

Worship, Community, and Pedagogy
Course CM 101-3, Fall 2023
Mondays, 1:30-4:20pm
Fellowship Hall of Chapel

Instructors and Office Hours

Marcus A. Hong (mhong@lpts.edu)
by appointment,
Contact Laura March to schedule
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by appointment, via email

Both professors will make every effort to respond to email between 24-48 hours after they are received. If you haven't heard from us after 48 hours, please contact us again.

Course Description

At its best, spiritual formation in vibrant worshipping communities glorifies God through the life-giving and liberative attributes of embodiment, diversity, and wholeness. In this course, we will explore the mutually reinforcing practices of learning and worshipping, including how scripture is studied, learned, and embodied; how church traditions are examined and put into contemporary practice; and how people of all ages are equipped to participate in the life of a faith community, and thus in God's broader work in the world. The course attends to the *praxis*—that is, the theory-informed practice and the practice-grounded theory—of liturgy and pedagogy within communities of faith. We will engage together in lectures, seminar-style discussions, student presentations, leading worship, demonstrating pedagogical practices, and reflecting together on all of these experiences. This course depends heavily on the active participation of its students to encourage an ecumenical environment that respects multiple worship traditions.

Prerequisite

There are no prerequisites. The course is required for the MDiv degree and may also count toward the Concentration in Educational Ministry (See professor Wigger for more information about the concentration; for the catalog description: [2022-23 Catalog](#), p. 4).

Objectives: At the end of the course, students will:

1. have a deepened understanding of the role of “practice” in teaching and worship and be able to identify key dimensions of growing in these practices in the community of faith, by examining worship and teaching in contexts of diverse congregations and demographics, including the student's own particular traditions and styles;
2. have begun to express a theological perspective on the interrelated pedagogical and liturgical arts, mindful of global, multicultural, multi-religious contexts, by creatively designing, facilitating, and participating in these practices in an ecumenical learning and worshipping community;
3. have considered their own gifts and abilities related to teaching and learning, and facilitating and planning worship, by engaging in personal and communal reflection on the above experiences.

These objectives are in service to the seminary's larger MDiv Student Learning Outcomes, as articulated in the 2022-23 Academic Catalog:

SLO 5: Students will acquire the knowledge and skill sets necessary for the practice of Christian ministry – as demonstrated by effectiveness in and reflection upon such activities as:

- Offering leadership that emerges from the framework of a congregation's or organization's communions, confessions, and polity
- Preaching, teaching, and leading worship
- Praying and teaching others to pray
- Leading an organization effectively
- Providing public leadership and witness
- Inviting others into the Christian faith
- Offering pastoral care
- Participating in constructive intra-Christian and interreligious engagement.

SLO 6: Students will articulate their own theological perspective, mindful of the global, multicultural, multi-religious context of contemporary ministry.

Course Work

Very specific guidance will be given in class and on Canvas for the required work. The general shape of the work and evaluation are below.

Evaluation

- 1/3 course engagement (weekly reading and assignments, participation)
- 1/3 teaching and worship sessions
- 1/3 final project

Because we are still adapting our new Learning Management System, Canvas, for our purposes, we are not sure how well the grading and gradebook features jibe with our system (so don't take too literally). If you have questions about grades, please consult your professors. We provide letter grades that are valued by the GPA (4.0) scale as follows:

A (4.0)

A- (3.66)

A-/B+ (3.5)

B+ (3.33)

B (3.0)

Etc.

Course Engagement

To encourage careful reading and reflection, as well as high quality, respectful seminar discussion, short assignments will accompany each reading (e.g., answering a question, designing discussion questions, interpreting bulletins, creating artwork, or other reflective exercises). We will use these in class in various ways. Attendance and full participation are assumed.

Teaching/Worship Sessions (Preparing, Doing, Reflecting)

With further guidance from the professors, students, in teams, will 1) lead worship for chapel, and 2) teach once in class. The size of the teams depends upon the class size. Students will meet with the professors to discuss ideas for teaching/worship before they teach/facilitate. They will also meet with Chapel Ministers (according to the worship calendar) to discuss worship plans.

