



# TYNDALE

• SEMINARY •

## Course Syllabus FALL 2013

### INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP AND LITURGY PAST 0546

THURSDAYS, 1:00 – 3:50 PM

#### INSTRUCTOR: DR. KEVIN LIVINGSTON

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To access your course materials, go to your Tyndale email account: <http://mytyndale.ca>. Please note that all official Tyndale correspondence will be sent to your <@MyTyndale.ca e-mail account. For information how to access and forward Tyndale e-mails to your personal account, see <http://www.tyndale.ca/it/live-at-edu>.

## I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a framework for thinking together about vital and faithful Christian worship by exploring the Biblical and theological foundations of worship, reviewing the ways the church's praise has been shaped over the centuries, and analyzing today's worship spectrum. Key elements in the practice and leadership of worship will be explored including the ordering of worship, the role of prayer and music, and models of collaborative worship planning.

## II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course, students should be equipped to become...

- **better worshippers** by experiencing more deeply the privilege of offering public worship to God in Christ through the Spirit.

- **better guests and hosts** by learning how to be perceptive participant-observers in worship services of other traditions; and by developing sensitivities that help them extend a hospitable welcome to guests in their own congregations.
- **better pastoral theologians** who are able to:
  - articulate key biblical and theological foundations of Christian worship
  - develop an aptitude for careful theological reflection about worship
  - cultivate pastoral sensitivities that apply these principles wisely in their own ministry settings
  - grow in the appreciation of their own as well as other worship traditions
- **better worship leaders** who have developed basic skills in worship planning and leadership such as choosing appropriate hymns, preparing thoughtful prayers and spoken introductions; and who are able to facilitate team-based planning of worship services that will honour God and nurture the believing community.

### III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

#### A. REQUIRED TEXTS

Calvin Institute of Christian Worship. *The Worship Sourcebook, Second Edition*. Grand Rapids: Faith Alive, 2013. (ISBN 978-1592557974).

Castleman, Robbie. *Story-Shaped Worship: Following Patterns from the Bible and History*. Grand Rapids: IVP Academic, 2013. (ISBN 978-0830839643)

Cherry, Constance. *The Worship Architect: A Blueprint for Designing Culturally Relevant and Biblically Faithful Services*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2010. (ISBN 978-0801038747)

Dyrness, William. *A Primer on Christian Worship: where we've been, where we are, where we can go*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2009.

#### B. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

1. **Required Reading and Class Participation.** Blessed is the student who invests the necessary time to read the assigned texts in advance of class! As you read, jot down your questions and observations, which will become a part of our weekly conversation. Groups of students will also help lead brief worship experiences for the rest of the class over the course of the term.
2. **Online Discussion Group and Weekly "Worship Script."** Due for 10 of the 12 weeks of the course and worth **30%** (3 points x 10 posts).

At the beginning of the course, you will be placed in a small weekly discussion group (4-5 persons). Each week's discussion will centre on a key point related to the lecture or a question based upon that week's readings. Your thoughtful participation in these threaded discussions should reflect your interaction with the assigned readings and the lecture, and you will be evaluated based on the depth and perceptiveness of your interaction. You will participate in the discussion at least 2 times per week. In your first post (by Monday at 9 a.m. Eastern Standard Time) you will answer the initial discussion question. In your second post (by Wednesday at 10 p.m. Eastern Standard Time), you will respond to other students' posts in your group. The first post should be approximately 300 words and your second post should be approximately 100 words. During the week, the professor may join in the conversation, and will post a brief response to each group over the weekend. Your success will be based upon both the quality and quantity of your participation.

You will also create, write out **and post a brief "script" for leading a given element of the worship service**. Use your Bible and the relevant sections in the *Worship Sourcebook* to stimulate your imagination. Provide both the words you or other worship leaders would speak and a sentence or two about the "rationale" or emphasis you are trying to make. Here are the elements for each week.

