



ERSKINE
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

For Christ and His Church

COLUMBIA CAMPUS

DC 951CO: CURRENT AMERICAN WORSHIP RENEWAL MOVEMENTS

ROBERT P. GLICK, PROFESSOR

SPRING, 2012

CLASS MEETINGS: FEB. 11, MARCH 10, MARCH 31, APRIL 28 – ALL CLASSES FROM 9AM-5PM

OFFICE HOURS: APPOINTMENT RECOMMENDED

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores the phenomenon of worship renewal movements currently spreading through most branches of the Christian Church. Students study, compare, and evaluate Charismatic Renewal, Liturgical Renewal, Seeker Sensitive Services, Convergence Worship, and the Church Growth Movement in the light of the current American cultural scene. Emphasis is placed both on understanding the nature of each movement and considering how a given church might respond to numerous and sometimes conflicting concerns within the framework of denominational tradition. *Elective. Three hours.*

In addition, students study the Emerging Church Movement in the light of the current American cultural scene.

COURSE GOALS

The mission of Erskine Theological Seminary is to educate persons for service in the Christian Church.

1. To become more fully aware of the history of worship renewal during this century, especially since 1960.
2. To refine one's definition and understanding of Biblical worship.
3. To discern what the Spirit of God is doing in the midst of the international phenomenon of worship renewal.
4. To evaluate the various strands of worship renewal in the light of our understanding of worship and our sense of what God is doing.
5. To discern more clearly how the Holy Spirit might be working for renewal in our local congregations.

REQUIRED TEXT BOOKS

Students are expected to secure their own copies of all required textbooks. As a convenience, the seminary has a bookstore portal of the website at <http://www.erskineseminary.org/bookstore.html>. There you will find links to familiar vendors (CBD and Amazon) and can check availability of texts, compare prices, and place orders. The ETS SBA will receive a modest percentage of the profits from students' and professors' purchases through this portal. The Erskine Campus Bookstore will carry a limited number of copies of every required text and orders for books can be placed through the Campus Bookstore.

To be read in the following order:

Webber, Robert. *The Younger Evangelicals: Facing the Challenges of the New World*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2002.

Dawn, Marva. *How Shall We Worship: Biblical Guidelines for the Worship Wars*. Carol Stream: Tyndale House, 2003.

Kimball, Dan. *The Emerging Church: Vintage Christianity for New Generations*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2003.

Henard, William and Adam Greenway, ed. *Evangelicals Engaging Emergent: A Discussion of the Emergent Church Movement*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2009.

RECOMMENDED READING (not required)

Carroll, Colleen. *The New Faithful: Why Young Adults Are Embracing Christian Orthodoxy*. Loyola Press, 2004.

Carson, D.A. *Becoming Conversant with the Emerging Church: Understanding a Movement and Its Implications*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005.

Dawn, Marva. *Reaching Out Without Dumbing Down: A Theology of Worship for the Turn-of-the-Century Culture*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995.

Doran, Carol and Thomas Troeger. *Trouble at the Table: Gathering the Tribes for Worship*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1992.

Frame, John. *Contemporary Worship Music: A Biblical Defense*. Phillipsburg: P&R Publishing, 1997.

Liesch, Barry. *The New Worship: Straight Talk on Music and the Church*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.

Morganthaler, Sally. *Inviting Unbelievers into the Presence of God: Worship Evangelism*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995.

Webber, Robert. *Blended Worship: Achieving Substance and Relevance in Worship*. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson, 1996.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS

Grading

Grades are based on class participation and assignments being done:

- a. on time
- b. according to instructions
- c. degree of integration of all aspects of the course
- d. originality of thought in writing and in the projects
- e. grammar, form, and style that conforms to appropriate academic standards

The grade of “A” is given for work which is truly outstanding in depth, detail, or creativity.

The grade of “B” is given for work that adequately meets all the requirements of the assignment.

The grade of “C or D” is given for work that has not adequately met all the requirements of the assignment or that lack appropriate depth, detail, or creativity.

SEMINARY POLICIES

Click this link and read carefully as part of this syllabus contract:

http://seminary.erskine.edu/content_policies/SeminaryPoliciesforETSSStudents.pdf

POLICY REGARDING SENDING/RECEIVING E-MAILS

Use of Erskine Email Required:

YOU MUST USE YOUR ERSKINE EMAIL ADDRESS FOR ALL CORRESPONDENCE WITH ALL SEMINARY OFFICES (INCLUDING FACULTY) AND SUBMISSION OF COURSE ASSIGNMENTS.

Assignments submitted via a non-Erskine email account will NOT be accepted. If you do not have an

Erskine email account, please contact Mr. Bobby Clarke at clarke@erskine.edu to get one.