Logistics of Teaching/Worship

The pattern (Fall 2023) will be teaching on a Monday (during regular class time), followed by

leading worship on a Wednesday (at noon). The focus will be on something that helps the class reflect upon the deep theme of worship in light of the intelligences primarily engaged.

Deep themes with particular intelligences:

- Baptism (linguistic and natural)
- Communion (musical and interpersonal)
- Funeral (spatial and intra-personal)
- Prayer (bodily-kinesthetic and logical-mathematical)

Chapel. Each group will lead chapel and focus upon a deep theme primarily engaged through two intelligences, for example, a service focused upon prayer largely through bodily and logical-mathematical intelligences.

Teaching Subgroups. Each group will be subdivided into two teaching subgroups. Each subgroup will focus upon the worship theme more deeply through one of the two intelligences. For example, one subgroup for the theme of prayer will focus upon prayer and bodily-kinesthetic intelligence and the other subgroup will focus upon prayer and logical-mathematical intelligence.

Materials. At the time of teaching/worship, preparation materials (lesson plan/worship materials) will be turned in for the group.

Reflection. Individual reflection papers (roughly 600 words) from each member of the team evaluating the experience are due one week after teaching.

Worship/Teaching groups should consult the following chapters from our assigned texts for guidance as they prepare for their worship/teaching.

Worship/Teaching Group A (Baptism): Duck (ch. 9 and 10); Liu and Williams (ch. 9); materials from your denominational tradition(s) that deal with this particular theme.

Worship/Teaching Group B (Communion): Duck (ch. 9 and 11); Liu and Williams (ch. 10); materials from your denominational tradition(s) that deal with this particular theme.

Worship/Teaching Group C (Funeral): Read Duck (ch. 12); Liu and Williams (ch. 14); materials from your denominational tradition(s) that deal with this particular theme.

Worship/Teaching Group D (Prayer): Read Duck (chp. 13); Liu and Williams (ch. 15); materials from your denominational tradition(s) that deal with this particular theme.

Final Project

Students will design their own final projects. Projects will focus particularly on Objective 2 of the course, with an emphasis upon expressing a theological perspective upon the interrelationship of worship and education. Consistent with a multiple intelligences approach, the forms of such expression are wide-ranging, from a written project to a set of lesson/worship plans to works of liturgical art.

The work involved should be roughly the equivalent of the time and energy involved in a 20-page research paper (approximately 20 to 30 hours of work).

Students must get approval for their projects from the instructors. An initial idea will be submitted by October 9, including time and work estimates; a progress report is due November 13, with a consultation about your project with a professor on November 20 (the initial idea and the progress report factor into your final project grade). The Final Project is due December 11, 5:00 p.m.

Bibliography (reading will be selected from the following):

Armstrong, Thomas. *Multiple Intelligences in the Classroom*. Alexandria, VA: ASCD, 2000.

Baum, L. Frank. *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*. Chicago: George M. Hill Company, 1900. (but any edition is fine—here is a free electronic version: [Link](#))

Duck, Ruth. *Worship for the Whole People of God: Vital Worship for the 21st Century*.

Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 2021 (revised edition).

hooks, bell. *Teaching to Transgress: Education as the Practice of Freedom*. New York: Routledge, 1994.

Liu, Gerald and Khalia J. Williams. *A Worship Workbook: A Practical Guide for Extraordinary Liturgy*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2021.

*Worship Resources from students' tradition. For students from traditions with written resources, examples would include Book of Worship (UMC/AME/AMEZ), Book of Common Worship and Book of Order (PCUSA), or Book of Common Prayer (Episcopal) as well as various hymnals. Students from traditions without written resources can explore other types of guiding resources.

Electronic Reserve (linked below in schedule)

Wigger, J. Bradley. *The Power of God at Home*, San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2003 (selection).