Sept 19	Call to Worship or Greeting (1.2 and 1.3)
Sept 26	Prayer of Adoration or Invocation(1.4)
Oct 3	Confession and Assurance (2.1, 2.2, 2.4)
Oct 10	Prayer of Lament (2.3)
Oct 17	Prayer for Illumination (3.1)
Nov 7	Prayers of the People – Prose form (4.4)
Nov 14	Prayers of the People – Litany form (4.4)
Nov 21	Invitation to the Offering and Offering Prayer (5)
Nov 28	Introduction to a Baptism and Baptismal Prayer (6.1 & .2)
Dec. 5	Introduction to Lord's Supper and Great Prayer of Thanksgiving (8.2)

**3. Worship Observations and Analysis Report.** Due by 1 p.m. on October 24 and worth **30%** of your final grade.

You are expected to attend and observe a Christian worship service that is culturally and theologically "foreign" to you -- for example an Orthodox liturgy if you are Baptist; or a Pentecostal praise service if you are a Presbyterian. You are seeking to answer the basic questions: "If I had never been to a Christian worship service before, what would I think was going on? What would I know about the purpose of this gathering, of this community, and about the God to be met here from being present in this service of Christian worship?" (Susan White,

*Foundations of Christian Worship*, p. 207). You will be provided with an evaluation form to help you in the observation and analysis process. The report should be 8-10 pages in length (Times New Roman 12, double-spaced). I will post samples of this assignment so you know what is expected.

4. **Worship Vocabulary Quiz.** To be held in class on Nov. 7 and worth **10%** of your final grade.

The quiz will consist of matching 30 key worship words with their proper definitions. Word list and definitions are found at the end of Cherry's chapters 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13; and will also be posted on the class page.

5. **Annotated Worship Service OR Research Paper.** Due by December 11 and worth **30%** of your final grade.

For the **Annotated Worship Service option**, choose one of the following occasions for a hypothetical worship service -- a Sunday during Advent; a Sunday during Lent; Palm Sunday; Good Friday; Ascension Sunday; Pentecost Sunday; or Trinity Sunday). Prepare a complete order of service that reflects both the four-fold worship order and your own theological/ecclesial tradition, making judicious use of the insights provided in Cherry's *The Worship Architect* and *The Worship Sourcebook* (esp. Part Two). The service must include the celebration of the Lord's Supper. The entire worship service should be written out (excluding the sermon) along with footnotes or sidebars explaining your rationale and source material for each part of the service. I will post samples of this assignment so you know what is expected.

Your material should be structured as follows:

- a. A brief description of your church and its context, and the theme chosen.
- b. A full "script" of the entire service, including the words of all prayers, hymns and other and musical elements (but not the text of the sermon).
- c. An explanation of the order, movement and narrative shape of the service, and how you believe the various elements work together to reflect the characteristics of faithful worship as detailed in Cherry's *The Worship Architect*, chapters 1 and 2 and Appendix B.
- d. A worship folder/bulletin, designed as you would present it to the congregation.

For the **Research Paper option**, you are expected to write a 10-12 page (double-spaced) research paper. This assignment will allow you to explore any area of worship and liturgy that is of particular interest to you and your present or future ministry in the church. This research paper should be a substantial piece of theological analysis. This paper should not simply report, summarize or review class materials (although you are strongly encouraged to draw from the

readings, class lectures, discussions and assignments). It should demonstrate thoughtful reflection and analysis of your selected subject. The research can be in any of the major themes covered in the course. You should submit a topic proposal to the instructor by November 10.

### C. ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES

**Weekly except Sept. 12 and Oct. 24:** Posting of online small group discussion and “worship script.”

**Oct. 24:** Worship Observations and Analysis Report.

**Nov. 7:** Worship Vocabulary Quiz.

**Dec. 11:** Annotated Worship Service OR Research Paper.

### D. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK

Integrity in academic work is required of all our students. Academic dishonesty is any breach of this integrity, and includes such practices as cheating (the use of unauthorized material on tests and examinations), submitting the same work for different classes without permission of the instructors; using false information (including false references to secondary sources) in an assignment; improper or unacknowledged collaboration with other students, and plagiarism. Tyndale University College & Seminary takes seriously its responsibility to uphold academic integrity, and to penalize academic dishonesty.

**Documentation Style:** In all assigned work, proper style guidelines (normally Chicago/Turabian) will be used and followed exactly. Consult the Chicago-Style Quick Guide (Tyndale e-resource) or the full edition of the Chicago Manual of Style Online, especially ch. 14. For citing scripture texts, refer to sections 10.46 to 10.51 and 14.253 to 14.254.

Students should also consult the current *Academic Calendar* for academic policies on Academic Honesty, Gender Inclusive Language in Written Assignments, Late Papers and Extensions, Return of Assignments, and Grading System. The Academic Calendar is posted at <http://www.tyndale.ca/registrar/calendar>.

