Course Description
In 1544, Emperor Charles V called for the Diet of the Holy Roman Empire to meet at Speyer. Martin Bucer, Strassburg reformer, urged Calvin to write a statement of the doctrines and necessity for the Reformation. What emerged was Calvin’s *The Necessity for Reforming the Church*, a book which Calvin’s friend and successor, Theodore Beza, thought the most powerful and important book of his time. What was Calvin’s chief concern? Worship!

This course will investigate as many of the issues of worship as time will permit. The canvas is vast: what does the Bible teach about worship? How are we to integrate both Old and New Testament materials for the church today? What does church history teach us? What are the issues facing the church today?

But what does the latest RTS Catalog say?

The biblical foundations of worship, including music, worship strategies, creative styles, and worship for special occasions, are considered in this course. The goal is to prepare students to be worshippers and effective leaders in worship.

The two instructors have attempted to divide the materials in such a way that duplication is avoided. However, given the nature of this course, some overlap is unavoidable. Dr Wymond will concentrate on the history of worship and focus on the specific issues of music. He will also cover the practical issues of weddings and funerals.

Course Objectives
1. To acquaint the student with the relevant materials of biblical and historical debate on worship
2. To facilitate the student to become a leader of worship that is both dignified and sensitive to current cultural norms
3. To engage the student in debate over issues currently of major controversy within the Reformed churches

Contact Information
Professors: Rev. William K. Wymond, DMin
Rev. J. Ligon Duncan III, PhD

Campus Office: Dean Center, Phone 601.923.1689 (extension 689 if dialed internally)
Church Office: First Presbyterian Church
1390 North State Street
Jackson, MS 39202
Phone 601.973.9104

Executive Assistant Jan Hyde: jhyde@fpcjackson.org

If you would like discuss matters related to this course or future ministry, please contact my assistant to set up an appointment.

TA: Ryan Biese
Phone: 601.973.9120
Email: rbiese@rts.edu
Academic Integrity
All work submitted must be the student’s own. Group-produced work is not permitted. Plagiarism and copying of old assignments are all considered cheating. Students who do not fulfill assignments with requisite academic integrity will be referred to the Academic Dean with a recommendation for discipline (the student should also consult pp. 33-34 in the Handbook for further details).

Class Methodology
A. Lectures and Attendance
   Many of these sessions will be in the form of seminars, to facilitate classroom discussion. Attendance, therefore, is an absolute requirement. A roll will be taken to maintain some element of discipline in this matter. Excessive absences may result in your grade being deducted by up to a letter-grade.

B. Reading Assignments
   1. Required Texts:
      Ashton, Hughes, Keller *Worship By The Book* Zondervan, 2002
      Robert Vasholz *Benedictions* Christian Focus Publications, 2007
      _______ *Calls to Worship*, Christian Focus, 2008
      2. Recommended
         Terry Johnson *Leading in Worship* Covenant Foundation.
         Bard Thompson *Liturgies of the Western Church* Fortress Press, 1980
         Pinson, Matthew J. *Perspectives on Christian Worship: 5 Views* B & H Academic, 2009

c. Technology Use
   Laptop computers may not be used during this course. Students desiring to use a laptop for note-taking purposes only may request an application for permission to do so.
C. Practical Requirement (60%) 

1. Written Prayers. (20%)

   The practice of extemporary praying is a good one and one for which our puritan and Presbyterian forefathers fought hard to maintain. But even these traditions called for what they termed “studied prayers”: prayers that had been planned and thought through and then delivered without notes. We will discuss the merits of this in class.

   Each THURSDAY, you will turn in a written, pastoral prayer to the TA’s mailbox. Each prayer should be typed. (I will not accept illegible scribbles). Font size 10, Times New Roman, single spaced. One page exactly (no more, no less). On another page, I want you to give me a paragraph by way of what it is you hope to accomplish in this prayer. Is it thematic? Is it based on some texts of Scripture? Etc. Be sure to staple these two pages together and include your name.

