

# PT 601

## Theology & Practice of Worship

Semester: Fall, 2014  
Days: Monday, 6:30-9:30pm  
Room: A2133

Number of credits: 3

Prerequisite:  
PT 501

Instructor: Mark Buchanan  
Email: mbuchanan@ambrose.edu  
Phone: 403-410-2000; 7907  
Office: L2071  
Office hours: By appointment

### Course Description:

This course will probe the meaning, value, and practice of worship from a biblical, theological, and historical perspective, including a brief survey of the wealth and breadth of worship practices around the globe and throughout the ages. As well, it will explore the possibilities, opportunities and challenges of worship in our time and place. Always, though, the core concern will be with the deepening formation of the student as one who worships the Triune God in spirit and in truth (John 4:23). The student, by the end of the course, should be able to identify and articulate the history, theology, and purpose of worship, but above all should possess a rich understanding and robust practice of worship.

### Further Course Information:

This course does not assume or require any prior experience with leading worship.

### Expected Learning Outcomes:

- The engaged and attentive student should come away from the course with the following:
- A theology of worship that is rooted in both Scripture and history.
- An appreciation and understanding of the role of worship in the mission and identity of the Church.
- A sense of the wealth and breadth of worship practices throughout the ages and across the world.
- A deepened personal hunger for and capacity to worship.
- A heightened urgency and ability to call others to a life of worship.

### Important Dates:

First day of classes: September 3, 2014  
Registration revision period: September 14, 2014  
Last day to request revised examination: October 27, 2014  
Last day to withdraw from course: November 12, 2014  
Last day to apply for time extension for coursework: November 24, 2014  
Last day of classes: December 9, 2014

<b>Final Exam:</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>Time:</b>	<b>NA</b>
<b>Room:</b>	<b>NA</b>

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## Outline:

- Sept 9 The Primacy of Worship: “Come, Meet a Man”**  
Focus: God’s initiative in worship
- 16 The Heart of Worship: “Hasn’t the King Distinguished Himself?”**  
Focus: Our response to God’s initiative in worship
- 23 The Goal of Worship: “Today, If You Hear His Voice...”**  
Focus: Our obedience to God’s revelation in worship
- 30 Worship & Community: “We Will Go Out with Joy”**  
Focus: The role of community in worship
- Oct 7 Acts of Worship I: Around the World, Throughout the Ages**  
Focus: a global history of worship
- 14 Acts of Worship II: North America**  
Focus: a history of worship in North America.
- 21 Worship & Music: The Tale of the Weeping Camel**  
Focus: the role of music in worship
- 28 Worship & Spiritual Formation: “But Be Transformed”**  
Focus: the relationship between worship and discipleship
- Nov 4 Worship & Preaching: “Now Bring Me A Harpist”**  
Focus: the relationship between worship and evangelism
- 11 NO CLASS - Remembrance Day**
- 18 Worship & Justice: “Let Justice Role”**  
Focus: the relationship between worship and justice
- 25 Practical Considerations I: “Now When You Come Together”**  
Focus: practical matters regarding leading or overseeing worship in the local church
- Dec 2 Practical Considerations II: “Now When You Come Together”**  
Focus: More practical matters regarding leading or overseeing worship in the local church
- 9 Conclusions: “I Will Exalt You, My God the King”**  
Focus: summary

## Requirements:

1. Write a 500-word paper on your current philosophy of worship. **Due: 6:30 PM, September 30, 2014.**
  2. Design a worship service. **Due: 6:30 PM, October 28, 2014.**
  3. Write a 1500-word paper on your developed philosophy of worship. **Due: 6:30 PM, December 2, 2014.**
  4. Visit 3 worship services from traditions very different from your own (including at least one outside the Christian faith) and prepare a 1000-word report of your observations and reflections. **Due: 6:30 PM, December 2, 2014.**
  5. Select and read from the Recommended Book List enough supplemental reading to total 1000 pages for the entire course.
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6. Write a 1-page (1.5 spacing, 12 pt. *New Times Colonist*, *Ariel* or *Garamond*) précis of each book read (including supplemental books). This is strictly a summary of the book's contents – not a critique, analysis, or response. Must not exceed 1-page per book.

