# 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 <u>not</u> be used to purchase course materials.

# COURSE SYLLABUS

## WRSP 835
### THEOLOGY, PHILOSOPHY AND METHODOLOGY OF WORSHIP

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a comprehensive study of the purpose and practice of a theology of worship in the Evangelical church community. The study is divided into three parts: 1) cognitive theology that includes the understanding and discovery of a biblical theology of worship and music; 2) personal and professional philosophy derived from the application of theology to worship; and 3) methodology for worship ministry which includes developing a strategy for teaching theology as a worship leader. The class is guided by a series of projects whereby students build a personal theology for private and public worship and then develops a pedagogical paradigm for inclusion of the course material and constructs in a worship curriculum. This course is offered online only.

### RATIONALE

At the heart of successful worship leadership is the preparation and presentation of worship by a worship leader. Those preparing to work as worship leaders, as well as pastors and professional clergy preparing to work alongside worship leaders, need to understand the biblical role theology has in the day-to-day application of the ministry. Theology impacts a worship leader's understanding and application of philosophy; philosophy, in turn, impacts a worship leader's choices of methodology for worship. Over the years, those involved in the process of training worship leaders have often focused only on the experiential aspects of worship. While the experience in worship (spirit) is important, the intellectual pursuit of worship (truth) is equally essential. This course seeks to address these issues and provide opportunities for the student to apply learned principles to local ministry.

## 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 Office

IV.     **MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

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

A.      Compare biblical models of worship as found in Scripture, as well as identify central characteristics of each model.

B.      Evaluate principles for developing a personal philosophy of worship based on biblical theology.

C.      Evaluate the theological and philosophical elements of worship by designing and implementing a worship experience with biblically based methodology.

D.      Articulate an understanding of the role of Scripture, prayer, and song in the design and implementation of corporate worship experiences.

E.      Develop an 8-week pedagogical strategy for use in academic or local church settings.

V.      **COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

A.      Textbook readings and lecture 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 (3)

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 600 words, reference at least 1 Reading & Study video presentation, and include at least 2 citations. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to at least 2 classmates' threads. Each reply must be at least 300 words and include at least 1 citation. Each thread and reply must also contain at least 1 biblical reference and follow current Turabian format.

D.      Summary-Analysis Reports (2)

The student will complete Summary-Analysis Reports on the assigned textbooks using the provided template. For each Summary-Analysis Report, the student must provide a 2–3-paragraph summary and a 1–2-paragraph analysis of each chapter. The student must also include a 1-sentence statement of what he or she learned from each chapter. Each chapter summary-analysis must be no more than 1 page. Each Summary-Analysis Report must include a title page.

E.      Pedagogy Project

The student will develop an 8-week residential course (8 modules) on the topic of "Building a Theology of Worship" that is designed to be taught in a college setting. For this project, the student will develop the syllabus, module overviews and outcomes, lectures, and a PowerPoint presentation to accompany each lecture.

Bibliography

In preparation for the final submission of the Pedagogy Project, the student will provide a bibliography of at least 15 scholarly sources. The bibliography must include a brief description of at least 50 words for each resource and follow current Turabian format.

Final

The student will submit the materials for his or her 8-week course. The syllabus must include a basic course description, 4–7 course objectives, bibliographic information for 6–8 relevant textbooks, and general assignment instructions. Each module must include an overview of at least 50 words, at least 2 outcomes, a lecture, and a PowerPoint presentation supporting the lecture. Each lecture must be 5–7 pages, reference at least 3 scholarly sources, and follow current Turabian format. Each PowerPoint presentation must contain at least 5 slides.

F.     4-MAT Book Reviews (2)

For each 4-MAT Book Review, the student will write a 1,300–1,800-word review of the assigned textbook in current Turabian format. In addition to the textbook, each 4-MAT Book Review must contain at least 1 other scholarly reference and 1 biblical reference.

G.     Personal Ministry Evaluation

The student will complete a self-study that incorporates an evaluation of his or her theological, philosophical, and methodological concepts of worship. This treatise must be 14–16 pages (not including the title page, table of contents, bibliography, or appendices), reference at least 14 scholarly sources, and follow current Turabian format.

H.     Worship Experience Project

The student will plan a 15–20-minute worship experience based on 1 of the subjects covered in the course. The student will submit a detailed order of worship outlining all Scripture, lyrics, and creative elements utilized in the service, as well as any slides used for the projection of lyrics. This assignment must present the theological, philosophical, and methodological elements of the chosen subject area and include evidence from 3–4 sources.

**VI.** **COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES**

    A.    Points

| | |
|---|---|
| Course Requirements Checklist | 10 |
| Discussion Board Forums (3 at 50 pts ea) | 150 |
| Summary-Analysis Report 1 (Hamilton) | 80 |
| Summary-Analysis Report 2 (Block) | 120 |
| Pedagogy Project | |
|     Bibliography | 50 |
|     Final | 150 |
| 4-MAT Book Reviews (2 at 100 pts ea) | 200 |
| Personal Ministry Evaluation | 150 |
| Worship Experience Project | 100 |
| **Total** | 1010 |

    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 Accommodation Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at 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. 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 835

Textbooks:  Block, *For the Glory of God: Recovering a Biblical Theology of Worship* (2014).
Boswell, *Doxology & Theology: How the Gospel Forms the Worship Leader* (2013).
Hamilton, *What Is Biblical Theology?* (2014).
Old, *Leading in Prayer: A Workbook for Worship* (1995).
Tozer, *The Purpose of Man: Designed to Worship* (2009).

| MODULE/ WEEK | READING & STUDY | ASSIGNMENTS | POINTS |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Hamilton: entire book 4 presentations | Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Summary-Analysis Report 1 (Hamilton) | 10 0 80 |
| 2 | Boswell: chs. 1–7 Tozer: chs. 1–7 4 presentations | DB Forum 1 Pedagogy Project – Bibliography | 50 50 |
| 3 | Boswell: chs. 8–14 Tozer: chs. 8–14 3 presentations | DB Forum 2 4-MAT Book Review 1 | 50 100 |
| 4 | Block: chs. 1–5 2 presentations | Personal Ministry Evaluation | 150 |
| 5 | Block: chs. 6–9 5 presentations | Worship Experience Project | 100 |
| 6 | Block: chs. 10–13 Old: chs. 1–5 2 presentations | DB Forum 3 Summary-Analysis Report 2 (Block) | 50 120 |
| 7 | Old: chs. 6–10 3 presentations | 4-MAT Book Review 2 | 100 |
| 8 | 2 presentations | Pedagogy Project – Final | 150 |
| | | **TOTAL** | **1010** |

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**.