

**COURSE OF STUDY SCHOOL OF OHIO
HYBRID COURSES AT UNITED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

COURSE 223: Worship and Sacraments

SYLLABUS

This syllabus has been designed to provide for student planning. It is intended to help the student understand the flow of class work, but more detail will be included in the week to week on-line instructions. This syllabus includes information on the course instructors, books required, and weekly requirements. The instructors reserve the right to modify the contents of this syllabus.

This course will begin online and conclude in-person on the UTS Campus.

Instructors:

Rev. Dr. Rychie Breidenstein and Dr. Sarah Blair
United Theological Seminary
rbreidenstein@united.edu or sblair@united.edu

Course Description:

This course examines worship within The United Methodist Church including liturgy, sacraments, and special services. Attention will be given to the pastor's role as leader in worship.

Objectives:

Students will be able to:

1. Articulate a theology of worship consistent with the Wesleyan tradition, including reflection on the theology and rhythm of the Christian year.
2. Articulate a Wesleyan theology of the sacraments and be competent in their administration.
3. Interpret theologically the rites of Christian marriage, and of Death and Resurrection, and be able to lead such services well.
4. Construct a worship service, and reflect theologically on the use of hymns, media, contemporary music, and lay leadership.

Required Textbooks:

Students are responsible for obtaining their own books.

-*By Water and the Spirit* by Gayle Carlton Felton (Discipleship Resources, ISBN: 9780881772012)

-*This Holy Mystery* by Gayle Carlton Felton (Discipleship Resources, ISBN: 9780881774573)

[These books include the text of the official documents adopted by the UMC, but they also include explanatory text by Gayle Carlton Felton. You can get the official text on the GBOD website, but not the entire book.]

Many of you will already have these two official United Methodist books available; there is no need to purchase additional copies. If you do not have copies of them they are available through Cokesbury.

- United Methodist Hymnal
- United Methodist Book of Worship

And of course, you will need a version of the Holy Scriptures.

Course Schedule:

Online Environment (March 20th – May 7th):

This course begins with work online. All online engagement will have beginning and ending timeframes for submissions and responses.

On Campus Weekend (May 8th-9th):

The On-Campus Weekend (which is scheduled at the end of this class) will begin at 2:30 pm on Friday and end by 2:30 pm on Saturday. Friday class is 2:30 pm to 8:30 pm, with a dinner break at 5:00 pm; Saturday resumes at 8:30 am, with chapel at 11:15 am, lunch at noon, and class concludes at 2:30.

ACADEMIC HONOR POLICY

The Course of Study School of Ohio requires that all material submitted by a student in fulfilling academic requirements must be the original work of the student. Violations of academic honor include any action by a student indicating lack of integrity in academic ethics. Violations include, but are not limited to, cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes seeking, acquiring, receiving or passing on information about the content of an examination prior to its authorized release or during its administration. Cheating also includes seeking, using, giving or obtaining unauthorized assistance in any academic assignment or examination. Plagiarism is the act of presenting the published or unpublished words or ideas of another [including online resources] as if it were one's own work. A writer's work should be regarded as his or her own property. Any person who knowingly (whether intentionally or unintentionally) uses a writer's distinctive work without proper acknowledgement is guilty of plagiarism. A student found guilty of a violation of the academic honor policy, after a review of the case, may be subject to one or more of the following actions:

- (1) warning
- (2) probation
- (3) suspension for the remainder of the course
- (4) dismissal from the Course of Study School of Ohio
- (5) failing grade for the course.

Regardless of the outcome, a letter will be sent to the student's District Superintendent and Board of Ordained Ministry.

OVERVIEW OF COURSEWORK

Each week, except the last, your assignments will consist of a reading assignment, possibly viewing some media, and engaging one another in conversation as directed by questions or comments from the instructors. You do not have to respond to everyone every week, but it is expected that you will try to interact with everyone at least once before arriving in Dayton for the face-to-face class.

Weekly assignments and questions for each week will be available to you each Friday. **Please**, your posts must be done in complete sentences, using proper grammar and punctuation. (We would suggest you write your posts in a word document, and then copy it into the on-line file. That way you can use spelling and grammar check tools.) Poorly done posts will lower your grade.

The final project, for which there is a more complete description below and on the class shell, will constitute 50% of your grade. You can see from the course description that the project will, in part, be a worship service, but there will be some additional elements and instructions.

It is important that you check the news forum area of the on-line course from time to time. This is where general information which is relevant to your work may be posted.

Week 1

- Self-introduction
- Reading assignment one—pdf online and posting
- Posting response to at least one classmate

Week 2

- Reading assignment two—pdf online
- view short video clip
- identifying or creating a worship element for the Great Fifty Days and discussing how it supports the idea of Christian time described in the readings
- responding to at least one classmate

Week 3

- Reading Assignment—*By Water and the Spirit*
- Viewing two posted videos
- Offering responses or questions concerning any of this week's assignments

Week 4

- Reading Assignment—*This Holy Mystery*
- Creating a lesson plan for new member class concerning the sacraments
- Responding to classmate

Week 5

- Reading Assignment—pdf on-line
- Viewing video clips
- Review of clip
- Response to classmate
- Discussion of pastoral rites and alternative worship

Week 6

- Class or group project to create a tool to be used to evaluate the worship services led during the weekend meeting times
- Preparing and presenting a worship service for the class
- Writing an analysis of your presentation (due one week after on campus portion of class)

Final Project (50% of grade)

Your final project is a worship service which you will lead during our time together. The size of the class means that this will be a group project. This service is to include a Baptism (acted) or renewal of Baptism, communion, sermon, music, and any other elements you would normally include, or might add now that you have done the reading and discussions for this class. Your service is to be based on the lectionary for the Sunday you are assigned, and there will be a specific time limit which will not be flexible (this is in order for all to be able to lead their worship). In all other ways, you have the freedom to use resources, music, media, etc. as you like in order to create the worship. (There may be limits to the kind of resources which are available here at United; you will need to take this into account in your planning.)

After your presentation and the discussion of your worship service you will turn in an analysis of what you did, including: why you chose to do what you did, what went well, what did not go well, what you might change, and what you would do again. You will have one week to finish this self-review—minimum of three pages-maximum of seven.