

The Practice of Planning and Leading Worship 3 credits

Class Information		Instructor Information		First day of classes:	Wed., Sept. 9, 2015
Days:		Instructor:	Terry Fach, BTh BA MA MPhil	Last day to add/drop, or change to audit:	Sun., Sept 20, 2015
Time:		Email:	tfach@ambrose.edu	Last day to request revised exam:	Mon., Oct. 26, 2015
Room:	Leadership Room, A2013	Phone:	(m)403.923.3975	Last day to withdraw from course:	Thu., Nov. 12, 2015
Lab/Tutorial:		Office:	A2011 (o)403.410.2000ex5915	Last day to apply for time extension for coursework:	Mon., Nov 23, 2015
FINAL EXAM: no final exam		Office Hrs:		Last day of classes:	Mon., Dec 14, 2015

Textbook:

Peterson, Brent D. (2012) *Created to Worship: God's Invitation to Become Fully Human*. Kansas City, Beacon Hill Press.

Pierson, Mark. (2010). *The Art of Curating Worship: Reshaping the Role of the Worship Leader*. Minneapolis. Sparkhouse Press.

Packiam, Glenn. (2013) *Discover the Mystery of Faith: How Worship Shapes Believing*. David C. Cook

Course Description:

This 3 credit course, over two semesters, is a supervised practical student leadership experience. The class is comprised of corporate worship leading, classroom learning and discussion, and written reflection. Only students who have been appointed to formal student worship leadership roles are eligible to participate, including: the Chapel Worship Coordinator; Word and Table Worship Leader; Chapel Worship Group Leaders; and Associate CWG Leaders. This general goal of this class is to combine theological and practical instruction with concurrent worship leading practice. That is, readings, written assignments, seminars, lectures, classroom and online discussion, and retreats, will help students understand and integrate theory with practical leading experiences.

Expected Learning Outcomes:

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

1. Identify and discuss some of the **historical and biblical foundations** of Christian worship
2. Explain the **meaning and purpose of Christian worship** from a basic theological perspective
3. Appreciate and articulate **essential elements** of Christian corporate worship
4. Plan and lead **Christian corporate worship services** with confidence and competence
5. Assess and select **worship songs, prayers, and transitional "in-between-words"** based on their biblical, theological, spiritual, and cultural appropriateness

Course Schedule:

Mondays (time TBA): Sept. 21; Oct. 19; Nov. 16; Jan. 18; Feb. 8; Mar. 14

Requirements:

1. Short Reflection (min. 400 words) and Two Responses on Moodle on Class Outline topics (2 x 10% = **20%**) – due Oct. 15, 2015 and Nov. 15, 2015
2. Participation in September Bootcamp and Monday seminars, music review, prayer (**15%**)
3. Leadership Practice Reflection: reflection assignment based on the planning, rehearsing, leading, and evaluation of a chapel worship service (4 x 5% = **20%**) due dates TBA
4. Written integration assignment –essay (**20%**) – due Friday, April 14, 2016
5. Leadership work of 5 hours per week is expected for all positions (September 2015 – April 2016). Evaluation of chapel leadership by supervisor (**25%**)

Short Response Essays: Students will write two short reflections based on a class outline topic. Each reflection should be a minimum of 400 words and posted in the appropriate Moodle drop box. Within one week of the due date each student should comment on at least two other students' reflections (minimum entry 100 words). Comments should be thoughtful, probing, and appreciative.

Leadership Practice Reflection: Students will be asked to reflect critically on the experience of planning, preparing, and leading 4 (four) separate worship services over the two terms. A simple template will be provided. The purpose of this assignment is to provide an opportunity for personal, spiritual, and theological reflection on the all aspects of the worship leading experience. Students may complete these at any time during the year.

Written Integration Assignment – Essay: Students will write a 7 page (maximum), double-spaced essay integrating theory and practice. The essay will be graded based on the following rubric:

1. Worship Leadership: Theology and Practice

- a. Provide a brief summary of one key concept relating to worship theology and leadership **from each** of the three required texts (Pierson, Peterson, Packiam) – (30%)
- b. Describe how these concepts were relevant to your worship leadership experience over the past year. In other words, how were these theoretical concepts integrated into your experience? (30%)

2. Leadership Development

- a. Describe two major contributions you made to students, or your team, or to the Ambrose community through your leadership over the past year. Be specific. (10%)
- b. Describe two areas in your own leadership that were challenging and where growth is needed. (10%)

3. Reflection/Self-Care (Pick **only one** of the following questions to answer) (20%)

- a. Briefly describe your spiritual journey as a worship leader this past year. To what degree did personal and team spiritual practices/experiences become important for your soul and/or self-care?
- b. How has your understanding and vision for corporate Christian worship changed or expanded this past year? What great worship leadership vision is calling you into the future?

Attendance:

The general expectation is that students will attend all retreats, seminars, scheduled leadership duties, and complete all assignments.

Grade Summary:

% Grade Letter Grade Description

95% to 100% A+
90% to 94% A Excellent
85% to 89% A-
80% to 84% B+
76% to 79% B Good
72% to 75% B-
68% to 71% C+
64% to 67% C Satisfactory
60% to 63% C-
55% to 59% D+
50% to 54% D Minimal Pass
0% to 49% F Failure

Please note that final grades will be available on your student portal. Printed grade sheets are no longer mailed out. 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.