Secondary Bibliography

Available on reserve in the library and could be helpful for planning projects or leading worship/teaching.

Campbell, Linda; Bruce Campbell; and Dee Dickinson. *Teaching and Learning through Multiple Intelligences, 3rd edition*. Boston: Allyn & Bacon, 2003.

Costen, Melva. *African American Christian Worship, 2nd ed.* Nashville: Abingdon, 2007.

Freire, Paulo. *Pedagogy of the oppressed*. New York: Herder and Herder, 1972.

Gopnik, Alison. *The Gardner and the Carpenter: What the New Science of Child*

Development Tells Us About the Relationship Between Parents and Children. New York: Picador, 2016 (especially chapters 4-6).

Harris, Maria. *Teaching and Religious Imagination*. New York: Harper & Row, 1987. (especially chapter 2, "Teaching")

Long, Kimberly. *The Worshipping Body: The Art of Leading Worship*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 2009.

Murphy, Debra Dean. *Teaching that Transforms: Worship as the Heart of Christian Education*, Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos, 2004.

Tye, Karen. *Basics of Christian Education*. St. Louis: Chalice, 2000. Emphasis is on a general outline of congregational educational ministry.

Wigger, J. Bradley. “Multiple Intelligences: Understanding the Many Ways We Learn,” “Learning as We Teach: Christian education is about Teaching Mysteries,” and “Why do you Teach?” *The Thoughtful Christian*, 2009.

Wimberly, Ann. *Soul Stories: African-American Christian Education*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1994.

Wimberly, Anne Streaty. *Nurturing Faith & Hope: Black Worship as a Model for Christian Education*. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2010.

SCHEDULE/TOPICS

September 11	Introduction(s): Mystagogical Catechesis and the relationship between liturgy and pedagogy	
September 18	<p>“The Yellow Brick Road”: Our Journeys and Mind/Heart/Courage in Worship and Teaching</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sharing our Reflections - Mapping our journeys - Home: Liturgy in Everyday Life <p>Establish Groups</p>	<p><i>Due by Class time: Read Baum (all); Wigger (ch. 9) link. Liu and Williams (chs. 1, 4 and 19); Duck (ch. 1).</i></p> <p><i>Assignment on Canvas</i></p>
September 25	<p>“Stuffed with Straw”: Embodied Minds and Multiple Intelligences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rhythms of Education and Worship - Ordo and Flow - When you teach and lead worship 	<p><i>Due by Class time: Read Armstrong (carefully chs. 1-7, 11 and look over the other chapters); Duck (ch. 4 and Appendix 1); Liu and Williams (chs. 3, 5, 29-32)</i></p> <p><i>Assignment on Canvas</i></p>
October 2	<p>“I Should Much Rather Have a Heart”: Holiness, Passion, and Presence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sharing our Reflections - MI in Worship Scavenger Hunt - Sculptures 	<p><i>Due by Class time: Read hooks (chs. 1, 13, and 14); Duck (chs. 2, 3, 5-8); Liu and Williams (chs. 12, 16, 17, 20-27, 33, 34)</i></p> <p><i>Assignment on Canvas</i></p>
October 9	<p>“Life Is Simply Unbearable Without”: Courage and Power</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sharing our Reflections - Discussion, Democratized - Group Work <p>Group A meets with Teaching Team</p>	<p><i>Due by Class time: Read hooks (chs. 2, 3, and 12); Duck (ch. 14); Liu and Williams (chs. 28, 37-Conclusion)</i></p> <p><i>Assignment on Canvas</i></p> <p><i>Turn in initial idea for Final Project</i></p>
October 16	RESEARCH AND STUDY WEEK	

