

MS 1A03
MINISTRY PRACTICE AND FORMATION
Monday, 3:30 – 5:20 p.m.
Location: TBA

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Course Statement

This course assists students to develop their understanding and practice of personal and corporate leadership for the Christian community, particularly in the context of worship, balancing attention to biblical and theological foundations with development of practical skills.

Course Objectives

Cognitive:

[*knowing*]

- ▶ To explore the theological foundations of congregational worship as rooted in, responsive to, and reflective of the character and nature of God.
- ▶ To assess the relevance for corporate worship of the sanctification of time and space, and to examine such Christian practices as baptism, prayer, preaching, the Lord's Supper, weddings, and funerals, as means of orientation to the principle of grace.

Affective/Experiential:

[*being*]

- ▶ To develop awareness of spiritual identity and personal spiritual formation as foundational aspects of ministerial leadership.
- ▶ To identify and help students appropriate core models of spirituality that inform discipleship and ministry.
- ▶ To develop and function as a community of learning.

Practical:

[*doing*]

- ▶ To provide students with practical experience in planning, leading, and evaluating various aspects of public worship.
- ▶ In association with their Field Education placements, to help students identify and begin to acquire foundational skills relevant to pastoral ministry and congregational leadership.
- ▶ To offer interactive instruction in the conduct of pastoral responsibilities such as baptisms, weddings, funerals, the Lord's Supper, and church administration.

Lecture Outline and Schedule

September 13 Reading: White, *Introduction to Christian Worship*, 17–46
Annie Dillard, “An Expedition to the Pole,” in *Teaching a Stone to Talk: Expeditions and Encounters* (New York: Harper & Row, 1983)
MILLS QH 81 .D563 1983 (Reserve)

I. Why Worship? A Rationale for Celebration

- A. Setting Learning Goals
- B. Worship and the Vision of God
- C. Jewish Worship and the Presence of God
- D. Worship in the New Testament Church
- E. A Taxonomy of Worship

September 20 Reading: White, *Introduction to Christian Worship*, 175–201

II. Order and Chaos: Reflections of Grace

- A. Agency, Testimony, and Effective Sign

September 27 Reading: White, *Introduction to Christian Worship*, 47–80
Book Review Due

- B. What Time is it? The Redemption of Time
 - 1. The Christian Calendar
- C. The Redemption of Time

October 4 Reading: White, *Introduction to Christian Worship*, 81–109

- D. The Architecture of Sanctification (the Ordering of Space)
 - 1. Inductive analysis of McMaster chapel
 - 2. Historical antecedents, theological issues, practical components

October 11 Thanksgiving (class cancelled)

October 18 Reading: White, *Introduction to Christian Worship*, 203–28

III. Forms and Elements of Worship

- A. Entry and Affirmation: Baptism and Ministry

1. Baptismal Theology
2. Praxis (Guest lecturer: TBA)

October 25 Reading: White, *Introduction to Christian Worship*, 151–73
Worship Evaluation Due

B. Pilgrimage

1. Preaching

November 1 Reading: White, *Introduction to Christian Worship*, 131–49

2. Public Prayer and Worship
3. Ministries of Music (Guest lecturer: TBA)

November 8 Reading: White, *Introduction to Christian Worship*, 229–62

4. Marriage and the Wedding Ceremony

November 15

5. The Lord's Supper
 - a. Theology: Worshipping at the Lord's Table
 - b. Praxis (Guest lecturer: TBA)

November 22

C. Departure: Funerals and memorial services

1. Theology
2. Praxis: Marlatt Funeral Home, 195 King St. W., Dundas

November 29 Final Essay due

D. Stewardship

1. "Redeem the time, for the days are evil": Time management and organizational skills
2. "Are We There Yet?": Developing a Congregational Vision Statement
3. Faith and Finances: Money, Budgets, and Fund-Raising

December 6 Reading: Richard Foster, *Streams of Living Water: The Great Traditions of the Christian Faith* (New York: Harper San Francisco, 1998)

IV. Spirituality and Worship: Why We Don't All Worship The Same Way...

December 8 Final Date for Late Assignments

Course Requirements

Textbooks

Foster, Richard. *Streams of Living Water: The Great Traditions of the Christian Faith*. New York: Harper SanFrancisco, 1998. MILLS BV 4501.2 .F6546 1998

White, James F. *Introduction to Christian Worship*. Third edition, revised and expanded. Nashville: Abingdon, 2000. MILLS BV 176.3 .W48 2000