**Due:**

- Torrance book: **6:30 PM, September 30, 2014**
- Castleman book: **6:30 PM, October 28, 2014**
- Park book & all other reading: **6:30 PM, December 2, 2014.**

## Submission of Assignments:

**Submission Policy:** Please submit both a hard copy and an electronic copy on or before the due date (no later than 9:30 PM on due date).

**Late Policy:** Only under extraordinary circumstances (i.e., a life or family crisis, a severe and prolonged illness, etc.) will the instructor grant an extension. All requests for extension must be submitted in writing on or before the assignment's due date. Otherwise, any submissions received later than midnight on the due date will be deemed late and penalized at a 5% deduction per day. Any submission later than a week past the due date, unless negotiated with the Registrar, will automatically receive an F.

**Format:**

All papers must:

- Be double-spaced (except for reading reports, which can use 1.5 spacing).
- Use *Times New Roman*, *Arial* or *Garamond* 12-point font.
- Be stapled - Do NOT use paper clips.
- Be numbered.
- Cite sources properly. NOTE: The student can use his/her preferred style (e.g. Kate Turabian's *A Manual for Writers*, or *The Chicago Manual of Style*), but must remain consistent throughout the entire paper.
- Use inclusive language. The student is encouraged to avoid the consistent use of masculine terminology in reference to people in the general sense. For example, prefer using the terms "humanity" or "people" or "humankind" over the terms "man" or "mankind" when referring to the human race.
- Include a title page (both on the hard copy and the electronic copy).

## Attendance:

Although attendance makes up no portion of the grade, the student is expected to fully participate in class discussions and to integrate the course material into their written work. Therefore, the student should make every effort to attend and participate in each class.

## Evaluation:

<b>Assignment 1: Current Philosophy of Worship</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Assignment 2: A Design for a Worship Service</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>Assignment 3: Developed Philosophy of Worship</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>Assignment 4: Reflection on 3 Worship Services</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>Assignment 5: Reading Summaries</b>	<b>15%</b>

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## Grade Summary:

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>
A+	
A	Excellent
A-	
B+	
B	Good
B-	
C+	
C	Satisfactory
C-	
D+	
D	Minimal Pass
F	Failure

## Textbooks:

- Castleman, Robbie F.      *Story-Shaped Worship: Following Patterns from The Bible & History*. Downers Grove, Ill: IVP Acadmeic, 2013.
- Park, Andy      *To Know You More: Cultivating the Heart of the Worship Leader*. Downers Grove, Ill: IVP Press, 2004.
- Torrance, James B.      *Worship, Community & the Triune God of Grace*. Downers Grove, Ill: IVP Press, 1996.
- Strongly Recommended (especially for Worship Pastors or Leaders):**
- Gene Edwards      *A Tale of Three Kings: A Study in Brokenness*. Nashville, TN: Tyndale Publishers, 1992.

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## Policies:

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (Cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, it is highly recommended that they forward all messages from the Ambrose account to the other account.

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may to enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty. These courses will not appear on the student's transcript. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date, please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a Request to Withdraw from a Course by the **Withdrawal Deadline**, please consult the List of Important Dates. Withdrawal from courses after the Registration Revision period will not be eligible for tuition refund. A grade of "W" will appear on the student's transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a **Revised Examination** Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date, please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

### Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to engage in electronically-enabled activities unrelated to the class during a class session. Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Please do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

### Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information, that is information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as a requirement as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at [privacy@ambrose.edu](mailto:privacy@ambrose.edu).

### Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a "**Course Extension**" from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date, please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control".

### Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar in writing within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal to review final grades. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

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**Academic Integrity**

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University College as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to give credit to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.

