

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 820

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. In addition to required reading, significant research within the evangelical community, and application to various worship ministries, students are required to complete 10 projects that integrate learned principles and practical application.

RATIONALE

At the heart of successful worship leadership is the preparation and presentation of worship by a worship leader. Worship leaders, pastors, and professional clergy need to understand the dynamic roles of service in the local church. Responsibilities of the worship leader involve teaching, training, evangelizing, edifying, encouraging, and promoting the local church. To do this, the worship leader needs to display skills as a theologian, pastor, musician, staff member, leader, counselor, etc. The tasks require that worship leaders “understand people” and demonstrate a mastery of people-skills. Furthermore, it requires a genuine love and devotion to God, personal discipline, biblical discipleship, commitment to private worship and the Christian graces, development of good musicianship, and the knowledge of principles for administration. This course seeks to address these issues and provide opportunity for the students to make application of learned principles to local ministry.

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. OPTIONAL RESOURCE PURCHASES

Morgan, Robert J and Stephen L. Fox. *Mapping the Preaching Process*. Nashville: Robert J. Morgan Ministries, 2015. ISBN: 9781462750870.

IV. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Office

V. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- A. Compare the Biblical Role of the Worship Leader with the changing constructs for 21st Century Worship.
- B. Evaluate the historical role(s) for worship leaders in evangelical church history.
- C. Analyze the philosophical dynamic for the worship leader in local Evangelical ministry.
- D. Construct leadership roles for the worship leader in a variety of worship contexts.
- E. Inventory personal, spiritual, emotional, and intellectual qualities [strengths and weaknesses] of the worship leader.
- F. Formulate a ministry paradigm for the worship leader.

VI. 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 (6)

Discussion boards are a collaborative learning experience. Therefore, the student is required to provide 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 in each thread, and 2–5 biblical principles must be integrated. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 4 other classmates' threads. Each reply must be 200–250 words and include at least 1 citation in current Turabian format.

- D. Practical Learning Activities (6)

Unless otherwise noted, the student will complete activities based on the Reading & Study materials. These assignments are 2–3 pages. The student must include at least 1 citation per page.

- E. Summary-Analysis Report

The student will complete a Summary-Analysis Report on a course text. The student must provide a 2–3 paragraph summary and a 1–2 paragraph analysis of each chapter. There will also be a 1-sentence “What I have learned” conclusion statement for each chapter. The assignment must have 1 page per chapter with a 15-page minimum. A template is provided.

- F. 4-MAT Book Review

The student will complete a book review that is in 4 sections. The total word count must be between 1300–1800 words depending on how much is written for

each section. In addition, the review must also include a title page, footnotes, and bibliography in current Turabian format.

G. Annotated Bibliography

This is in preparation for the Capstone Project. The student will provide a list of 20 or more resources sufficient for use with a well-crafted bibliography in current Turabian format.

H. Observation and Personal Ministry Evaluation

This is a self-study that incorporates an evaluation of the various roles the worship leader has in his/her place of ministry, an overview of his/her leadership style, and a plan of action for articulating a personal life mission, constitution, and covenant with the Lord. This paper is 10–12 pages, in current Turabian format, and includes documentation from a minimum of 5 resources. A template is provided.

I. Capstone Project

The student will write a 30–40-page research paper in current Turabian format that focuses on the 2 broad areas of preparation for worship leaders dealt with during this course: personal equipping and professional engagement. 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. At least 1 citation per page is required, including the course textbook and the Bible. A template is provided.

VII. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (6 at 50 pts ea)	300
Practical Learning Activity (6 at 30 pts ea)	180
Summary-Analysis Report	90
4-MAT Book Review	90
Capstone Project Bibliography	60
Observation and Personal Ministry Evaluation	100
Capstone Project	180
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.

VIII. OPTIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

Guinness, Os. *God in the Dark: The Assurance of Faith Beyond a Shadow of Doubt*. Wheaton: Crossway, 1996. 9780891078456.

McNeal, Reggie. *A Work of Heart: Understanding How God Shapes Spiritual Leaders*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2000. ISBN: 9780787942885.

Navarro, Kevin J. *The Complete Worship Leader*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2001. 9780801091162.

Ogden, Greg and Daniel Meyer. *Leadership Essentials: Shaping Vision, Multiplying Influence, Defining Character*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2007. ISBN: 9780830810970

Tozer, A.W. *The Pursuit of God: The Human Thirst for the Divine*. Camp Hill, PA: Christian Publications, Inc., 1993 ISBN: [9780875095226](https://www.amazon.com/dp/9780875095226).

COURSE SCHEDULE

WRSP 820

Textbooks: Clinton & Hawkins, *The Quick-Reference Guide to Biblical Counseling* (2009).
 Maxwell, *How Successful People Lead* (2013).
 McIntosh & Rima, *Overcoming the Dark Side of Leadership* (2007).
 Morgan, *Mastering Life Before It's Too Late* (2015).
 Morgan, *Mastering Life Before It's Too Late Study Guide* (2015).
 Morgan, *Mapping the Preaching Process* (2015).
 Walters, *Can't Wait for Sunday* (2006).
 Whaley, *The Worship Leader Workbook* (2015).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Morgan (Mastering): chs. 1–3 Morgan (Study Guide): chs. 1–3 Morgan: Mapping Walters: chs. 1–5 Whaley: Sections 1–3, Lessons 1–5 7 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1	10 0 50
2	Morgan (Mastering): chs. 4–7 Morgan (Study Guide): chs. 4–7 Walters: chs. 6–12 Whaley: Section 4–6, Lessons 6–8 10 presentations	Practical Learning Activity 1	30
3	Morgan (Mastering): chs. 8–10 Morgan (Study Guide): chs. 8–10 Walters: chs. 13–15 Whaley: Sections 7–9, Lessons 9–11 12 presentations	DB Forum 2 Practical Learning Activity 2 Summary-Analysis Report	50 30 90
4	Morgan (Mastering): chs. 11–14 Morgan (Study Guide): chs. 11–14 Maxwell: Introduction, Levels 1–3 McIntosh & Rima, chs. 1–12 Whaley: Sections 7–8, Lessons 9–10 9 presentations	DB Forum 3 Practical Learning Activity 3	50 30
5	McIntosh & Rima, chs. 13–19 Morgan (Mastering): chs. 15–17 Morgan (Study Guide): chs. 15–17 Maxwell: Levels 4–5 Walters: chs. 13–15 Whaley: Sections 9–10	DB Forum 4 Practical Learning Activity 4 4-MAT Book Review	50 30 90

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
	8 presentations		
6	Morgan (Mastering): chs. 18–19 Morgan (Study Guide): chs. 18–19 Whaley: Section 12, Lesson 14 8 presentations	DB Forum 5 Practical Learning Activity 5 Annotated Bibliography	50 30 60
7	Clinton & Hawkins: pp. 67–72 Morgan (Mastering): chs. 20–23 Morgan (Study Guide): chs. 20–23 Whaley: Section 13, Lesson 15–16 5 presentations	DB Forum 6 Practical Learning Activity 6 Observation and Personal Ministry Evaluation	50 30 100
8	Clinton & Hawkins: pp. 54–59; 214– 220; 266–271 Morgan (Mastering): chs. 24–26 Morgan (Study Guide): chs. 24–26 Whaley: Sections 14–15, Lessons 17–18 9 presentations	Capstone Project	180
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**.