All required textbooks for this class are available from the College's book service, READ On Bookstore, Room 218, McMaster Divinity College. Texts may be purchased on the first day of class. Other book services may also carry the texts. For advance purchase, you may contact:

READ On Bookstore	E-mail: books@readon.ca
304 The East Mall, Suite 100	http://www.readon.ca
Etobicoke, ON	Tel: (416) 620-2934
M9B 6E2	FAX: (416) 622-2308

Additional reading available on reserve at Mills Memorial Library

Dillard, Annie. "An Expedition to the Pole," in *Teaching a Stone to Talk: Expeditions and Encounters*. New York: Harper & Row, 1983. MILLS QH 81 .D563 1983

White, James F. *Protestant Worship: Traditions in Transition*. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 1989. MILLS BV 10.2 .W449 1989

Assignments % of Final Grade

1. Completion of all assigned reading
2. *Book Review* 35%

Provide a critical evaluation of one recent major work (minimum 200 pages) from the course bibliography (but not from the required reading or reserve lists), assessing — amongst other relevant issues — its theological and biblical foundations, its understanding of the practical components of worship, and the applicability of its concepts to your own congregation, tradition, or confessional constituency. Specifically, what changes does this work suggest for the worship practice of your congregation, denomination, or confessional tradition?

Length: 1500 words

Due Date: September 27

3. *Worship Evaluation*

25%

In the course of the semester, attend a worship service in a Christian tradition with which you are *not* familiar (e.g. Assyrian, Catholic, Coptic, Lutheran, Nazarene, Orthodox, Quaker, etc.; see the attached list of local options). Evaluate the service (using the attached form as a guideline if necessary), commenting on significant aspects of the service and insights you have gained (whether positive or negative) into the nature and conduct of Christian worship. In particular, how does this service function *as worship*? That is, what does worship in general, and this worship service in particular, say about God and who we are as worshippers in relation to God? *Please note that this assignment must not conflict with Field Education responsibilities.*

Length: 4 pages/1000+ words

Due Date: October 25

5. *Final Essay*

40%

Building on insights you that have gained from (for example) Scripture; church history and tradition; contemporary culture; course lectures, readings, and assignments; personal experience, and supplementary research, provide an in-depth examination of one of the following:

- a. Theological and practical aspects of one component of contemporary worship (e.g. ritual, architecture, baptism, preaching, prayer, music, weddings, funerals, language for God, ordination, the rôle of the leader, etc.); *or*
- b. One source for, or influence upon, contemporary Christian worship (e.g. the influence of Old Testament, New Testament, or early church practices; the use of lectionaries; the rôle of the Liturgical Renewal movement; “Charismatic” worship; etc.).

Articulate your own theological and practical vision of worship, how it should be conducted, and how your chosen feature or historical/denominational influence contributes to that vision. Explain the background and rationale for your choices and how your understanding of worship could be implemented in the congregational setting within which you expect to conduct your ministry. Outline the practical implications of your theological assessment, whether in a congregational setting or elsewhere. In short, explain *why* and *how* you intend to lead or participate in worship as an expression of your own Christian identity and ministry, the church’s mission, and the *missio Dei*.

This study should also make use of a *minimum* of 6 books and articles from the course bibliography and/or the reserve reading list (not including the assigned texts).

Length: 10-12 pages/2,500 – 3,000 words

Due Date: November 29

D. Style

All assignments are to be typed in double-spaced format, with footnotes and bibliographic references conforming to the *McMaster Divinity College Style Guidelines for Essays and Theses* (<http://www.macdiv.ca/students/documents/MacStyleGuide.pdf>). Failure to observe appropriate format will result in grade reductions. See also “CRITERIA FOR GRADING OF WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS,” below. Electronic submission of assignments will not be accepted.

E. Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is a serious offence that may take any number of forms, including plagiarism, the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which previous credit has been obtained, and/or unauthorized collaboration with other students. Academic dishonesty can result in severe consequences, e.g., failure of the assignment, failure of the course, a notation on one’s academic transcript, and/or suspension or expulsion from the College. Students are responsible for understanding what constitutes academic dishonesty. Please refer to the Divinity College Statement on Academic Honesty: www.macdiv.ca/regs/honesty.php

F. Inclusive Language

McMaster Divinity College is committed to employing inclusive language for human beings in worship services, written materials, and all publications. With regard to biblical texts, the integrity of original expressions (including references to God) should be respected; the NRSV and TNIV provide appropriate examples of the use of inclusive language for human subjects. With the exception of direct quotations from historical documents, inclusive language is to be used in chapel services and in all assignments submitted for academic credit.