   Students should know in advance that the instructor favors extemporary prayer; but even extemporary prayer needs to be “studied” in advance.

   How should I go about writing these prayers? (from Derek Thomas)

   I suggest you take a Psalm and meditate on it. Then begin to formulate the ideas and word structures of the psalm, adapting them for suitability in 20th century parlance. Follow the order of thought in the psalm where appropriate. Grading someone’s prayers poses some problems. Still, a measure of objectivity will be attempted. Grading will depend on such things as style, wording, biblical content, structure.

   Although I haven’t made these required texts, I do recommend that you purchase the following books to help you in public prayer. They will prove to be invaluable to most of you.
   

   Terry L. Johnson Leading in Worship Oak Ridge, TN: The Covenant Foundation, 1996


2. Order of Service/Bulletin (20%)

   The Student will create six complete Worship Bulletins/orders of service due at the end of the semester. One bulletin for each of the following service types is to be submitted:

   1.) Funeral
   2.) Lord’s Supper
   3.) Baptism
   4.) Profession of Faith
   5.) Wedding
   6.) Regular Lord’s Day morning/evening service.

   Full details as to requirements will be given in class. A “Worship Guide” is also expected.
3. Short Essays (20%)

In order to assist you in your own preparation for ordination, ministry, and life as well as to provide a meaningful outlet for interaction with the materials, philosophies, and issues in this course the each student will submit the following three essays:

1. Compare and contrast the historic “Regulative Principle of Worship” with other philosophies of worship. The student will include the history, key proponents, biblical basis, and difficulties of each view.

2. Discuss the use and views of church liturgy, the “church calendar,” as well as contextualization from a biblical as well as historical-theological standpoint. The student will be sure to include benefits and difficulties with various understandings and practices.


The best essays will include copious use of scripture as well as theologians and creedal statements. Be sure to make reference to and interact with both the lectures and assigned readings for this course.

**Format:** Please submit your essays using standard formatting (Size 12, Times New Roman, one-inch margins); essays are not to exceed three single spaced pages.

**Due Dates:** will be announced in class for each essay.

---

D. Comprehensive Final Exam (40%)

The final exam will cover the lecture and reading material in a comprehensive way. Students can expect to be asked both factual and integrative questions. **Students can expect to be asked examination questions on all of the reading material.**
### Biblical Terms for Worship

**Greek** | **Meaning**
---|---
1 | 
λειτουργέω | Serve, perform service
λειτουργία ας | Service, gift
λειτουργικός ἢ ὁν | Employed in ministering
λειτουργός οὐ | Minister, servant
2 | 
σέβομαι | Venerate, worship
σέβασμαι | Fear, worship
eυσέβεω | Worship, show piety toward
θεοσέβεια ας | Reverence toward God, godliness
θεοσέβης ἢς | Worshipping God, pious
σέβασμα | Object of worship or veneration
σεβαστός ἢ ὁν | Reverend, venerable
3 | 
λατρεύω | Serve, worship
λατρεία | Service of God (according to Levitical law Heb 9:6)
4 | 
eυλογέω | Bless, praise, consecrate
Εὐλογία | blessing; praise; consecration; gift, contribution (2 Cor 9.5); flattery (Ro 16.18); ἐπὶ εὐλογίας bountifully (2 Cor 9.6)
eυλογητός ἢ ὁν | blessed; praised; the Blessed One (of God Mk 14.61)
eυλογημένος | Favoured, blessed
5 | 
eυλαβεία ας | Reverence, veneration
eυλάβομαι | Beware, fear, reverence
eυλαβης ἢς | Reverencing God, pious, religious, devout
6 | 
προσκυνέω | Prostrate [kiss toward]
προσκυνητής οὐ | Worshiper
7 | 
θρησκεία ας | Religious worship, ceremonies
θρησκός ἢν | Religious, fearful
8 | 
προσεύχομαι | Offer prayers, pray
προσευχή ἢς | Prayer, place of prayer Acts 16:13,16
9 | 
προσέρχομαι | Come to, approach 1 Tim 6:3; associate with Acts 10:28
10 | 
eὐχαριστέω | Give thanks, be thankful, be grateful (Rom 16:4)
11 | 
φοβέομαι | to fear
12 | 
κάμψει πάν γόνι | (idiom) to bow the knee Rom 14:11
13 | 
ὄνομάζων τὸ ὄνομα κυρίου | 2 Tim 2:19. Idiom “to name the name of the Lord”

