

**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 645**

#### **THE ROLE OF THE PASTOR WITH THE WORSHIP LEADER**

##### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This is a study of the relationship between the pastor and minister of music/worship leader in a local church. Clarification of the biblical role a pastor has as “the worship leader” of his congregation is discussed. Responsibilities pastors and ministers of music/worship leaders have to the gospel ministry are defined and articulated. Leadership models are investigated in the light of team building and staff management. Practical application is made through class and small group case studies, interviews, on-location observations, and personal evaluation.

##### **RATIONALE**

Worship is at the heart of everything we are and do as Christians. Even though the minister of music/worship pastor is charged with the responsibility of executing and facilitating worship in the church service, the senior pastor is actually the chief worship leader in a local church. The people’s response to, appreciation of, and participation in worship will be in direct proportion to the senior pastor’s commitment to worship. This principle is the driving force behind any successful church known for its worship ministry.

Historically, the relationship between the pastor and minister of music/worship leader has been mixed with success and failure. There needs to be an understanding of the unique role pastors have with their worship leaders. This is key to building strong, biblically based worship ministries. The pastor and worship leader need times of training, teaching, encouraging, and edifying each other in their gifts and individual tasks, together. Thus, they can learn the basics of building relationships on each other’s giftedness, cast vision and communicate strategy for ministry together, and build an organizational structure to achieve those goals.

##### **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. Microsoft Word and Microsoft PowerPoint

**IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

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

- A. Articulate the Biblical responsibility for pastors and worship leaders to function as a ministry team.
- B. Evaluate and articulate the effectiveness of team organization and the impact on participants, of a worship ministry.
- C. Evaluate the origin, essential value, make up, and innate belief the pastor and worship leader have according to the areas of each individual's greatest strength.
- D. Articulate how the pastor and worship leader's ability to develop relationship, cast vision, and build organization together impacts the overall outcome of ministry success.

**V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

- A. Textbook readings and presentations
- 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 provide a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be 350 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 other classmates' threads. Each reply must be 100 words.

**D. Working with Me Paper**

The student will write a 1,500–2,000-word paper that focuses on the student's personality and can guide colleagues to working with the student. The paper must outline strengths and weaknesses. The paper is to follow current Turabian format for any outside sources the student may choose to incorporate.

**E. 4-MAT Book Reviews (3)**

The student will write a research-based paper in 1,300–1,800 words in current Turabian format that succinctly summarizes and applies the information covered in 3 of the 4 resources to the role of the worship leader. The paper must include at least 2 footnotes and applications from the Bible.

**F. Interview Project**

The student must write 2 interview papers in current Turabian format that focus on the interview of two pastors/ministers of music teams outside of the student's own church/church staff. Each interview paper is to be 750–1,250 words; therefore, the project will be 1,500–2,500 words. A template interview form of questions is provided for the student.

**G. Annotated Bibliography**

The student must write an annotated bibliography in current Turabian format that focuses on one of the provided topics. The paper must include at least 10 references published within the last 10 years summarized in at least 50 words. The course resources may be used, but do not count toward the total number of references. Each annotation must be 50–200 words.

**H. Capstone Project**

The capstone project will be split into three portions: a paper, an audio/visual presentation, and an executive summary.

**Paper**

The student must write a 3,750-word research-based paper in current Turabian format that focuses on the same chosen topic from the annotated bibliography. The paper must include at least 12 references. The course resources may be used, but do not count toward the total number of references.

**Audio/Visual Presentation**

The student must create an audio/visual presentation that is 4–5 minutes and encapsulates the paper into a succinct overview. The student may choose from a list of Liberty University-approved media in the assignment instructions to submit the presentation.

**Executive Summary**

The student must submit a 100–250-word executive summary that presents the topic of the paper, captures the main themes of the paper, and highlights the practical application of the research paper.

**VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES****A. Points**

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (1 at 30 pts; 3 at 50 pts ea)	180

Working with Me Paper	100
4MAT Book Reviews (3 at 100 pts ea)	300
Interview Project	100
Annotated Bibliography	120
Capstone Project	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>1011010</b>

B. Scale

A = 940–1010   A- = 920–939   B+ = 900–919   B = 860–899   B- = 840–859  
 C+ = 820–839   C = 780–819   C- = 760–779   D+ = 740–759   D = 700–739  
 D- = 680–699   F = 0–679

C. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Academic 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).

## COURSE SCHEDULE

### WRSP 645

Textbooks: Bonem & Patterson, *Leading from the Second Chair* (2005).  
 Hicks, *The Worship Pastor* (2016).  
 Root, *The Relational Pastor: Sharing in Christ by Sharing Ourselves* (2013).  
 Thrall et al., *The Ascent of a Leader* (1999).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Bonem & Patterson: chs. 1–2 Hicks: chs. 1–5 Thrall et al.: chs. 1–3 3 presentations 1 website	Course Requirements Checklist DB Forum 1 – Introductions Working with Me Paper	10 30 100
2	Hicks: chs. 6–10 Thrall et al.: chs. 4–7 3 presentations	4MAT Book Review 1– Hicks Text	100
3	Bonem & Patterson: chs. 3–4 Root: chs. 1–5 Thrall et al.: chs. 8–11 2 presentations	DB Forum 2 – Scenario 1	50
4	Root: chs. 6–8 Thrall et al.: chs. 12–15 3 presentations	4MAT Book Review 2 – Thrall Text	100
5	Bonem & Patterson: chs. 5–7 Root: chs. 9–11 3 presentations	DB Forum 3 – Scenario 2 Interview Project	50 100
6	Root: chs. 12–14 3 presentations	Annotated Bibliography	120
7	Bonem & Patterson: chs. 13–15 Root: chs. 15–16 2 presentations	Capstone Project	200
8	Review all Reading and Study 2 presentations	DB Forum 4 – Reflections 4MAT Book Review 3 – Root Text	50 100
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>101010</b>

DB = Discussion Board

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