G. Late Submission Penalty

Assignments are due at the beginning of the class session on the due date. The penalty for late submission of assignments is 1% per calendar day (without limit). Electronic submission of assignments will not be accepted.

***The final date for submission of all course assignments is December 8
Assignments received after this date will not be accepted for grading or credit***

Disclaimer:

This syllabus is the property of the instructor and is prepared with currently available information. The instructor reserves the right to make changes and revisions up to and including the first day of class.

ALTERNATIVE WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

This is neither an exhaustive list nor an endorsement of any particular church or its policies and practices: *Caveat Cultor*. In the case of major denominations, only local/nearby congregations are listed: alternative locations may prove more accessible or convenient.

Anglican (22 in total)

Christ's Church Cathedral, 252 James Street North
Saint Paul's Anglican Church, 1140 King Street West

Armenian

Saint Mary Armenian Church of Hamilton, 8 Mayhurst Avenue

Associated Gospel

Ellis Avenue Bible Church, 80 Ellis Avenue
Faith Gospel Church, 518 Cochrane Road
Garside Bible Church, 47 Garside Avenue North
Hill Park Bible Church, 668 Upper Wentworth Street
Meadow Creek Community Church, 662 Fennell Avenue East
Philpott Memorial Church, 84 York Boulevard

Assyrian

Holy Apostolic Catholic Assyrian Church of the East, 63 Stone Church Road West
Saint Shmooni Church (Ancient Apostolic Catholic Church of the East), 100 Clinton Street

Baptist (22+ in total, of various affiliations; see also *Fundamental Baptist* and *Southern Baptist*)

King Street Baptist Church, 458 King Street West
McNeill Baptist Church, 1145 King Street West
Mission Baptist Church, 100 North Oval
Westside Baptist Church, 261 Whitney Avenue

Byzantine Slovak

Slovak Assumption Byzantine Catholic Church, 1406 Barton Street East

Charismatic

Crossfire Community Church, 430 York Boulevard
Metro Church International, 105 Nash Road South

Christian and Missionary Alliance

Paramount Drive Alliance Church, 1035 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek
Parkview Church, 1136 West 5th Street
Stoney Creek Alliance Church, 605 Highway 8, Stoney Creek

Christian Reformed

Ancaster Christian Reformed Church, 70 Garner Road West

First Hamilton Christian Reformed Church, 181 Charlton Avenue West
Immanuel Christian Reformed Church, 61 Mohawk Road West
Westdale Reformed Church, 201 Paradise Road North

Church of Christ

Church of Christ, 321 East 27th Street
Church of Christ West Hamilton, Mohawk College

Church of God Reformation Movement

Church of God, 265 Bowman Street
Church Of God In Hamilton, 186 Annabelle Street
Hamilton Church Of God, 1338 Stone Church Road East

Coptic (Egyptian) Orthodox

Saint Mina Coptic Orthodox Church, 480 Melvin Street
The Church of the Virgin Mary and Saint Athanasius, 1245 Eglinton Avenue West,
Mississauga

Evangelical

Kensington Gospel Hall, 162½ Kensington Avenue North

Evangelical Lutheran

Christ Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church, 18 Victoria Avenue South
Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1907 King Street East
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1107 Main Street West
Pilgrim Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1054 Upper Sherman Avenue
Redeemer Lutheran Church, 15 Wexford Avenue
Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hamilton, 104 Hughson Street North
Transfiguration Lutheran Church, 232 Fennell Avenue East

Free Methodist

Buchanan Park Free Methodist Church, 122 Delmar Drive

Full Gospel

All Nations Full Gospel Church, 1205 Main Street East
Free Believers in Christ Fellowship International, 389 Concession Street

Fundamental Baptist

New Testament Baptist Church, 21 Jameston Avenue

Greek Orthodox

Panagia Greek Orthodox Church of the Dormition of The Virgin Mary, 233 East 15th Street
Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, 22 Head Street

Holiness

The Apostolic Assembly of the Faith in Jesus Christ, 168 West Avenue North (services in
Italian only)

Macedonian Orthodox

Saint Naum of Ohrid Macedonian Orthodox Church, 1150 Stone Church Road East

Mennonite

Hamilton Mennonite Church, 143 Lower Horning Road

Mennonite Brethren

Mountainview Mennonite Brethren Church, 380 Highway 8, Stoney Creek

Methodist Episcopal

Stewart Memorial Church (formerly Saint Paul's African Methodist Episcopal Church),
114 John Street North

Nazarene

First Church Of The Nazarene, 92 Ottawa Street North
Mountain Church Of The Nazarene, 910 Upper Sherman Avenue

