



WOR 415 - 3 credits

The Worship Team I

Description

In this course, we will once more examine the spiritual power of music and the dynamics of a worship service. We will consider a wide variety of art forms which may be used in the leading and expression of worship, and how they can be integrated into the worship service. We will consider all of the people who have a place in guiding the congregation into worship as individuals and as a team, and how they can more perfectly blend into a spiritual unit. We will also examine our own leadership style and habits, allowing the Spirit of the Creator to blow new life into our ministries.

Objectives

- You will quote the following Scripture passages:
 - ✓ Psalm 66:1-5
 - ✓ Psalm 95:1-7a
 - ✓ Psalm 96:1-13
 - ✓ Psalm 98:4-9
- You will state the two foundation stones necessary for the worship leader, and examine your own life in light of them.
- You will discuss the reasons Martin Luther wrote songs for congregational singing.
- You will discuss Isaac Watts as the “Father of English Hymnody”.
- You will know a timeline of ten major composers of hymns and at least one hymn written by each.
- You will describe the practice of “lining out” the psalms or singing by rote.
- You will describe “jubilation”, and three types of jubilation from church history.
- You will state a definition of the following terms: doxology; plainchant / plainsong; canon; canticle.

- You will examine your worship team:
 - ✓ the prayer life of your worship team, as a team.
 - ✓ the communication among your worship team.
 - ✓ the repertoire of songs which you normally draw from for your congregational worship.
 - ✓ your position on the use of instruments in worship.
 - ✓ your criteria for inviting new musicians to be part of your worship team.
 - ✓ the “master song list” for your church and ways in which it could be made more effective.
 - ✓ the physical arrangement of your worship-leading team (all the members) during a typical worship service.
 - ✓ the methods by which the music director/worship leader normally communicates with your worship team during the worship service.
 - ✓ your worship team practices: who attends, when they occur, how often they occur, how long they last, etc.
- You will examine your church worship ministry:
 - ✓ the place of a statement of Music Team Qualifications and Guidelines.
 - ✓ the place of a written set of goals and a vision.
 - ✓ your methodology for introducing new songs to your congregation, and alternative methods which may be more effective or interesting.
 - ✓ your criteria for deciding what songs to introduce to your congregation, and what songs to use in a particular worship service.
 - ✓ how you and your church deal with copyright issues.
 - ✓ the place of soloists or other “special music” in the worship ministry.

- You will examine your church worship life:
 - ✓ the place of responsorial psalm singing.
 - ✓ the place of hymns and hymnals.
 - ✓ the place of contemporary music and scripture songs.
 - ✓ the place of a choir and anthem.
 - ✓ the place of the Church calendar in planning for worship services.
- You will examine the place of the following in the worship leadership of your congregation:
 - ✓ liturgical vestments; banners; flowers and/or plants; the dramatic arts; dance, gestures, and changes of posture; mime; poetry.
- You will examine the issue of preparing for a worship service versus being “led by the Spirit”.
- You will consider the importance of the call to worship and examine a variety of methodologies.
- You will examine “flowing” worship as a viable style of leading.
- You will examine “open worship” or “freestyle worship”, its place in your congregational worship, and your theological position concerning it.
- You will examine the place of training/discipling other worship leaders in your ministry.

Texts

“The Worship Team Training Course” Videos, Sets 1, 2 and 3

Developing an Effective Worship Ministry by Tom Kraeuter

Music and the Arts in Christian Worship, Books One and Two, Robert E. Webber, editor

Standards for Grading Assignments

As indicated below, “C” or 2.0 level work is considered average. **Leaders are not average people.** You are therefore expected (required) to put forth the effort necessary to demonstrate at least “B” (3.0) level work or higher on all assignments which you submit. Any which do not will be returned to you with input from your instructor on how you can raise your grade to the expected level. **A course grade will not be given until your assignments demonstrate that you have understood the material presented in the course and allowed your life to be transformed by the Spirit and the Word studied** — the requirements for attaining a “B”.

