

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 810

FOUNDATIONS OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of the Biblical, Theological, and Historical foundations for Christian Worship. The Biblical foundations of worship are identified and explored, with attention given to practical integration into the worship practice of 21st Century evangelical culture.

RATIONALE

Today's worship leaders are responsible for developing a theological base and biblical understanding of worship for those they lead. These responsibilities require understanding of the role of Old Testament worship and New Testament worship in the lives of believers today. Worship leaders need to know the structure and implications of Hebrew worship as applied to 21st century evangelical ministry. Further, an understanding of the worship of Jesus will provide a model for leadership in the church today.

This course is designed to meet these needs by telling a story. This is the story of worship from Genesis through Revelation. Just as the narrative of redemption is interwoven through the pages of the Bible, God's plan to worship him is articulated, explained, illustrated, documented, and applied throughout the pages of his Word. Beginning with Genesis and the truth that God is the ultimate creator, and concluding with worship of The Lamb in Revelation, principles of worship are drawn from the lives of biblical heroes, ordinary people, events, Old and New Testament practices, biblical poetry, the wisdom books, the life of Christ, the epistles, and Old and New Testament prophecy.

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 Office

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- A. Articulate God’s plan for biblical worship from Genesis to Revelation.
- B. Explain why the worship of the Old Testament and New Testament applies to today’s worship models.
- C. Articulate God’s plan of redemption as seen in the story of worship.
- D. Articulate the principles for worship leadership taught by Jesus and practiced by his disciples.
- E. Apply principles of worship to actual case studies.
- F. Guide others in the process of building a biblical foundation for worship.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations
- B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.
- C. Discussion Board Forums (4)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to create a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be 450–500 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. At least 4 citations in current Turabian format are required for each thread, and 2–5 biblical principles must be integrated. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to at least 4 other classmates’ threads. Each reply must be 200–250 words and include at least 1 citation in current Turabian format.
- D. Names of God Research Presentation

The student will create a presentation based on research of 8–10 biblical names most commonly used in the worship of Jehovah. Part 1 of the project will be a written narrative for each name. Each narrative must be at least 500 words and fully documented in current Turabian format. Part 2 of the project will be an oral presentation delivered via a supporting Microsoft PowerPoint slide for each name researched.
- E. Practical Learning Activity

This project will be completed in 5 parts. Each part is a response to the student’s study of The Psalms.
- F. Book Reviews (4)

The student will complete a review of 4 texts during the course. Each review will be completed using the 4-MAT review method. Each review must be at least 1,300 words. The student will be required to use at least 2 footnotes in current Turabian format from each book reviewed.

G. Capstone Project

Annotated Bibliography

In preparation for the Capstone Project - Final Submission, the student will create a list of at least 20 references in current Turabian format. At least 5 references must be from peer-reviewed and scholarly journals and/or books written within the last 5 years. At least 10 references must be from the provided bibliography, textbook, and Bible. For each reference, a short rationale of no more than 2 sentences must be included that articulates why the reference is selected for the Capstone Project - Final Submission.

Final Submission

The student will write a 30–40-page research paper with 30–40 references in current Turabian format, tracing God’s plan for worship from Genesis through Revelation. The student will also complete a pedagogical application that will be included as an appendix to the paper and does not count toward the minimum page number requirement.

H. Ministry Evaluation Project

This is a study that will incorporate a self-evaluation of the various roles the worship leader has in his or her place of ministry, an overview of his or her leadership style, and a plan of action for articulating a personal life mission, constitution, and covenant with the Lord. This paper must be 10–12 pages, be in current Turabian format, and include documentation from 10–12 references.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (4 at 40 pts ea)	160
Names of God Research Presentation	70
Practical Learning Activity	70
Book Reviews (4 at 50 pts ea)	200
Capstone Project	
Annotated Bibliography	100
Final Submission	300
Ministry Evaluation Project	100
Total	1010

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 or 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 to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

COURSE SCHEDULE

WRSP 810

Textbooks: Borchert, *Worship in the New Testament* (2008).
 Knight, *The Names of God* (2009).
 McConville, *Exploring the Old Testament: A Guide to the Prophets* (2016).
 Peterson, *Engaging with God: A Biblical Theology of Worship* (1992).
 Roberts, *God's Big Picture: Tracing the Storyline of the Bible* (2002).
 Whaley, *Called to Worship: From the Dawn of Creation to the Final Amen* (2009).
 Wyrzten, *A Musician Looks at the Psalms* (2004).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Knight: all Peterson: ch. 1 Whaley: chs. 1–6 6 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1	10 0 40
2	Knight: Review all Whaley: chs. 7–11 9 presentations	Names of God Research Presentation	70
3	Whaley: chs. 12–14 Wyrzten: all 11 presentations	DB Forum 2 Practical Learning Activity Book Review 1	40 70 50
4	Borchert: all McConville: all Peterson: ch. 2 Whaley: ch. 15, Introduction–Part II 7 presentations	Book Review 2	50
5	Borchert: Review all Peterson: ch. 3 Whaley: chs. 16–17 5 presentations	DB Forum 3 Book Review 3	40 50
6	Knight: Review all Peterson: ch. 4 Roberts: all Whaley: Review chs. 16–17 6 presentations	Capstone Project - Annotated Bibliography	100

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
7	Peterson: chs. 6–10 Roberts: Review all Whaley: chs. 18–20 5 presentations	DB Forum 4 Ministry Evaluation Project Book Review 4	40 100 50
8	Whaley: ch. 21 6 presentations	Capstone Project - Final Submission	300
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

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