STYLE AND BIBLIOGRAPHIC FORMATTING REQUIREMENTS

All papers must be typed/processed (12-point type, double-spaced, one-inch margins) and fully documented, following the standards in the “Style and Form Standards” (Erskine Seminary). In this course, footnotes and a bibliography are required in each paper. The paper’s cover page and bibliography are not counted towards page requirements. See:

Revised: 2-9-11

<http://www.erskine.edu/library/libinstructionfetcher.htm?igor=229> and

<http://www.erskine.edu/library/libinstructionfetcher.htm?igor=230>.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

I. CORPORATE WORSHIP CREDO **DUE: FEB. 11 (The First Class)**

A. Write a two-paged Biblical/Theological essay expressing your best understanding of what you believe corporate worship is. This is what a *Credo* is – a statement of what you believe (*Credo* is Latin for “I Believe”).

Practically speaking, this document should set up the parameters within which you attempt to plan your services week by week.

The Model of Ministry you arrived at in your foundations class should be integrated into your thinking and writing, as should insights from your reading.

B. Condense this CREDO into one or at the most two sentences.

C. Reflect in journal fashion on each of the following areas. Number each area as you write:

1. How well does this condensation please you?
2. How true does it ring to your denominational tradition?
3. How well does your weekly worship service give witness to what you have written here?
4. Has this process led you in a different direction than you expected?
5. Which sources did you find yourself relying on the most, and why:
 - a. Scripture
 - b. Tradition
 - c. Experience
 - d. Reason

D. Share your Worship Credo with the rest of class at the first meeting.

II. REFINED CORPORATE WORSHIP CREDO **DUE: April 28**

Rework your original Worship Credo to reflect any new thinking this course might have generated for you.

III. WORSHIP SERVICE DESIGN **DUE: April 28**

Consider ways in which your church might benefit from the inclusion of elements from the Liturgical Renewal, Contemporary Renewal, and/or the Emerging Church.

1. State the ways in which your worship service/s already exemplify the best insights of the:
 - a. Liturgical Renewal
 - b. Church Growth/Worship Evangelism Models
 - c. The Emerging Church

2. Describe:
 - a. the personality of your congregation
 - b. the main areas where members of your congregation seem to be restless about worship
 - c. the ways YOU sense your worship services are in need of renewal

3. Attach or re-produce an order of worship from your typical weekly corporate worship service. If you have more than one worship format in use each week, provide the order of worship for each.

4. Considering all the issues studied and discussed in this course:
 - a. Design a corporate worship service or perhaps a number of worship services that you believe would be most appropriate for your local congregation. Outline the order of worship.
 - b. Describe and defend in some detail:
 - i. why each worship act occurs where it does
 - ii. how it should be executed (who will lead? where will they stand?)
 - iii. what kind of mood, attitude, gestures would attend that act?

5. Reflect on how comfortable YOU would be in leading such a service. You have attempted to design a worship event that would be best for your congregation. Is it good for you as well? Any problems here?

6. Compare this “ideal” service/s with your revised condensed Worship Credo Sentence. Does the service resonate well with that statement (part B in particular)?

7. These proposals shall be presented at the final class (April 28) and discussed together in the hope that new insights can be gained for refinement of the proposals.

Grades will be computed according to the following distribution:

Assignment I	- Worship Credo	15%
Assignment II	- Refined Credo	15%
Assignment III	- Worship Service Design	40%
Class participation and attendance		30%

CLASS SCHEDULE

February 11

Assignments Due for this Class:

1. COMPLETE: Corporate Worship Credo
2. READ: *The Younger Evangelicals: Facing the Challenges of the New World*

CLASS TOPICS

- A. Introduction
- B. Reconsidering the Basics - What Is Worship?
- C. Survey of the Renewal phenomenon and resulting American worship models
- D. The Liturgical Renewal Movement

March 10

Assignments Due for this Class

1. READ: *How Shall We Worship: Biblical Guidelines for the Worship Wars*
2. PREPARE: for your leadership role in the class worship service, as assigned.

CLASS TOPICS

- A. A Service of Worship in Liturgical Renewal style
- B. The “Contemporary” Renewal

March 31

Assignments Due for this Class

1. READ: *The Emerging Church: Vintage Christianity for New Generations*
2. READ: *Evangelicals Engaging Emergent*
3. PREPARE: for your leadership role in the class worship service, as assigned.

CLASS TOPICS

- A. A Service of Worship in Contemporary style
- B. The Emerging Church

April 28

Assignments Due for this Class

1. Present your Refined Corporate Worship Credo (Assignment #II)
2. Present your Worship Service Design (Assignment #III)

CLASS TOPICS

- A. Student Presentations
- B. A Service of Worship in the Emerging Church style (?)