Please note that final grades will be available on student registration system. Printed grade sheets are not mailed out.

Other

Additional: On Reserve (Library)

Webber, Robert. (1999) *Worship: Journey into His Presence*. Mansfield. Kingdom Publishing.
Duck, Ruth. (2013) *Worship for the Whole People of God*. Louisville. Westminster John Knox Press
Gonzalez, Catherine. (2014) *Resources in the Ancient Church for Today's Worship*. Abingdon
The Worship Sourcebook, 2nd edition (2013). Faith Alive Resources

Graduate-Level Required Reading

Smith, James K. A. (2009) *Desiring the Kingdom: Worship, Worldview, and Cultural Formation*. Grand Rapids. Baker Publishing.

Class Outline

Topic	When	Related Skill	Reading
1. Lex Orandi, Lex Credendi (Our Worship Shapes our Believing and our Living)	Bootcamp	Theological Reflection & Planning	Packiam, ch. 1 Peterson, ch. 2 Sourcebook, "The Practice of Christian Worship" in Prologue
2. The Deep Structure of Worship (Recovering an Ordo)	Bootcamp	Theological Reflection & Planning	Duck (Worship), ch. 4 Webber, intro.
3. Practical Issues: Planning Worship Services at Ambrose	Bootcamp	Planning	(handout)
4. Curating Worship (creative design; what goes where and why?)	Sept. 21	Leading Worship	Pierson, chs. 3 – 8, 12 Peterson, ch. 12
5. Words for Worship, Part 1: In-Between Words: Considering the Words We Use in Leading Worship	October 19	Planning and Leading	Handout from Terry Duck , chs.6 - 7
Words, Part 2: Prayers	November 16	Planning and leading	Handout from Terry Peterson, chs. 14-15 Pierson, ch. 9 Packiam, ch. 2
6. The Church Year (how scripture and Gospel shape worship)	January 18	Theological reflection, planning and leading	Peterson, ch. 11 Gonzalez, ch. 5 Packiam, chs. 3-4
7. The Table: Not just a funeral for Jesus	February 8	Theological reflection, planning and leading	Peterson, chs. 20-22 Packiam, ch. 5 Gonzalez, ch. 4
8. Nurturing Vision and Growing Your Leadership Gifts for Worship	March 14	Theological reflection, teaching	Pierson, ch. 12 Duck, ch. 14 Packiam, ch. 6

Monday Leadership Gatherings

The purpose of these meetings (approximately 3 each month) is for prayer, de-briefing experiences and learning, and music review. Meetings will normally be 45-60 minutes in length. Exact dates and times TBA to fit student schedules. Your promptness will help us stay under 60 minutes. A note about classroom protocol when we gather: It is disruptive to the learning goals of a discussion or prayer-time and disrespectful to fellow students and the leader to engage in electronically-enabled activities unrelated to the class, during a meeting. Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during our gatherings. 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 media networks, search the internet, or play computer games when we are in session.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies, as stated in the Student

Handbook and 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.

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 appropriate deadline (as listed in the Academic Calendar <http://www.ambrose.edu/publications/academiccalendar>). Course extensions are only granted for serious issues which arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

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 and the Student Handbook 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.

Appendix: PT 750 Course Requirements

1. Four meetings with instructor: discussion of central themes and arguments in Smith's *Desiring the Kingdom*. Dates TBA. (20%)
2. Participation in September Bootcamp, Monday seminars, CICW Symposium (15%)
3. Leadership Practice Reflection: reflection assignment based on the planning, rehearsing, leading, and evaluation of a chapel worship service (4 x 5% = 20%) due dates TBA
4. Written integration assignment –essay (20%) – due Friday, April 14, 2016
5. Leadership work of 5 hours per week is expected for all positions (September 2015 – April 2016). Evaluation of chapel leadership by supervisor (25%)

Written Integration Assignment – Essay: The student will write a 12 page (maximum), double-spaced essay integrating theory and practice. The essay will be graded based on the following rubric:

1. Worship Leadership: Theology and Practice

- a. Provide a brief summary of one key concept or argument relating to worship theology and leadership from Smith's *Desiring the Kingdom* – (30%)
- b. Describe how this concept was relevant to your worship leadership experience over the past year. In other words, how was this theoretical concept integrated into your experience? (30%)

2. Leadership Development

- a. Describe two major contributions you made to students, or your team, or to the Ambrose community through your leadership over the past year. Be specific. (10%)
- b. Describe two areas in your own leadership that were challenging and where growth is needed. (10%)

3. Reflection/Self-Care (Pick **only one** of the following questions to answer) (20%)

- a. Briefly describe your spiritual journey as a worship leader this past year. To what degree did personal and team spiritual practices/experiences become important for your soul and/or self-care?
- b. How has your understanding and vision for corporate Christian worship changed or expanded this past

year? What great worship leadership vision is calling you into the future?

Policies:

Communication

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, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may 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 or record. 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" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

Exam Scheduling

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) the student has 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 use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. 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. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in 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.

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Appeal of Grade

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in writing and providing the basis for appeal 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. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

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