Orthodox Church in America

All Saints of North America Orthodox Church, 117 Queenston Road

Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada

Calvary Pentecostal Tabernacle, 139 Wilson Street West, Ancaster
East Hamilton United Pentecostal Church, 887 King Street East
Mount Albion Pentecostal Church, 1267 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek
Peoples Church Hamilton, 510 Mohawk Road West
Victory International Church, 2799 Barton Street East
Woodvale Pentecostal Church, 1221 Wilson Street East

Polish National Catholic Church

Holy Trinity Polish Church, 880 Barton Street East

Presbyterian (18 in total)

St. Cuthbert's Presbyterian Church, 2 Bond Street North

Reformed Church in America

Westdale Reformed Church, 201 Paradise Road North

Reformed Church in Canada

Street Light Ministries, 82 Ferguson Avenue North

Reformed Episcopal

Saint George's Reformed Episcopal Church, 134 Emerson Street

Religious Society of Friends (Quaker)

The Religious Society of Friends, 7 Butty Place

Roman Catholic (33 in total)

Canadian Martyrs Catholic Church, 38 Emerson Street
Cathedral of Christ the King, 714 King Street West

Romanian Orthodox

Romanian Orthodox Church of the Holy Resurrection, 20 Murray Street West

Russian Orthodox

Holy Veil of Holy Mother Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, 77 Sanford Avenue
South

Our Lady of Glastonbury Orthodox Church, 390 Cannon Street East

Salvation Army

The Freeway, 333 King Street East
Laotian Corps, 573 Concession Street
Meadowlands Corps, 187 Stone Church Road West
Mountain Citadel, 835 Stone Church Road East
Winterberry Heights, 300 Winterberry Drive

Serbian Orthodox

Saint Nikola Serbian Eastern Orthodox Church, 1415 Barton Street East
Saint Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Cathedral, 157 Nash Road South

Slovenian Catholic

Saint Gregory the Great Slovenian Church, 125 Centennial Parkway North

Southern Baptist

Ridgecrest Southern Baptist Church, 582 Barton Street East

Syrian Orthodox

Saint Mark's Syrian Orthodox Church, 1202 Dunsmure Road

Ukrainian Catholic

Church of the Holy Spirit, 15 Saint Olga Street
Church of the Resurrection, 821 Upper Wentworth Street
Saint Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Parish, 260 Melvin

Ukrainian Orthodox

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Saint Vladimir, 855 Barton Street East

United Church of Canada (32 in total)

Binkley United Church, 1570 Main Street West
Westdale United Church, 99 North Oval

United Reformed

Rehoboth United Reformed Church, 77 Glancaster Road, Ancaster

Unidentified/Non-Denominational/Other

Apostolic Holiness Church Of Jesus Christ, 42 Royal Avenue
Church of God of Prophecy, 64 Wentworth Street North
City Kidz, 177 Sherman Street North
Dominion Christian Centre, 141 Park Street North
Eagle Worldwide Ministries, 73 Emerald St North
Eagle's Nest Fellowship, 1151 Garner Road West, Ancaster
Evangelical Church Apostles and Prophets the Voice of Christ to the World, 87 – 605 Stone Church Road East
Faith Church of Jesus Christ, 1855 Main Street East
Forestview Church Without Walls, 165 King Street West
Free Believers In Christ Fellowship International, 389 Concession Street
Hamilton Christian Fellowship, 135 Strathcona Street North
Hamilton Church of Christ, 126 Ottawa Street North
Hamilton Deliverance Church of Jesus Christ, 606 Upper James Street
Jesus Is Alive Community, 97 East 33rd Street
Life Christian Church, 1205 Rymal Road East
Living Hope Christian Assembly, 1045 Garth Street
Living Water Ministries, 1475 Barton Street East
Living Word Covenant Community Church, 159 Beach Boulevard
The Lord's Ministry House, 1393 Main Street East

MS1A03 WORSHIP LEADERSHIP EVALUATION SHEET (optional)

Date _____ Name of Evaluator _____

Location _____ Name of Worship Leader _____

Theme, focus, or main scriptural passage _____

Outline or main elements of worship event (list on reverse side as necessary) _____

EVALUATION

How effectively or appropriately did the designated leader(s) direct this worship event?
 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 _____

How effectively or appropriately did this worship event involve those in attendance?
 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 _____

How effectively or appropriately did this service make use of worship resources?
 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 _____

How effectively did the various elements contribute to a coherent, consistent whole?
 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 _____