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## Bibliography

- Beach, Nancy *An Hour on Sunday: Creating Moments of Transformation & Wonder*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2004.
- Best, Harold M. *Unceasing Worship: Biblical Perspectives on Worship & the Arts*. Downers Grove, Ill: IVP Books, 2003.
- Dawn, Marva *A Royal Waste of Time: The Splendor of Worshipping God & Being the Church for the World*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1999.
- Reaching Out without Dumbing Down: A Theology of Worship for this Urgent Time*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1995.
- Doerksen, Brian *Make Love, Make War: Now is the Time to Worship*. Colorado Springs, CO: David Cook Publishers, 2009.
- Carson, D.A., ed. *Worship by the Book*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2002.
- Dyrness, William A. *A Primer on Christian Worship*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2009.
- Fox, Robin Lane. *Pagans & Christians*. San Francisco, CA: HarperCollins, 1988.
- Geoffrey Wainright, ed. *The Oxford History of Christian Worship*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2006.
- Hurtado, Larry W. *At the Origins of Christian Worship: The Context & Character of Earliest Christian Devotion*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1999.
- Labberton, Mark *The Dangerous Act of Worship: Living God's Call to Justice*. Downers Grove, Ill: IVP Books, 2012.
- MacDonald, Gordon *Who Stole My Church: What to Do When the Church You Loves Tries to Enter the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 2007.
- Noland, Rory. *The Heart of an Artist: A Character-Building Guide for You & Your Team*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1999.
- Thriving as an Artist in Your Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2004.
- Peterson, Eugene *Reversed Thunder: The Revelation of John & the Praying Imagination*. San Francisco, CA: HarperOne, 1991.
- Saliers, Don & Emily *A Song to Sing, A Life to Live: Reflections on Music as Spiritual Practice*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 2005.
- Sorge, Bob. *Dealing with the Rejection and Praise of Man*. Lee's Summit, MO: Oasis House, 1999.
- Exploring Worship: A Practical Guide to Praise & Worship*. Canandaigua, NY: Oasis House, 1987.
- Webber, Robert *Ancient-Future Worship: Proclaiming & Enacting God's Narrative*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2008.
- Blended Worship: Achieving Substance & Relevance in Worship*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 2000.
- Worship Old & New*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1994.
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## ***Writing an Academic Paper (Adapted from an article by Dr. Bill McAlpine)***

Reading a well-thought, well-argued, well-researched, well-written paper is one of a teacher's delights. Reading a poorly reasoned, thinly researched, sloppily written one, one of a teacher's torments.

You are asked to write an *academic paper*. This is not the same as an essay, personal reflection, or thought-piece. It's its own creature. Hopefully the following suggestions will help you.

- ✓ **Research.** Start thinking about and reading for the paper early. Insight from good research seldom, if ever, comes from crunching and scrambling. Asking God for a miracle when you've put off your research until the last moment is an act of presumption, not faith. Complete most of your research before starting to write. Try to establish a preliminary outline early in the process. **(please consult Late Policy in syllabus).**
- ✓ **Reflection.** Prior to writing your final draft you should be able to answer the following questions:
  - What is my central theme?
  - What questions I am addressing related to this theme?
  - What line of argument am I taking in answering these questions?
- ✓ **Thesis.** Surprise endings are great in movies but terrible in academic paper. The ending, and how you arrive at it, should be evident from the beginning. Your first paragraph should grab the reader's attention and convince him/her that what follows merits their careful attention and reflection. Your second paragraph should provide a clear purpose statement, and should describe the overall direction of your paper, the conclusions you have come to, and the line of argument you will take to get there. This, in essence, is your thesis.
- ✓ **Argumentation, not assertion.** A paper like this should both develop and demonstrate your skills of analysis, evaluation, and critical thinking. Therefore, a bare summary of other people's views and ideas is inadequate. Likewise, a bald assertion of your personal opinion or conviction devoid of reasonable argumentation and substantiation is inadequate.
- ✓ **Conclusion:** Conclude well. A summary is not a conclusion. A conclusion demonstrates that you have interpreted, reflected on, and, where appropriate, applied your research convincingly
- ✓ **Style:** Academic writing does not have to be boring. Be creative. Be interesting. Avoid clichés and the passive voice. Each paragraph should address one idea and each sentence should be grammatically correct (that is, it should contain at least a subject and a verb). Use a rich and varied vocabulary but also strive for simplicity, brevity, and clarity - avoid too many words and too many big words. Read your paper out loud, or have someone else read it to you: even beginner writers can *hear* sloppy writing better than they can *see* it.