October 23	Groups B, C, and D meet with Teaching Team <i>Group A scheduled for Chapel Ministers (20 min. timeslot between 10:30am-NOON)</i>	
October 30	Group A Teaching <i>Group B scheduled for Chapel Ministers (20 min. timeslot between 10:30am-NOON)</i>	<i>Group A Teaching Plan due</i>
November 1	WEDNESDAY - Group A Chapel Service	<i>Group A Worship Outline due</i>
November 6	Group B Teaching <i>Group C scheduled for Chapel Ministers (20 min. timeslot between 10:30am-NOON)</i>	<i>Group B Teaching Plan due Group A Reflection due</i>
November 8	WEDNESDAY - Group B Chapel Service	<i>Group B Worship Outline due</i>
November 13	Group C Teaching <i>Group D scheduled for Chapel Ministers (20 min. timeslot between 10:30am-NOON)</i>	<u><i>ALL: Turn in Final Project update</i></u> <i>Group C Teaching Plan due Group B Reflection due</i>
November 15	WEDNESDAY - Group C Chapel Service	<i>Group C Worship Outline due</i>
November 20	Final Project Work Day and Consultations with Professors	<i>ALL: Schedule a time on this day to meet with the professors for guidance on your final projects</i> <i>Group C Reflection due</i>
November 27	Group D Teaching	<i>Group D Teaching plan due</i>
November 29	WEDNESDAY - Group D Chapel Service	<i>Group D Worship Outline due</i>
December 4	Home, again: Final Reflections - Final Project Sharing	<i>Group D Reflection due</i>
December 13		<u><i>Final Projects Due by 5:00pm</i></u> <i>Ordinarily late projects are not accepted without prior approval from the instructors. Even if granted, project grades will be lowered at the discretion of the professors, typically a full grade per day and with limited feedback for the work.</i>

School Policies (Excerpted from the Faculty Handbook)

Use of Inclusive Language

In accordance with seminary policy, students are to use inclusive language in class discussions and in written and oral communication by using language representative of the whole human community in respect to gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, age, and physical and intellectual capacities. Direct quotations from theological texts and translations of the Bible do not have to be altered to conform to this policy. In your own writing, however, when referring to God, you are encouraged to use a variety of images and metaphors, reflecting the richness of the Bible's images for God. More discussion about inclusive language can be accessed from the Academic Support Center and from the section of the LPTS web site with information for current students.

ACADEMIC HONESTY: All work turned in to the instructor is expected to be the work of the student whose name appears on the assignment. Any borrowing of the ideas or the words of others must be acknowledged by quotation marks (where appropriate) and by citation of author and source. Use of another's language [including A.I. chatbots] or ideas from online resources is included in this policy, and must be attributed to author and source of the work being cited. Failure to do so constitutes plagiarism and may result in failure of the course. Two occurrences of plagiarism may result in dismissal from the Seminary. Students unfamiliar with issues related to academic honesty can find help from the staff in the Academic Support Center. For the Seminary policy, see the Policy for Academic Honesty in the Student Handbook.

A special form of plagiarism is self-plagiarism or "double-dipping": reusing an assignment written for another course (whether at LPTS or elsewhere) or incorporating a substantial portion of work submitted for another course in an assignment submission..

Special Accommodations

Students requiring accommodations for a documented physical or learning disability should be in contact with the Director of the Academic Support Center during the first two weeks of a semester (or before the semester begins) and should speak with the instructor as soon as possible to arrange appropriate adjustments. Students with environmental or other sensitivities that may affect their learning are also encouraged to speak with the instructor.

Citation Policy

Citations in your papers should follow Seminary standards, which are based on these guides:

American Psychological Association. Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association. 7th ed. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association, 2020.

Turabian, Kate L., Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations: Chicago Style for Students and Researchers.* 9th ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2020.

The Chicago Manual of Style. 17th ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2017.

Copies of these guides are available at the library and in the Academic Support Center.

See also the library's citation help page: <https://lpts.libguides.com/citation>

Attendance Policy

According to the Seminary catalog, students are expected to attend class meetings regularly. In case of illness or emergency, students are asked to notify the instructor of their planned absence from class, either prior to the session or within 24 hours of the class session. Three or more absences (1/4 of the course) may result in a low or failing grade in the course.