

DL9001W Theology and Practice of Christian Worship

Offered: 2018: Semester 2

This unit provides an introduction to the range of ways that worship is understood and practised in Christian churches. It helps equip students to prepare and evaluate worship services, and it introduces worship as a field for further studies.

Upon successful completion of this unit, it is expected that students will be able to:

1. Summarise the major features of the biblical and documentary witness to early Christian worship practices;
2. Describe the most prevalent forms of Christian worship and explain aspects of the differing theologies that shape them;
3. Identify models for integrating a congregation's worship life with its practices of evangelism, Christian education, spiritual formation, pastoral care, ethics, and social action;
4. Identify typical component parts of a worship service and discuss their inter-relationship and their place in an overall theology of worship;
5. Discuss the distinctive uses of time, space, action, music and text in Christian worship;
6. Formulate and apply critical criteria for evaluating worship services and materials.
7. Reflect on diverse worship experiences or observations and theorise about their historical, cultural and theological influences and implications.

Pre-requisites: 45 points in CT and/or field D

Unit Value: 30 points

Class Time: Three hours per week

Assessment:	One Worship evaluations folio (1,200 words)	(15%)
	One Essay (2,000 words)	(40%)
	One Research Questions Assignment with oral defence (2,800 words)	(45%)

Faculty: Geoff Leslie, Jude Waldron, Steve Lyall

Recommended Reading:

* = set texts recommended for purchase

Basden, P. *Exploring the Worship Spectrum*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2004.

Chan, S. *Liturgical Theology*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2006.

Cherry, C M. *The Worship Architect: A Blueprint for Designing Culturally Relevant and Biblically Faithful Services*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2010.

Davis, J J. *Worship and the Reality of God: An Evangelical Theology of Real Presence*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2010.

Ellis C J. *Approaching God: A Guide Book for Worship Leaders and Worshippers*. Norwich: Canterbury Press, 2009.

Hughes, G. *Worship as Meaning*. Cambridge: Cambridge Uni Press, 2003.

Plantinga, C and S Rozeboom. *Discerning the Spirits*. Cambridge: Eerdmans, 2003.

Senn, F C. *Introduction to Christian Liturgy*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress, 2012.

Spinks, B D. *The Worship Mall: Contemporary Responses to Contemporary Culture*. London: SPCK, 2010.

Truscott, J A. *Worship: A Practical Guide*. Singapore: Genesis, 2011.

Webber, R E. *The Complete Library of Christian Worship* (7 vols). Peabody: Hendrickson Publishers, 1993.