

**Note:**

**Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.**

## ***COURSE SYLLABUS***

---

### **WRSP 520**

#### **THE ROLE OF THE WORSHIP LEADER**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

A study of the many and varied roles and relationships of the worship leader. Special emphasis is placed on the relationship between the worship leader and the pastor. Also considered are the relationships between the worship leader and other staff members, singers/instrumentalists, and the congregation.

#### **RATIONALE**

At the heart of successful worship leadership is the preparation and presentation of worship. This course seeks to help the worship leader accomplish these tasks on a regular basis by raising awareness of skills in various roles and relationships important to the position.

#### **I. PREREQUISITE**

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the Academic [Course Catalog](#).

#### **II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE**

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

#### **III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING**

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Word  
(Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)

#### **IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Articulate the various roles of the worship leader.
- B. Explain the philosophical and biblical foundation for working well with people, developing team, problem solving, and caring for family.
- C. Evaluate the worship leader's responsibility to musicianship.
- D. Evaluate case studies and practical solutions for worship leading.
- E. Describe the principles for worship leadership taught by Jesus and practiced by his disciples.
- F. Create a rationale and mission of the worship leader as a "professional."

**V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations

B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C. Discussion Board Forums (8)

The student is required to provide a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be at least 350 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to at least 3 other classmates' threads. Each reply must be 150–200 words. (Outcomes: A, D)

D. Pure Praise Journal Entries (7)

Each module/week (except for Module/Week 8), the student will read a segment of the Moore text and write journal entries answering all of the questions from that segment. (Outcomes: B, C, D, E)

E. Interview Project

Using the provided template, the student will interview 2 full-time worship pastors/ministers of music in order to help him or her define the role of a professional worship leader. Then the student will write a report of 8–10 pages (plus title page, table of contents, bibliography, and appendices) summarizing and comparing the 2 interviews. The paper must include at least 2 references in addition to the course textbooks and the Bible. (Outcomes: A, B, D, E)

F. Summary/Analysis Report

Using the provided template, the student will write a 13-page Summary/Analysis Report on the Edwards text. For each chapter in the text, the student must write a summary, an analysis, and a 1-sentence statement of what they learned in the chapter. (Outcomes: A, B, C)

G. Capstone Project: Bibliography

The student will submit a bibliography for the Capstone Project prior to the submission of the project to receive instructor feedback on his/her progress. The bibliography must include 13–15 references including the course textbooks and the Bible.

H. Capstone Project

The student will imagine that he/she has been given the responsibility of searching for a new worship leader at a large church. The student must prepare a 30–35-minute presentation and write an 18–20-page paper answering the following question: What is the role of the worship leader? The student must elaborate on several areas of responsibility in his/her answer and then make application to the local church ministry. The student must demonstrate a

thoughtful presentation, thorough research, and personal application. The presentation and the report must adhere to current Turabian format. The project must include at least 20 references including the course textbooks and the Bible. (Outcomes: A, B, D, E)

I. Midterm Exam

The student will take a Midterm Exam covering Navarro: Chapters 1–6 and the lecture presentations from Modules/Weeks 1–4. The exam is open-book/open-notes with 45 multiple-choice and 55 true/false questions. The student will have 1 hour and 30 minutes to complete the exam. (Outcomes: A, B, D, E)

V. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (8 at 20 pts ea)	160
Pure Praise Journal Entries (7 at 20 pts ea)	140
Interview Project	100
Summary-Analysis Report	150
Capstone Project Bibliography	100
Capstone Project	200
Mid-Term Exams (Modules 1-4)	150
<b>Total</b>	<b>1010</b>

B. Scale

A = 940–1010   A- = 920–939   B+ = 900–919   B = 860–899   B- = 840–859  
 C+ = 820–839   C = 780–819   C- = 760–779   D+ = 740–759   D = 700–739  
 D- = 680–699   F = 0–679 and below

C. Style Guidelines

All assignments for this course are to be formatted in accordance with the latest edition of the Turabian style manual (A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations). Discussion assignments and essay examinations may use the parenthetical citation style. All other written assignments should use the footnote citation style. Writing aids are available via the Online Writing Center.

D. Extra Credit

No additional “for credit” assignments will be permitted beyond those given in the course requirements stated above.

E. Course Changes

Course requirements are subject to change by the administration of the University at any time with appropriate notice.

F. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at [LUOODAS@liberty.edu](mailto:LUOODAS@liberty.edu) to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at [www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport](http://www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport).

***COURSE SCHEDULE***

**WRSP 520**

Textbooks: Clinton & Hawkins, *The Quick-Reference Guide to Biblical Counseling*. (2009)  
 Edwards, *Worship 365* (2006).  
 Moore, *Pure Praise* (2009).  
 Navarro, *The Complete Worship Leader* (2001).  
 Whaley, *Role of the Worship Leader Workbook* (2012).

<b>MODULE/ WEEK</b>	<b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>1</b>	Edwards: chs. 1–2 Moore: “The Meaning” segment Navarro: chs. 1–2 7 presentations w/ Whaley workbook, pp. 11–34	Course Requirements Checklist DB Forum 1 Pure Praise Journal Entry 1	10 20 20
<b>2</b>	Edwards: chs. 3–4 Moore: “The Motivation” segment Navarro: chs. 3–4 4 presentations w/ Whaley workbook, pp. 35–50	DB Forum 2 Pure Praise Journal Entry 2	20 20
<b>3</b>	Edwards: chs. 5–6 Moore: “The Methods” segment Navarro: ch. 5 6 presentations w/ Whaley workbook, pp. 51–64	DB Forum 3 Pure Praise Journal Entry 3	20 20
<b>4</b>	Edwards: chs. 7–8 Moore: “The Ministries” segment Navarro: ch. 6; Appendix B 4 presentations w/ Whaley workbook, pp. 65–76	DB Forum 4 Pure Praise Journal Entry 4 Mid-term Exam	20 20 150
<b>5</b>	Edwards: chs. 9–10 Moore: “The Means” segment Navarro: ch. 7 5 presentations w/ Whaley workbook, pp. 77–84	DB Forum 5 Pure Praise Journal Entry 5 Interview Project	20 20 100
<b>6</b>	Edwards: chs. 11–12 Moore: “The Mission” segment Navarro: ch. 8 4 presentations w/ Whaley workbook, pp. 85–96	DB Forum 6 Pure Praise Journal Entry 6 Summary/Analysis Report	20 20 150

<b>MODULE/ WEEK</b>	<b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>7</b>	Clinton & Hawkins: pp. 67–72 and 234–240 Moore: “The Main Thing” segment Navarro: ch. 9 6 presentations w/ Whaley workbook, pp. 97–110	DB Forum 7 Pure Praise Journal Entry 7 Capstone Project: Bibliography	20 20 100
<b>8</b>	Clinton & Hawkins: pp. 54–59; 214– 220; and 266–271 Navarro: ch. 10 2 presentations w/ Whaley workbook, pp. 111–126	DB Forum 8 Capstone Project	20 200
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1010</b>

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.