

WORSHIP & SACRAMENTS

COS 223

Spring Heights, WV

Spring, 2019

Instructor: Joseph W. Patterson III, D.Min.

Email: emdsjp@gmail.com

Course Description:

This course is designed to enable those in the United Methodist tradition to evaluate, plan, and lead worship with theological integrity and creativity. The tradition of Methodist worship is one of form and freedom, involving texts and free prayer, ordained elders and lay preaching, congregational song, and worship arts. The goal is to instill the rhythms of presiding and planning for the varieties of United Methodist Worship in the bodies, hearts and minds of course participants.

The course will consist of practicum work, lectures/presentations, and discussion. Each day will include prayer work involving class members.

Course Requirements:

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Reflection Paper | Satisfactory/Not Yet |
| Two Essays | 20% each (for a total of 40%) |
| Embodiment/Prayer Work | 30% |
| Teaching Project | 30% |

Course Grading:

- A Excellent Work
- B Good Work
- C Satisfactory Work
- D Below Average Work
- F Unsatisfactory Work

Attendance Principle and Policy:

Attendance is required for all sessions during the two intensive sessions.

Goals:

Specifically, the course is designed so that you will:

1. Gain theological and historical perspectives on the nature of United Methodist worship.
2. Demonstrate practical knowledge and experience in: a) presiding/leading in public worship and b) collaborative worship planning.
3. Interpret the pastoral rites of Christian marriage, and funerals and be able to lead such services well.

4. Learn how to orient worship in relationship to the Christian Year, the daily office and lectionaries.
5. Come to a clearer appreciation and knowledge of the ethical and liturgical relationships of sacraments and discipleship
6. Gain an understanding of the varieties of worship assemblies and the forms of worship which are appropriate to those contexts.
7. Learn about current UM resources for leading worship.

Required Texts:

- Robin Knowles Wallace: *The Christian Year: A Guide for Worship and Preaching*
- Laurence Stookey: *Let the Whole Church Say Amen!*
- Hoyt Hickman: *Worshipping with United Methodists: A Guide for Pastors and Church Leaders*
- Gayle Felton: *This Holy Mystery**
- Gayle Felton: *By Water and the Spirit**
- *UM Hymnal**
- *UM Book of Worship**

*Reference books designed to be included in the student's permanent library.

Requirements-Expectations:

1. You are expected to read *Worshipping with United Methodists*, and *By Water and the Spirit* prior to first session.
2. You are expected to read *The Christian Year* and *This Holy Mystery* prior to second session. *Let the People Say Amen* will be used throughout the course.
3. Embodiment Work: Each person will preside/lead with feedback.
4. Write one reflection paper: *Seeing with New Eyes*, 4-5 pages, which is due the first day of class. Evaluation: Satisfactory/Not Yet
5. Write 2 essays during the course.
6. Write a final Teaching Project.

Assignments:

Reflection Paper, *Seeing with New Eyes*, 4-5 pages in length, due the first day of class. The purpose of this project is to enable you to see the familiar patterns of worship as a stranger might experience them. Take note of elements and dynamics of the setting, shape, language (verbal and non-verbal), gestures, and actions of worship from a critical distance.

Please address the following questions:

1. What do you see as you approach the worship site from a distance? Give a physical description and its setting.

2. What happens (or doesn't happen) as you enter the building? Are you greeted, given directions?
3. What do the architecture and arrangement of the worship space, including the symbols present, convey about God, earth, and people. Be sure to consider children and those who may have accessibility needs. (hearing, sight, mobility)
4. What are the movements, actions and gestures that might seem strange if you'd never been in a Christian worship service?
5. Is there a particular space or spaces in this structure that are considered more "holy" than other places? Describe them and how they function.

First Essay, My Christian Initiation. Footnote key insights drawn from the assigned readings in the essay and your own experience. Due 2 weeks after first session.

Second Essay, Serving Christ's Table. Footnote key insights drawn from the assigned readings and the kind of communion service you would like to lead/experience. Due 1 week after second session.

Teaching Project, your final paper. Due 3 weeks after second session. See addendum (pages 4-5 of this syllabus) for a full description of this assignment.

Assist in Morning and Evening Prayer.

Follow the lectionary readings each day.

Teaching Project Addendum

Paper Specifications:

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Due: | May 19, 2019 |
| Length: | 5-6 pages excluding bibliography and appendices |
| Font Size: | 12 points, Times New Roman or equivalent |
| Margin: | One inch |
| Spacing: | Two |
| Submission: | E-mail with attached files or mail to me with self-addressed return envelope to: 410 Deer Run Road Slippery Rock, PA 16057 |
| Style: | COS approved or Chicago Manual of Style (16 th edition) |

By the end of the course, you will have developed a core idea for a teaching project. The project is one that you will develop in the near future. It can rely on one of your papers as the basis for working with a specific community on the UMC understanding of a sacrament. Footnote key insights drawn from the assigned readings and any insight from the discussions you've had in your Households. This should be a primary learning experience that you had in this course that you will teach to another community/group.

- 1. Begin with a description of this primary learning experience of a sacrament that you had. Describe the event or reading from this class that prompted your interest in this project. (1-2 pages)*
- 2. Describe the community/group that you will involve in this assignment.*
- 3. What is the occasion or setting for the teaching? Describe the place and the length of time that this project will involve.*
- 4. Describe what the learning or engagement process will be. What are the methods and materials you will use? Cite assigned readings and your paper as part of the materials you will use.*
- 5. What goals do you have for your community/group that this teaching project will help to achieve? What decisions you are asking them to make that will lead to sacramental and social actions and connections?*
- 6. Photos, images, electronic recordings, PowerPoint, original art work such as baptismal fonts, altar cloths, and hymns can be included as part of the final project, in addition to the project description.*

Evaluation for Teaching Project Name _____

| Primary Teaching | Resources | Community | Learning Goals |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
|------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|

Hospitality.

Honesty.

Humility.

Humor.

UMC Resource

Grade: