bowman, Clarice. *Restoring Worship*. Nashville: Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1951.
- Bradshaw, Paul F. *The Search for the Origins of Christian Worship*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1992.
- Brenner, Scott Francis. *The Way of Worship: A Study in Ecumenical Recovery*. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1944.
- Brink, Emily R., ed. *Authentic Worship in a Changing Culture*. Grand Rapids: CRC Publications, 1997.
- Burkhart, John E. *Worship: A Searching Examination of the Liturgical Experience*. Philadelphia: The Westminster Press, 1982.
- Carroll, Joseph S. *How to Worship Jesus Christ*. Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 1984.
- Carson, Tim and Kathy Carson. *So You're Thinking About Contemporary Worship*. St. Louis, MO: Chalice Press, 1997.
- Chapell, Bryan. *Christ-Centered Worship: Letting the Gospel Shape Our Practice*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2009.
- Christensen, James L. *Contemporary Worship Services*. Old Tappan, NJ: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1952.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Creative Ways to Worship*. Old Tappan, NJ: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1966.
- Corbitt, J. Nathan. *The Sound of the Harvest: Music's Mission in Church and Culture*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1998.
- Davis, H. Grady. *Why We Worship*. Philadelphia: Muhlenberg Press, 1961.
- Doran, Carol and Thomas H. Traeger. *Open to Glory: Renewing Worship in the Congregation*. Valley Forge: Judson Press, 1983.
- Eskew, Harry and Hugh T. McElrath. *Sing with Understanding*. Nashville: Broadman, 1980.

- Flynn, Leslie B. *Worship: Together We Celebrate*. Wheaton: Victor Books, 1978.
- Forbis, Wesley, ed. *The Baptist Hymnal*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1991.
- Foster, Richard. *Prayer: Finding the Hearts True Home*. San Francisco: Harper, 1992.
- Gaddy, Welton. *The Gift of Worship*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1992.
- Hardin, Grady. *The Leadership of Worship*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1980.
- Hill, Andrew. *Enter His Courts with Praise! Old Testament Worship for the New Testament Church*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1993.
- Hurtado, Larry W. *At the Origins of Christian Worship: The Context and Character of Earliest Christian Devotion*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing, 1999.
- Hustad, Donald P. *Jubilate! Church Music in the Evangelical Tradition*. Carol Stream, IL: Hope Publishing Company, 1981.
- Johnston, Robert K. *Reel Spirituality: Theology and Film in Dialogue*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2000.
- Jones, Cheslyn, Geoffrey Wainwright, and Edward Yarnald. *The Study of Liturgy*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1978.
- Kendall, R.T. *Before the Throne*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1993.
- Leisch, Barry. *People in the Presence of God: Models and Directions for Worship*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *The New Worship: Straight Talk on Music and the Church*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996.
- Martin, Ralph P. *The Worship of God*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1982.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Worship in the Early Church*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1964.
- Maxwell, William D. *A History of Christian Worship*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1936.
- Navarro, Kevin J. *The Complete Worship Leader*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *The Complete Worship Service*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2005.
- Noland, Rory. *The Heart of the Artist*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1999.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Thriving as an Artist in the Church*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2004.
- Ortland, Anne. *Up With Worship: How to Quit Playing Church* revised ed., Venture, CA: Regal Books, 1982.
- Owens, Ron. *Return to Worship: A God-Centered Approach*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1999.
- Pass, David B. *Music and the Church: A Theology of Church Music*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1989.
- Rayburn, Robert G. *Oh, Come Let Us Worship*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1980.

- Segler, Franklin M. and Randall Bradley. *Understanding, Preparing for, and Practicing Christian Worship*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1996.
- Sharp, Michael and Argile Smith. *Holy Gatherings: A Leader's Guide for Engaging the Congregation in Corporate Worship*. Denver, CO: Outskirts Press, 2009. [available as ebook at <http://www.outskirtspress.com/holygatherings/> ]
- Siewart, Alison, ed. *Worship Team Handbook*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1998.
- Sweet, Leonard. *Agua Church: Essential Leadership Arts for Piloting Your Church in Today's Fluid Culture*. Loveland, CO: Group, 1999.
- Towns, Elmer. *Putting an End to Worship Wars*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1997.
- Warden, Michael, ed. *Experience God in Worship*. Loveland, CO: Group, 2000.
- Webber, Robert. *Signs of Wonder: The Phenomenon of Convergence in Modern Liturgical and Charismatic Churches*. Nashville: Abbott Martyn, 1992.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *The Complete Library of Christian Worship*. 7 vols. Nashville: Star Song Publishing Group, 1993.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Worship Old and New*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1982.
- White, James Emery. *Opening the Front Door: Worship and Church Growth*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1992.
- White, James F. *Introduction to Christian Worship*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1982.
- White, James F. and Susan J. White. *Church Architecture: Building and Renovating for Christian Worship*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1988.
- White, Susan J. *Christian Worship and Technological Change*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1994.
- Wiersbe, Warren W. *Real Worship: It will Transform Your Life*. Nashville: Oliver Nelson, 1986.
- Williamson, Robert L. *Effective Public Prayer*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1960.
- William, William H. and Robert L. Wilson. *Preaching and Worship in the Small Church*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1980.
- Willimon, William. *The Service of God: Christian Work and Worship*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1983.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Worship as Pastoral Care*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1979.
- Wren, Brian. *Praying Twice: The Music and Words of Congregational Song*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2000.
- Wright, Tim and Jan Wright, eds. *Contemporary Worship: A Sourcebook*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1997.