

MN709D - Worship in the Reformed Tradition

University of Dubuque Theological Seminary Summer 2007

Instructor: Rev. Dr. Richard J. Shaffer Jr.

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3 credits; letter grade or Pass/Fail

Prerequisites: None

This course is highly recommended for Presbyterian students.

Course Description

This course will introduce students to the history and theology of worship in the Reformed tradition, with special emphasis on the current worship resources and practices of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Course Objectives

By participating fully in this class, students will:

- Develop a working understanding of the history, theology, and practices of Reformed worship, including the sacraments.
- Develop a theological and practical understanding of the “Directory for Worship” of the PC(USA) *Book of Order*, and other denominational resources.
- Grow in the ability to plan and implement worship services that mature Christian faith and character.
- Nurture the capacity to think theologically and critically about how Reformed worship services are ordered.

M.Div. Curricular Goals

This course helps fulfill the following M.Div. curricular goals, enabling students to:

- Be formed by, live in, and minister out of Scripture and the historical and theological tradition of the Church.
- Lead worship and administer the sacraments with theological integrity and to the glory of God.
- Educate and equip individuals and congregations to live and minister joyfully and faithfully as part of their own denomination and the ecumenical church.
- Integrate theology and practice in all areas of life and ministry.

Course Requirements

1. The student must keep up to date with posted lectures, assigned readings and class discussions.
2. All students will be expected to participate regularly in class discussions.

3. Responses to assigned questions must be posted on the discussion board in a timely manner.
4. Two 5 page papers on a topic in Reformed Worship, selected from the list below. These papers will be due on the dates specified.
5. An Order of Worship for a Lord's Day service, including both sacraments, with a 15-20 page commentary explaining the issues of theology, polity, and liturgy embodied in the service.

Evaluation

The final grade will be determined as follows:

- 30% - Participation in class discussion boards, including responses to assigned questions.
- 40% - Final paper, annotated order of worship, due August 30.
- 15% - Topical paper #1, due June 30.
- 15% - Topical paper #2, due July 28.

Grading Scale

3 credits; Letter grade or credit/no credit

A	93-100	C	73-76
A-	90-92	C-	70-72
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	83-86	D	63-66
B-	80-82	D-	60-62
C+	77-79	F	below 60

*Students taking the course "credit/no credit" must do passing work on all assignments.

Selected Topics in Reformed Worship

Each student will be expected to complete two 5 page papers on a topic related to Reformed Worship.

- Scripture
- Preaching
- Prayer
- Music
- Worship space
- Vestments and Paraments
- Time, may include but not limited to liturgical seasons
- Sacraments, Baptism or Lord's Supper
- Traditional Worship Order
- Contemporary Worship Issues
- Special Occasions: Weddings, Funerals, or Ordinations

Course Bibliography

Required Texts

Peter C. Bower, ed. *The Companion to the Book of Common Worship*. Louisville: Geneva Press, 2003.

Old, Hughes Oliphant. *Worship Reformed According to Scripture*, revised and expanded edition. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2002.

P.C. (U.S.A.) *The Book of Common Worship*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1993.

P.C. (U.S.A.) *Book of Occasional Services*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1999.

P.C. (U.S.A.) *The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*, Part I, *The Book of Confessions* [current edition with index].

P.C. (U.S.A.) *The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*, Part II, *The Book of Order* [current edition].

P.C. (U.S.A.) *The Presbyterian Hymnal*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1990.

Recommended Texts

Byars, Ronald P. *Christian Worship: Glorifying and Enjoying God*. Louisville: Geneva Press, 2000.

Long, Thomas. *Beyond the Worship Wars: Building Vital and Faithful Worship*. Bethesda: Alban Institute, 2002.

Thompson, Bard, ed. *Liturgies of the Western Church*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1994.

Vischer, Lukas, ed. *Christian Worship in Reformed Churches Past and Present*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003.

Course Administrative Information:

1. All work is due as scheduled. Late work, if accepted, will be assessed a grade penalty proportionate to the number of days the assignment is late.
2. Papers may be submitted electronically (Word document) or via US mail. The same deadlines apply.
3. Students are expected to do their own work. Policies on plagiarism are outlined in the 2006-2007 UDTS Student Handbook.
4. Inclusive language, per the UDTS policy, is expected.

5. Students may seek help from the Academic Support Center in the Myers Library as needed.
6. The syllabus, class schedule and other attending documents are subject to change.
7. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Statement – A student who has a disability that might affect his/her performance in this course should consult with the instructor and the campus ADA compliance office, in confidence, by the second class session. UD’s ADA compliance committee is co-chaired by Susanna Robey, Academic Support Center (ext. 3218).

