

# Syllabus for WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

## Course 27710 (3 hours), Spring Semester, 2010

Dr. Don Whitney Norton 146B Phone (502) 897-4002 Fax (502) 897-4004 Email: [dwhitney@sbts.edu](mailto:dwhitney@sbts.edu)  
This & other class materials are available on ecampus & at [www.BiblicalSpirituality.org](http://www.BiblicalSpirituality.org) on the "For SBTS students" button

Garrett Fellow: Pastor Cody McNutt Phone (502) 592-6195 Email: [codyhmcnutt@gmail.com](mailto:codyhmcnutt@gmail.com)  
Address: New Heights Baptist Church, 7315 Southside Dr., Louisville, KY 40214

### I. Course Description from the catalog

This course is a study of the theology and practice of worship and worship leadership. It is designed to help the student develop a biblical and practical framework for planning and leading worship.

### II. Course Objectives

The objectives for this course include:

- A. The student will be persuaded that the Bible is authoritative and sufficient regarding the congregational worship of God.
- B. The student will grow in his understanding of biblical and theological truth about the congregational worship of God, and in particular what elements of worship are prescribed by Scripture.
- C. The student will improve his ability to exemplify biblical leadership in the planning and leading of the congregational worship of God.
- D. The student will manifest a developing and disciplined Christian life by growing in his desire to worship God and in his perception of what pleases God in worship.
- E. The student will be better equipped to minister as a worship leader in culturally relevant ways by improving his discernment between the content of worship and the forms of worship.
- F. The student will be better prepared for establishing healthy New Testament churches by the increase of knowledge and skills necessary for leading worship in a healthy New Testament church.

### III. Required Texts

- *Baptist Hymnal*, Nashville, Tenn.: Convention Press, 2008. ISBN: 978005085889. [Any color.]
- Edwards, Brian. *Shall We Dance?* Welwyn, England: Evangelical Press, 1984. ISBN: 9780852341902
- Kauflin, Bob. *Worship Matters*. Wheaton, Ill.: Crossway, 2008. ISBN: 9781581348248.
- Owens, Ron. *Return to Worship*. Nashville, Tenn.: Broadman & Holman, 1999. ISBN: 978805418880.
- Pinson, Matthew, ed. *Perspectives on Christian Worship*. Nashville: B&H Academic. ISBN: 9780805440992.
- Segler, Franklin M., and Bradley, Randall. *Christian Worship*, 3rd ed. Nashville, Tenn.: Broadman & Holman, 1996. ISBN: 9780805440676
- Tozer, A.W. *Whatever Happened to Worship?* Camp Hill, Penn.: WingSpread, 2006. ISBN: 9781600660160.
- Watts, Issac. *The Psalms and Hymns of Isaac Watts*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Reformation Heritage, 1998. ISBN: 9781573580694.

#### Extra Credit Texts (Optional)

- Burroughs, Jeremiah. *Gospel Worship*. 1648; reprint ed., Grand Rapids, Mich.: Reformation Heritage. 2006. ISBN: 9781567690682.
- Carson, D. A. *Worship by the Book*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 2002. ISBN: 9780310216254.
- Ross, Allen P. *Recalling the Hope of Glory*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Kregel, 2006. ISBN: 9780825435782.

