

COS 413 Worship and Sacraments
Course of Study School of Ohio
Spring 2010, March 12-13 and April 9-10
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COS 413 - Worship and Sacraments Description and Objectives,
set by General Board of Higher Education and Ministry

An examination of the sacraments, rites, and liturgy of the United Methodist Church and on the pastor's role as worship leader.

Objectives include:

1. Examination of the church year and its historical and theological grounding.
2. Examination of the theology and practice of the sacraments.
3. Review of the rites of Christian marriage, of death and resurrection, and other occasional services including appropriate counseling methods.
4. Reflection on worship practices including use of non-traditional liturgies, media, music and lay leadership.
5. Development of a sample service of worship for reflection and evaluation.

Book List

United Methodist Hymnal

United Methodist Book of Worship

Worshiping with United Methodists, Hoyt Hickman, Abingdon, 2007

Worshiping in the Small Membership Church, Robin Knowles Wallace, Abingdon, 2008

[John Wesley's Sermon "The Duty of Constant Communion"](http://www.gbqm-umc.org) available on line through www.gbqm-umc.org

[By Water and the Spirit](http://www.gbod.org/worship) available on line through www.gbod.org/worship or in *The Book of Resolutions, 2004 or 2008*

[This Holy Mystery](http://www.gbod.org/worship) available on line through www.gbod.org/worship or in *The Book of Resolutions*

Do NOT use the guidebooks by Gayle Felton on *By Water and the Spirit* or *This Holy Mystery* for this class

Outline of the Weekends

First Weekend Readings

The Liturgical Year: *Book of Worship*, pp. 224-226, 238, 269, 295, 298, 320, 368, 405, 409, 413, 416

Hoyt L. Hickman, *Worshiping with United Methodists*, chapters 1-4

Robin Knowles Wallace, *Worshiping in the Small Membership Church*, chapters 1-5, 7-8

Bring a favorite scripture passage to read aloud (**3-4 minutes maximum**)

Second Weekend Readings

By Water and the Spirit, The United Methodist Church

This Holy Mystery, The United Methodist Church

The Duty of Constant Communion, John Wesley

Book of Worship, pp. 16-32 and 81-94

Worshiping in the Small Membership Church, Knowles Wallace, ch. 6

Services of Marriage and Covenant: *Book of Worship*, pp. 115-138

Services of Death and Resurrection: *Book of Worship*, pp. 139-171

Written Assignments

1. Before the first class, read chapters 1-4 of Hickman's *Worshiping with United Methodists*; chapter 1-5, 7-8 of Wallace's *Worshiping in the Small Membership Church*; and the *Book of Worship* on the liturgical year. Write on ten new ideas you have encountered (or ideas you may have known about before but never tried) and tell how you might implement them in worship and/or study in your congregation/s. **Due first day of class, March 12.** 25% of grade.
2. Develop a sample service of worship for reflection and evaluation. We will do this in three stages:
 - a. Bring a recent bulletin to the first class, March 12.
 - b. In class that weekend we will reflect and evaluate the bulletins brought.
 - c. Following that discussion, develop a sample service that differs somewhat from the original bulletin you brought—changed because of learnings in the course. Include a page of explanation about the congregation and your proposed changes. **Due second weekend of class, April 9.** 15% of grade.
3. On Baptism: Read *By Water and the Spirit*, *Worshiping in the Small Membership Church* (ch. 6), and *Book of Worship*, pp. 81-94. Write a maximum of 4 pages, double-spaced on your understanding of baptism in the light of these readings; write as though you were writing for your Board of Ministry, using the question "What is the meaning and significance of baptism?" **Due April 9.** 25% of grade.
4. On Communion: Read *This Holy Mystery*, John Wesley's Sermon "The Duty of Constant Communion," *Worshiping in the Small Membership Church* (ch. 6), and *Book of Worship*, pp. 16-32. Write a maximum of 4 pages double-spaced on your understanding of communion in the light of these readings; write as though you were writing for your Board of Ministry, using the question "What is the meaning and significance of Holy Communion?" **Due April 9.** 25% of grade.
5. Participation in class: 10% of grade.

Grading Criteria

A's: Work is excellent, clear, engaging, original and focused; ideas and content are richly developed with details and examples. Organization and form enhance the central idea and theme; ideas are presented coherently to move the reader through the text. The voice of the writer is compelling and conveys the learner's meaning through effective grammar. The learner integrates theoretical concepts, experience and critical analysis. **Outstanding work.**

B's: Work is solid, reasonably clear, focused, and supported; ideas are adequately developed with details and examples. Organization and form are appropriate, and ideas are generally presented in a coherent manner. The voice of the writer contributes to the writer's meaning through appropriate grammar. The form of presentation does not interfere with understanding or distract from meaning. Integration of theory, experience and critical analysis is underdeveloped. **Good work, above average.**

C's: Work has some focus and support; ideas and content are developed with limited details and examples. The work may be somewhat disorganized. The voice of the learner is generally absent; basic sentence structure and limited vocabulary convey a simple message. Presentation errors may reduce understanding and interfere with meaning. The content of theoretical information is limited and large generalizations are made. Critical analysis is absent from the paper. **Work meets minimum requirements.**

D's: Work has little focus and development; ideas and content are supported by few details or examples. The work lacks direction and purpose. The tone of the work is flat. Awkward grammar and vocabulary interfere with understanding. The form of presentation makes the work difficult to understand. Demonstrated critical analysis is absent, and often large portions of the work are given to rambling of experiences without theoretical context. **Work does not meet minimum requirements of the assignment.**