Weekly Course Schedule

Week 1 – June 4, 2007

Introduction of the class – syllabus and expectations

Topic in Reformed Worship – “What is Reformed Worship?”

Readings - Old: Chapter 1 – “Some Basic Principles”

Directory: “Preface,” “Chapter I, and Chapter VII

Companion (Bower): pp. 1-44, 279-286

Week 2 – June 11, 2007

Topic in Reformed Worship – “Time and Space”

Readings - Directory: W-1.3000, Chapter III

Companion (Bower): pp. 82-154

Book of Common Worship: Explore treatment of the liturgical year, including pp. 1033-1097.

Presbyterian Hymnal: Explore treatment of the liturgical year.

Week 3 – June 18, 2007

Topic in Reformed Worship – “The Word of God”

Readings - Old: Chapter 5 – “The Ministry of the Word”

Directory: W-2.2000, W-5.3000, and follow the index for “preaching” and “scripture”

Book of Confessions: Follow the index for “preaching” and “scripture”

Week 4 – June 25, 2007

Topic in Reformed Worship – “Prayer”

Readings - Old: Chapter 6 – “The Ministry of Prayer”

Companion (Bower): pp. 208-211 and other sections that explore the use of prayer.

Directory: W-2.1000, W-5.4000, and follow the index for prayer.

Book of Confessions: Follow the index for “prayer.”

Assignment: Topical Paper #1 is due on June 29.

Week 5 – July 2, 2007

Topic in Reformed Worship – “Hymns, Music, and Praise in Worship”

Readings: Old: Chapter 4 – “The Ministry of Praise”
Companion (Bower): pp. 202-208 and explore the index on “music.”
Presbyterian Hymnal: pp. 7-11 and peruse the indices in back.
Directory: Follow the index for “Music in Public Worship”
Book of Confessions: Follow the index for “hymns” and “music.”

Week 6 – July 9, 2007

Topic in Reformed Worship – “The Lord’s Day”

Readings: Old: Chapter 3 – “The Lord’s Day”
Companion (Bower): pp. 6-81
Book of Common Worship: pp. 1-14 and explore the examples of orders of worship.
Directory: W-3.1000 through W-3.3000
Book of Confessions: Follow the index for “The Lord’s Day” and “Public Worship.”

Week 7 – July 16, 2007

Topic in Reformed Worship – “Baptism”

Readings: Old: Chapter 2 – “Baptism”
Companion (Bower): pp. 155-172
Book of Common Worship: Review pp. 403-471.
Hymnal: Identify ten hymns appropriate for Baptism.
Directory: W-2.3000 and W.3.3000.
Book of Confessions: Follow the index for “Baptism.”

Week 8 – July 23, 2007

Topic in Reformed Worship – “The Lord’s Supper”

Readings: Old: Chapter 7 – “The Lord’s Supper”
Companion (Bower): pp. 33-43 and 255-260.
Book of Common Worship: Examine the liturgies for celebration of The Lord’s Supper.
Hymnal: Identify ten Eucharistic hymns.
Directory: W-2.4000 and W-3.3000 and follow the index for “The Lord’s Supper”
Book of Confessions: Follow the index for “The Lord’s Supper”

Assignment: Topical Paper #2 is due on July 27.

Week 9 – July 30, 2007

Topic in Reformed Worship – “Weddings”

Readings: Companion (Bower): pp. 212-233
Book of Common Worship: pp. 840-902
Directory: W-4.9000
Book of Confessions: Follow the index for “marriage”
Hymnal: Find several hymns appropriate for a Christian wedding.

Week 10 – August 6, 2007

Topic in Reformed Worship – “Funerals”

Readings: Companion (Bower): pp. 235-245
Book of Common Worship: pp. 905-946, 947-963
Directory: W.4.10000
Book of Confessions: Follow the index for “death,” “dead,” “funerals,”
and “resurrection.”
Hymnal: Find several hymns appropriate for a Christian funeral.

Week 11 – August 13, 2007

Topic in Reformed Worship – “Worship into the World”

Readings: Old: Chapter 8 – “Daily Prayer” and Chapter 9 – “Alms”
Companion: pp. 246-278
Book of Occasional Services: pp. 6-118, with special attention to services
of ordination, installation, and commissioning.
Directory: W-4.1000 through W-4.8000, W-5.6000, and W-7.0000
Book of Confessions: Follow the index for “Ministers” and “Mission.”

Week 12 – August 20, 2007

Topic in Reformed Worship – “The Lord’s Day: Putting it all into practice”

Readings: Old: Chapter 10 – “Tradition and Practice”
Companion: pp. 1-44.

Assignment: Final Paper due August 29.