### E. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Evaluation is based upon the completion of the following assignments:

Weekly Online Discussion and “Worship Script” (3 x 10)	30%
Worship Observations and Analysis Report	30%

Annotated Worship Service OR Research Paper	30%
Worship Vocabulary Quiz	10%
Total Grade	100%

#### IV. COURSE SCHEDULE, CONTENT AND REQUIRED READINGS

WS = *Worship Sourcebook*

PA = Posted Article on class page

September 12

##### **First Things**

Introduction to the course and to one another  
 What is worship? What is *Christian* worship?  
 Rituals and symbols; worship and worldview

*Dyrness ch. 1*

*WS, Prologue*

*Revelation 4 & 5*

September 19

##### **The “Raw Materials” of Worship**

Sacred Space  
 Garden, altar, tabernacle and temple  
 Where do Christians find holy space?  
 Sacred Actions  
 Worship and the mighty acts of God  
 Worship as dialogical and covenantal  
 Christ the once-for-all sacrifice

*Castleman, ch. 1-3*

*WS, “Opening of Worship”*

***Graded online discussion and “worship script” due***

September 26

##### **The “Raw Materials” of Worship (continued)**

Sacred People  
 Levites, priests, pastors and people  
 Jesus our great high priest  
 Sacred Time  
 Daily prayer  
 Weekly Sabbaths/Lord’s days  
 Annual festivals/the church year

*Castleman, ch. 4-6*

*Cherry, ch. 12*

*WS, “Opening of Worship”*

***Graded online discussion and “worship script” due***

October 3

##### **Christian Worship through the centuries**

The origins of Christian worship

*Dyrness, ch. 2*

*Castleman, ch. 7-9*

Worship in the Early Church  
Medieval piety: aspirations and abuses  
The Reformation era

*WS, "Confession & Assurance"*

***Graded online discussion and "worship script" due***

October 10  
**Culture, Piety and the Current Worship Spectrum**  
Styles of Christian worship in the Protestant tradition  
The spectrum of current worship styles  
Worship and culture:  
abiding truths and contextual diversities

*Castleman, ch. 10*  
*Dyrness ch. 3*  
*Cherry, ch. 13*  
*PA, Nairobi Statement*  
*WS, "Confession & Assurance"*

***Graded online discussion and "worship script" due***

October 17  
**The Heart of Worship**  
Worship's Narrative Shape: the Story of God's Love  
The centrality of Jesus Christ  
Worship's Trinitarian character  
Robin Parry interview <http://www.gci.org/yi/parry81>

*Cherry, ch. 1 & 2*  
*Dyrness, ch. 4 & 5*  
*PA, Torrance*  
*WS, "Proclaiming the Word"*

***Graded online discussion and "worship script" due***

October 24  
**Ordering our worship to encounter God**  
The Lord's Day Service and the Fourfold Order  
1. Gathering  
2. Word

*Cherry, ch. 3, 4 & 5*

***Worship Observations and Analysis Report due by 1 p.m.***

November 7  
**Ordering our worship to encounter God (continued)**  
3. Table/response to the Word  
4. Sending

*Cherry, ch. 6, 7 & 8*  
*WS, "Prayers of the People"*

***Worship Vocabulary Quiz in class***  
***Graded online discussion and "worship script" due***

November 14  
**Prayer**  
The foundational role of the Psalms  
Forms of prayer in public worship

*Cherry, ch. 9*  
*WS, "Prayers of the People"*

July 2013

Leading in prayer: essential skills

***Graded online discussion and "worship script" due***

November 21

**Music and Song**

What does music do?

Families of congregational song

The musical menu: soul food vs. junk food

Evaluating worship songs and making wise choices

*Cherry, ch. 10 & 11*

*PA, Singing Praise*

*PA, Witvliet*

*WS, "Offering"*

***Graded online discussion and "worship script" due***

November 28

**Worship's Wider Implications**

Worship as Hospitality

Worship as Witness/Evangelism

Worship as Formation and Discipleship

Worship as Pastoral Care

*Dyrness, ch. 6*

*PA, Willimon*

*WS, "Baptism"*

***Graded online discussion and "worship script" due***

December 5

**Hospitable Worship**

Making worship more participatory

Collaborative, team-based worship planning

A process for renewing our worship practices

The 'End' of Worship: Sustaining Faithful Worshipping Communities

*Cherry, ch. 14 & 15*

*Dyrness, ch. 7*

*"WS The Lord's Supper"*

***Graded online discussion and "worship script" due***

***Annotated Worship Service OR Research Paper due by December 11***

**V. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY**

To be posted on the class page on the first day of class.