

**Note:**

**Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.**

## ***COURSE SYLLABUS***

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### **WRSP 101**

#### **INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP STUDIES**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Designed to provide an understanding of music and worship in the local church and para-church ministries, this course provides an overview of a professional worship leader's responsibility to the evangelical church. Emphasis is given to the reasons for studying worship, the impact of old and new testament worship; the relationship between music and worship; the principles for Biblical worship; the tasks of teaching and training worshipers; congregational worship leading; principles of evangelism through worship; and, the use of worship in promoting the mission and purpose of the local church. (Crosslisted with MUSC 200)

#### **RATIONALE**

The need for qualified, trained, and equipped worship leaders for the Body of Christ has never been greater. Today's worship leaders are responsible for developing and administrating comprehensive music and worship programs. These responsibilities require experience in a variety of areas related to ministry including roles as: teachers, singers, producers, pastors, evangelists, internet technicians, audio and video specialists, worshipers, artists, counselors, and skilled musicians.

#### **I. PREREQUISITE**

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

#### **II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE**

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

#### **III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING**

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Blackboard [recommended browsers](#)
- D. Microsoft Word
- E. The Holy Bible
- F. Turabian Writing Guide  
<https://www.liberty.edu/academics/casas/academicsuccess/index.cfm?PID=11954>

#### IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Articulate biblical and historical principles of worship.
- B. Express and explain the need for a personal and practical commitment to the practice of worship.
- C. Articulate the worship leader's role as a leader, developer of creative worship, and minister to/with the congregation.
- D. Apply principles of leadership to actual worship services.
- E. Guide others in the process of finding and using tools for worship ministry.

#### V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes
- B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

- C. Discussion Board Forums (4)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to create a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be at least 400 words, demonstrate course-related knowledge, and include integration of 2–5 biblical principles. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 other classmates' threads. Each reply must be at least 200 words.

- D. Journal Reflections (8)

The student will write 8 journals reflecting on his/her assigned weekly course readings in response to the provided prompt. Each journal reflection must be 200–250 words.

- E. Hymn Story Projects (2)

To complete this project, the student must research the biographical history of 2 hymns of his/her choice from the list provided. There are 2 parts to this project. Part 1 will require a written report, and Part 2 will require the student to create a PowerPoint presentation conveying the information he/she researched for Part 1 as if he/she were presenting it to a class.

Part 1

For part 1, the student will submit a written report detailing the story behind 2 select hymns he/she chooses from the list provided. The report for each hymn must be of approximately 500–750 words. The report must include any story related to the writing of the hymn, a brief biographical overview of the author of the lyrics and composer of the music, and any other interesting facts related to the use of the song in the church. The report must include a minimum of 2 references and 2 footnotes, and include a bibliography. It is recommended that the report be formatted using current Turabian standards.

Part 2

Using the narrative written for part 1, the student will prepare a PowerPoint presentation of the stories behind his/her 2 hymns. This presentation must include a brief worship service outline using the stories of the hymns' writing as source material. This PowerPoint must include at least 4 slides for each song, although some hymns and verses may require more.

F. Book Report

The student must complete a 2,500-word Book Report that consists of a summary and analysis of *Whatever Happened to Worship?* by A. W. Tozer. This Book Report is to be submitted using the form provided. It will be completed in a chapter-by-chapter summary-analysis; each chapter will require a 150-word summary, a 100-word analysis, and a 1-sentence statement articulating what he/she has learned.

G. Quizzes (4)

Each quiz will cover the Reading & Study material for the assigned modules/weeks. Each quiz will be open-book/open-notes, contain 20 multiple-choice and true/false questions, and have a 45-minute time limit.

**VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES**

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (4 at 80 pts ea)	320
Journal Reflections (8 at 50 pts ea)	400
Hymn Story Project	
Part 1	50
Part 2	50
Book Report	100
Quizzes (4 at 20 pts ea)	80
<b>Total</b>	<b>1010</b>

B. Scale

A = 900–1010 B = 800–899 C = 700–799 D = 600–699 F = 0–599

C. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Accommodation Support (ODAS) at [LUOODAS@liberty.edu](mailto:LUOODAS@liberty.edu) to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at [www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport](http://www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport).

If you have a complaint related to disability discrimination or an accommodation that was not provided, you may contact ODAS or the Office of Equity and Compliance by phone at (434) 592-4999 or by email at [equityandcompliance@liberty.edu](mailto:equityandcompliance@liberty.edu). Click to see a full copy of Liberty's [Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy](#) or the [Student Disability Grievance Policy and Procedures](#).

## ***COURSE SCHEDULE***

### **WRSP 101**

Textbooks: *The Worship Hymnal Pew Edition* (2008).

Tozer, *Whatever Happened to Worship?* (2006).

Whaley, *Exalt His Name Book 1*(2018).

Whaley, *Exalt His Name Book 2* (2018)

Whaley, *Introduction to Worship Studies* (2012).

<b>MODULE/ WEEK</b>	<b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>1</b>	Whaley (2018a): chs. 1–2 Whaley (2018b): ch. 1 Whaley (2012): lessons 1, 2 Tozer: chs. 1–2 The Worship Hymnal: #68 Bible Readings 3 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1 Journal Reflection 1	10 0 80 50
<b>2</b>	Whaley (2018a): chs. 3–4 Whaley (2012): lessons 4, 6 Tozer: chs. 3–4 The Worship Hymnal: #104 Bible Readings 3 presentations	Journal Reflection 2 Quiz 1	50 20
<b>3</b>	Whaley (2018a): chs. 5–6 Whaley (2018b): ch. 2 Whaley (2012): lessons 7, 8 Tozer: chs. 5–6 The Worship Hymnal: #83 Bible Reading 6 presentations	DB Forum 2 Journal Reflection 3	80 50
<b>4</b>	Whaley (2018a): chs. 7–8 Whaley (2018b): ch. 3 Whaley (2012): lesson 11 Tozer: chs. 7–8 The Worship Hymnal: #96 Bible Reading 3 presentations	Journal Reflection 4 Quiz 2	50 20

<b>MODULE/ WEEK</b>	<b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>5</b>	Whaley (2018a): chs. 9–10 Whaley (2018b): ch. 4 Tozer: chs. 9–10 The Worship Hymnal: #626 Bible Reading 8 presentations	Hymn Story Project: Part 1 DB Forum 3 Journal Reflection 5	50 80 50
<b>6</b>	Whaley (2018a): chs. 11–12 Whaley (2018b): chs. 5–6 Whaley (2012): lessons 3, 12, 13, 14 Tozer: review textbook The Worship Hymnal: #314 Bible Reading 4 presentations	Book Report Journal Reflection 6 Quiz 3	100 50 20
<b>7</b>	Whaley (2018a): review textbook Whaley (2018b): chs. 7–9 Whaley (2012): lessons 17, 18 The Worship Hymnal: #6 3 presentations	Hymn Story Project: Part 2 DB Forum 4 Journal Reflection 7	50 80 50
<b>8</b>	Whaley (2018b): chs. 10–12 Whaley (2012): lesson 19 The Worship Hymnal: #446 Bible Reading 5 presentations	Journal Reflection 8 Quiz 4	50 20
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1010</b>

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course module/week (except Module/Week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.