



15800 Calvary Road
Kansas City, MO 64147-1341

Syllabus

COURSE: MU347 Worship Literature
CREDIT: 3 Semester Hours
SEMESTER: FALL 2026
DAY/TIME: Tuesday and Thursday 1-2:20PM/E. Ed 109
INSTRUCTOR: Heather Wilson
Heather.wilson@calvary.edu

I. DESCRIPTION

A study of worship literature from Bible times to the present, tracing the historical development of music in worship. Practical information on various styles of worship, programming music for a worship service and analyzing the construction and theology of music will be explored.

**This is a blended class, meaning that both campus and online students take this class together. Campus students attend the classes in person; online students attend the classes via the online classroom. All interaction and assignments for campus and online students are done in the online classroom.*

II. OBJECTIVES

- A. General competencies to be achieved. The student will:
1. Establish a sound, biblical philosophy, and foundation for the use of music in worship.
 - a. PLO: 1, 2
 - b. Assignment: IIIA
 2. Develop knowledge and skills to be an effective worship planner.
 - a. PLO: 1, 2, 3
 - b. Assignment: III A, B, C, D
 3. Acquire the knowledge and principles needed to analyze the quality of a piece of music.
 - a. PLO: 2, 3
 - b. Assignment: III B, C
 4. Gain the understanding of how and why music has been used in worship since the advent of Christianity.
 - a. PLO: 1, 2, 3
 - b. Assignment: III A, B, C

Our Mission: "...to prepare Christians to live and serve in the church and in the world according to the Biblical worldview."

-
- B. Specific competencies to be achieved. The student will:
1. Learn a wide range of repertoire appropriate for use in worship.
 - a. PLO: 3
 - b. Assignment: III B, C, D
 2. Understand how various styles of worship music have been used through the course of church history.
 - a. PLO: 1, 2, 3
 - b. Assignment: III A, B, C, D
 3. Learn the best music to use for a variety of worship settings.
 - a. PLO: 1, 2, 3
 - b. Assignment: III A, B, C, D
 4. Learn how to select, arrange and program music for worship services.
 - a. PLO: 2, 3
 - b. Assignment: III B, C, D
 5. Explore the online resources available for worship music.
 - a. PLO: 3
 - b. Assignment: III B, C

III. REQUIREMENTS

A. Reading:

1. Read the assigned textbooks for this course.
2. Journal. Read 1 edition of Worship Leader magazine. Write a review and place in course notebook.
3. Online/website. Locate one traditional and one contemporary worship music website, survey the sites and write a review summarizing the content. Place your reviews in the course notebook.

B. Notebook:

Prepare a notebook of appropriate music for worship. Include both traditional and contemporary songs. This will become a resource for service planning. Include lead sheets, chord/lyrics charts or print music that includes chords. Organize the songs in the notebook and include an index or chart listing the songs, keys, tempos, and other. Notebook must contain a minimum of 50 songs.

C. Music selection:

The student will create 6 orders of service based on readings.

D. Course notebook:

Create a notebook for this course that will include dividers or sections on all key categories/topics included in this course.

E. Attendance:

All students must attend class. Campus students must **attend** the class in person at the scheduled time and location.

If you miss a class, it is YOUR responsibility to find out **what was done what was assigned**, and to **be prepared** when you return to your next class.

IV. METHODS

- A. In-class methods
 - 1. Lecture, demonstration, discussion.
 - 2. Recordings, DVDs.
- B. Out-of-class methods
 - 1. Reading.
 - 2. Internet.
 - 3. Projects: Worship Music Notebook
 - 4. Research assignments.
- C. Grading
 - 1. Required reading/Quizzes 20%
 - 2. Class Discussion, Participation 20%
 - 3. Assignments 20%
 - 4. Final Exam 10%
 - 5. Music Notebook 30%
 - 100%

V. MATERIALS

The Holy Bible

- A. Class notes or handouts provided by the instructor.
- B. Fettke, Tom. *The Celebration Hymnal: Songs and Hymns for Worship*, \$9.95, Word Entertainment Music, 1997. **ISBN-13: 978-3010148368** (some students may already have this hymnal from other courses)
- C. www.ccli.com This is a worship music resource that will be utilized in class through CBC's current subscription. Access will be granted the first day of class.
- D. **Basden, Paul & Gundry, Stanley N. *Exploring the Worship Spectrum: 6 Views*, \$16.99, Zondervan Pub. House, 2004. ISBN-13: 978-0310247593**
- E. **Segler, Franklin. M. *Christian Worship, 3rd ed*, \$29.99, B&H Publishing Group, 2006. ISBN-10 : 0805423095**

VI. TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

Week 1-2	Spectrum: Formal-Liturgical Worship	Segler/Bradley: Chpt 1-3, 18
Week 3-4	Spectrum: Traditional Hymn Worship	Segler/Bradley: Chpt 4-5
Week 5-6	Spectrum: Contemporary Worship	Segler/Bradley: Chpt 6-9
Week 7-8	Spectrum: Charismatic Worship	Segler/Bradley: Chpt 10-11
Week 9-10	Spectrum: Blended Worship	Segler/Bradley: Chpt 12
Week 11-12	Spectrum: Emerging Worship	Segler/Bradley: Chpt 13-14
Week 13-14		Segler/Bradley: Chpt 15-16
Week 15-16		Segler/Bradley: Chpt 19, 23

-
- *Week 5 Bring copies of traditional orders of service to class**
 - *Week 7 Bring copies of contemporary orders of service to class**
 - *Week 11 Bring copies of blended orders of service to class**

VII. OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB, English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases, and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.
- Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator (aso@calvary.edu) of any disabling condition that may require support.
- Plagiarism is defined as copying any content without identifying the source. This also includes taking another person's or AI entity's ideas or constructs and presenting them as your own. The use of AI generated content in student work is prohibited (even if cited) as it does not represent original work created by the student and is an unreliable aggregate of ideas from other sources. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated.
- The Clark Academic Center (learning@calvary.edu) is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for Calvary University students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.
- All class papers must follow the Turabian style according to *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th edition and the Calvary Style Guide, 2019 update.
- In-class attendance and discussion is mandatory and is part of the student's overall final grade.
- Grading Scale: See grading scale in the university catalog.

Carnegie Units

Assignments	Hours
“Seat Time” in class	42
Reading	25
Research	20
Project: Worship Music Notebook	24
Project: 3 sets of worship music	21
Final Test, Quizzes	3
Total	135