**Hebrew** | **Meaning**
---|---
1 | 
ןְסָתִי | Bow down (see Hill 6-7)
<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Serve, servant, service (see Hill 4-5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Kneel, bless, praise, salute, curse (used euphemistically)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Minister, serve (Num 4:12; 2Ch:24:14) (see Hill 5-6)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Fear (see Hill 3-4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Call</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Intervene, intercede</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Entreat</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Ask, inquire</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Shine, glorify; shout, praise</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Praise, laud</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Prostrate oneself, used in Isa 44:15,17,19; 46:6 only.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Approach, draw near</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Honor, glorify</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Become great, magnify, [tower]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Lift up, extol</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Seek, inquire (see Hill 2-3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Do homage, prostrate oneself (Dan. 3:5-7, 10-12, 14-18, 28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>I fall down on my face</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Draw near, approach</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Walk, “Come” Isa 55:1,3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Be gracious (Hithpael – implore favour)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Confess, praise, give thanks (Psa. 32:5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Student Information form

Full Name: ________________________________ Preferred Name: _________________________

Address: ________________________________________________________________

Home Phone: ___________ Cell Phone: _________________ Do You Text? ___________

E-mail: __________________________________ Year at RTS: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Married □ How Long? ______ Name of husband/wife: ________________________________

Single □ Divorced □ Separated □ Widowed □ Special Circumstances

Name(s) of children: __________________________________________________________

My church membership is at: __________________________ What denomination?

Are you ordained? ______ How long? __________ In what capacity?

Ministry experience:

Here in Jackson I attend church at: ___________________________________________

I graduated from (college/university): ____________ year: ______ major: ______________

What other degrees do you hold (give degree, institution and date)?

When/in what circumstances did you become a Christian?

Were you involved in a campus Christian organization?

Which one? ______________ Were you an officer? ______ Title:

What work were you doing prior to coming to RTS?

What aspect of Christian vocation are you preparing for at RTS?

What Church/Christian organization do you want to work with?

In what capacity?

What specific issues are you particularly interested in covering in this class?

Have you read the Westminster Confession and Catechisms? ______ Thoroughly?

Do you consider yourself to be fairly knowledgeable of the history behind and the theology of the Westminster Confession? □ Explain:
Is your own personal theological position in agreement with the WCF? Yes __ No __ Partially

Explain:

What do you think is/are the biggest problem(s) in the Church today?

Are you having regular devotion and prayer times?

Does your family have a daily worship time?

Do you struggle with academic study?

Are you considering further studies after RTS?

If yes, how can I assist your preparation?

How can I be praying for you?

Other Comments or Suggestions:
## Course Objectives Related to MDiv Student Learning Outcomes

### With Mini-Justification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MDiv Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</strong></td>
<td>Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.</td>
<td>strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scripture</strong></td>
<td>Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)</td>
<td>strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reformed Theology</strong></td>
<td>Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.</td>
<td>strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sanctification</strong></td>
<td>Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification.</td>
<td>strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Desire for Worldview</strong></td>
<td>Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.</td>
<td>strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Winsomely Reformed/Evangelistic</strong></td>
<td>Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)</td>
<td>moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Preach</strong></td>
<td>Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.</td>
<td>minimal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Worship</strong></td>
<td>Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.</td>
<td>strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shepherd</strong></td>
<td>Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.</td>
<td>strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Church/World</strong></td>
<td>Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.</td>
<td>minimal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>