#### IV. Grades

- A. The student will prepare a paper of at least seven pages on Ron Owens' *Return to Worship*. Include page numbers in the paper. The student should state how the book has influenced his/her thinking about worship, as well as comment on the implications he/she perceives should result from the changes in thinking brought about by the book. *This will count for 10% of the final grade.*
- B. The student will prepare a paper of at least seven pages on *Perspectives on Christian Worship: Five Views*, edited by J. Matthew Pinson. Include page numbers in the paper. In the first half of the paper, the student should review the book, using the "Book Review Style" found in the latest edition of *The Southern Seminary Manual of Style*. In the second half of the paper, the student should indicate which view he or she believes has the most solid scriptural support, state the most important arguments for that view, and the most valid criticism of that view. *This will count for 10% of the final grade.*
- C. The student will prepare a paper of at least seven pages on Brian Edwards' *Shall We Dance?* Include page numbers in the paper. The student should review, in his/her own words, Edwards' main arguments, evaluate them in light of Scripture, and state his/her own responses to Edwards' arguments. The student should not give opinions without either stating reasons or citing the author to support his/her position. *This will count for 10% of the final grade.*
- D. The student will prepare a paper of at least seven pages on Bob Kauflin's *Worship Matters*. Include page numbers in the paper. In the first half of the paper, the student should review the book, using the "Book Review Style" found in the latest edition of *The Southern Seminary Manual of Style*. In the second half of the paper, the student should explain how Kauflin challenges one of their weaknesses in worship or worship leadership, and provide steps of action the student intends to take in response. *This will count for 10% of the final grade.*
- E. The student will prepare an 1800 to 2000 word paper summarizing the Regulative Principle of Worship as taught in class. The student should write this paper as though it were either a church newsletter article or a pamphlet to be distributed to a church. It is permissible (but not necessary) to format this paper in newsletter column or folded pamphlet form. Include a word count for this paper. *This will count for 25% of the final grade.*
- F. The student will prepare a 1000 to 1200 word paper summarizing the biblical teaching on singing Psalms. The student should write this paper as though it were either a church newsletter article or a pamphlet to be distributed to a church. Along with the biblical teaching, the student should include practical ways that Psalm singing could be implemented into his/her church. Additional resources may be cited. It is permissible (but not necessary) to format this paper in newsletter column or folded pamphlet form. Include a word count for this paper. *This will count for 10% of the final grade.*
- G. The student will prepare an order of service for both a morning and an evening worship service. It will be assumed that the evening worship service will be less formal than the morning one. This paper will be in two columns per page. In the left column will be the elements of the order of service. For each element (that is, each hymn, prayer, etc.) of each service there should be a corresponding verse of Scripture printed in the column to the right (print both the text and reference) which provides Biblical justification for that element in the worship service. Further annotation and explanation is acceptable (in the right-hand column). The column on the left should also contain the words of verbal transitions to be made, as necessary, between various elements of the service. These transitions should establish the purpose for the next element of worship and enhance the flow of worship. The orders of service should include the ordinances. The orders of service do not actually have to be used in a church, nor do they have to reflect an

order of service for the church the student now attends, but rather can be for a fictional church. *This will count for 15% of the final grade.*

- H. The student will prepare a paper of at least six pages where he/she reflects upon/describes the impact of/critique A.W. Tozer's *Whatever Happened to Worship?* Include page numbers in the paper. *This will count for 10% of the final grade.*
- I. Classroom preparation (including bringing the textbooks to class, doing the assigned reading and other work), participation, and attitude *may have an impact on the student's final grade.*
- J. The student has the option of doing one or more papers for extra credit. Extra credit papers should be at least five-pages in length and be the result of the complete reading of the book(s). The paper(s) should be a summary and evaluation of the main arguments of one (or more) of the books listed above as Extra Credit books.
- K. Papers/projects received after the due date will be marked down one letter per day.
- L. Unless a format exception is stated above (e.g., pamphlet format), all papers should correspond to the latest edition of the *Southern Seminary Manual of Style*, and thus, among other things, must be no more than double-spaced, using no more than a 12-point font, and with no more than one inch margins all around.
- M. Unless an assignment states otherwise, when a certain number of pages are specified for a paper, there is a minimum of only one legitimate (i.e., not just filler) line required for the last page of the paper. For example, a seven-page paper would require six full pages of text, plus at least one legitimate line on the seventh page. More length, however, is acceptable. Neither a cover page nor a bibliography counts toward the length of a paper. Always include page numbers in such papers.
- N. According to seminary protocol, "All students are required to affirm their academic integrity when submitting all course work with the following statement, signed by the student: *On my honor, I have neither given nor taken improper assistance in completing this assignment.*" This statement and signature should appear on the final page of each assignment submitted.
- O. Papers will be evaluated by both content and style, by their adherence to the assignment, and by whether they are clear, cogent, and concise.
- P. The grading scale for this course is:
- |            |            |            |
|------------|------------|------------|
| A = 95-100 | B- = 85-86 | D+ = 74-75 |
| A- = 93-94 | C+ = 82-84 | D = 72-73  |
| B+ = 90-92 | C = 80-81  | D- = 70-71 |
| B = 87-89  | C- = 76-79 | F = 0-69   |

## V. Miscellaneous

- A. More than three absences from class, as well as excessive tardiness, may reduce the student's grade. Also, a student must attend at least 75 percent of class sessions to receive credit for the course.
- B. Before making any recordings of class sessions, a student must complete and submit the following request form to the professor:
- I, \_\_\_\_\_ (student name) \_\_\_\_\_, will record \_\_\_\_\_ (class sessions) \_\_\_\_\_ and agree that I will not reproduce, distribute, or sell electronic recordings of class sessions.

Signature of Student, Date