You shall love the Lord your God: how effectively did this worship event express or inspire devotion?
 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 _____

With all your heart: how effectively did this worship event engage affect and volition?
 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 _____

With all your mind: how effectively did this worship event engage intellect and understanding?
 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 _____

With all your soul: how effectively did this worship event articulate or empower spiritual identity?
 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 _____

And with all your strength: how effectively did this worship event relate to praxis and action?
 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 _____

And your neighbour as yourself: how effectively did this worship event lead to service of others?
 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 _____

TOTAL _____

APTITUDES, ATTITUDES, AND SKILLS FOR PASTORAL MINISTRY

(Based in part on the McMaster Divinity College *Field Education Manual*
“Areas of Skill Development and Expectations for Professional Experience”)

A. General

1. *Vocation*

Your sense of calling to vocational ministry is rooted in

- mature Christian discipleship
- appropriate personal aptitudes and abilities
- specific affirmation by mature Christians who know you well
- personal conviction of God’s direction

2. *Disposition*

- emotional stability and maturity
- intellectual aptitude
- physical health

3. *Denominational Identity*

- familiarity with denominational culture, expectations, and organizational standards
- affirmation for ministry/ordination by denominational authority

4. *Leadership*

- Ability to take responsibility for the completion of tasks and commitments, and to be answerable to an accountability group.
- Ability to formulate, adapt, implement, and evaluate a plan of action.
- Ability to mentor another person in developing their own ministry skills.

B. Specific

1. *Administration*

- Have the experience of being responsible for the organizational details/operation of a team, committee or group.
- Have the opportunity to observe and participate in the ongoing management of a church or ministry organization, including observing some of the deacons, elders, or organizational board/committee meetings.

2. *Contextualization Skills*

- Have the experience of learning to read a culture and do ministry in a way that respects and is sensitive to that culture.

3. *Pastoral Care Skills*

- Have the experience of visiting people in an institutional setting (hospital, nursing home, prison) on several occasions.
- Have the experience of engaging individuals in pastoral counselling settings on several occasions.
- Have the experience of observing the preparation and implementation of a wedding ceremony (including exposure to pre-marital counselling materials and techniques).
- Have the experience of observing the preparation and implementation of a funeral service (including exposure to working with the bereaved and funeral home services).

4. *Preaching Skills*

- Have the experience of delivering at least two sermons in a church or institutional setting with the benefit of feedback from a supervisor or trusted mentor.

5. *Teaching Skills*

- Have the experience of being the teacher of an ongoing class or small group with the benefit of feedback from a supervisor or trusted mentor.

6. *Worship Leading Skills*

- Have the experience of participating on several occasions in the planning of corporate worship services.
- Have the experience on several occasions of participating in leading corporate worship through several of the following: congregational singing, prayer, scripture reading, liturgical reading, announcements, benediction.
- Have the experience of leading, or assisting in the administration of the Lord's Supper.

7. *Evangelistic Skills*

- Participate in a program or activity that is explicitly designed to help expose people outside of the Christian faith to the gospel.
- Have the experience of observing the preparation and implementation of a baptism

8. *Relational Skills*

- Have the experience of being connected to a church or group of people for an extended period where the development and maintenance of relationships is necessary.

CRITERIA FOR GRADING OF WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

Grading of written materials will be based on the following general criteria

Grade Range	Content	Argument	Presentation
90–100A+ 85–89 A 80–84 A–	Mastery of subject matter; creativity and individualized integration of insights and their relationships; exceeds required elements	Clear, logical structure; with comprehensive introduction, persuasive argumentation, and innovative conclusions	Detailed adherence to relevant style for formatting of text, notes, and bibliography; no errors of grammar or syntax; elegant presentation
77–79 B+ 73–76 B 70–72 B–	Above-average grasp of principles and concepts, and their inter-relationship; completion of all required elements	Coherent structure and consistent argumentation; well-stated introduction and conclusion	General adherence to relevant style and format; few errors of grammar or syntax
67–69 C+ 63–66 C 60–62 C–	Adequate understanding of theoretical foundations; minimal completion of required elements	Rudimentary structure; minimal introductory and concluding statements	Significant errors of grammar, syntax, or style
57–59 D+ 53–56 D 50–52 D–	Low level of comprehension; required elements incomplete or missing	Lack of coherence or structure in argumentation; no introduction or conclusion	Abundant grammatical, syntactical, and stylistic errors
0–49% F	Inability to grasp basic concepts; required elements missing	Incomprehensible or illogical structure and argumentation	Failure to follow stylistic guidelines; incomprehensible syntax