Your individual assignments (notebooks, tests, reports) will be graded according to the following standards. These grades will be averaged together to determine your course grade. Remember, CLU is training leaders and leaders are above-average people. Your work will reflect that.

- “D”
- Indicates barely passing work that is inferior to the average both in quantity and in quality.
 - Manifests a lack of initiative or sense of responsibility or both.
- “C”
- Average work; either steady work of an acceptable quality, or work of a high quality which is uneven, irregular or fragmentary.
 - May be mechanically or outwardly correct but shows little reflection upon or personal assimilation of the material.
- “B”
- Intelligently has fulfilled the requirements of this course.
 - Understands the subject matter presented and has applied it to his life in a limited manner but has not really made the truths his own.
- “A”
- Grasped the material with thoroughness, industry and correctness of detail.
 - Made the material his own by thinking about it and integrating it, using originality, natural ability, and insight.

Course Requirements

1. Completely view each of the videos as assigned, taking careful notes on each. File these notes in your Student Notebook.
2. Read the entire text *Developing an Effective Worship Ministry*, completing the exercises found in your Student Notebook as assigned in the Course Schedule.
3. Read the assigned chapters from *Music and the Arts in Christian Worship*, completing the exercises found in this Student Notebook as assigned in the Course Schedule.
4. Visit a minimum of six worship services in churches other than your own and observe their worship leading teams in action. Complete a Worship Team Observation Form for each service, including your personal observations, thoughts, and insights. After collecting your information, spend time in the presence of the Lord, quietly receiving His revelation, application, and instructions to you personally, based on what you observed. File this journaling with your Observation Forms in your Student Notebook.
5. Examine the list of Praise and Worship Resource Organizations found in Appendix A of *Developing an Effective Worship Ministry*. Contact at least five of them with which you are currently unfamiliar. One should be a source of new songs, one a newsletter or magazine, and one a seminar provider. The other two may be whatever category you choose. File a copy of your letter and information you receive in response here in your Student Notebook, as well as any ways in which you plan to use the information you receive.
6. Earn at least a “B” on the Final Exam.



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Course Schedule

Lesson One

Assignment to be Completed:

Carefully read the Introduction and Chapters 1 - 4 of *Developing an Effective Worship Ministry* by Kraeuter, completing the related exercises found here in your Student Notebook.

View videos One and Two of the *Worship Team Training Course*, taking notes as you watch.

Begin working on Course Requirement #5, making contact with Resource Organizations.

Memorize Psalm 66:1-5.

Complete and correct Self-Test One.

Subjects to be explored:

A Firm Foundation

Prayer

Personnel

Establishing and Communicating Vision

Becoming a Worshiper

Worship Team Tune-Up

Related objectives:

- You will quote Psalm 66:1-5.
- You will state the two foundation stones which Kraeuter says are necessary for the worship leader, and examine your own life in light of them.
- You will examine the prayer life of your worship team, as a team.
- You will examine the place of a statement of Music Team Qualifications and Guidelines for your church.
- You will examine the communication among your worship team.
- You will examine the place of a written set of goals and a vision for the worship ministry of your church.

Lesson Two

Assignment to be Completed:

Carefully read Chapters Four and Five of *Music and the Arts in Christian Worship*, completing the related exercises found here in your Student Notebook.

View video Three of the *Worship Team Training Course*, taking notes as you watch.

If you have not already done so, complete Course Requirement #5, making contact with Resource Organizations. Follow up on their responses as the Lord leads. File the responses and notes about how you plan to use what you received in your Student Notebook.

Memorize Psalm 95:1-7a.

Subjects to be explored:

History of Congregational Singing

History of Jubilation

The Worship Team's Proper Music Education

Related objectives:

- You will quote Psalm 95:1-7a.
- You will discuss the reasons Martin Luther wrote songs for congregational singing.
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- You will know a timeline of ten major composers of hymns and at least one hymn written by each.
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