All precourse assignments should be emailed to the Course of Study office by June 1, 2016.

Course Description and Outcomes
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.

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
- *This Holy Mystery: A United Methodist Understanding of Holy Communion* (available at gbod.org/worship)
- *By Water and the Spirit: A United Methodist Understanding of Baptism* (available at gbod.org/worship)
Precourse Assignments (Due June 1st to the COS Office)

- Be sure to read all instructions before beginning work.
- Follow writing guidelines provided by COS.
- For each assignment, demonstrate that you have read and understood the text covered in that assignment.
- Be sure to cover all parts of each assignment.

1. Read Laurence Hull Stookey’s book *Let the Whole Church say “Amen”: A Guide for Those who Pray in Public* and complete all the exercises included. Students’ textbooks will be collected on the first day of class and a grade for completion will be given. Students working with an electronic version of the text should complete exercises in journal form that cites the page number for each exercise and print the journal to turn in the first day of class.


3. Read Hoyt Hickman’s *Worshiping with United Methodists*. After reading the book, write a 3 – 5 page paper describing Hickman’s “5 Principles of Worship”. After you describe each principle, evaluate your current weekly worship based on that principle. You will do this for each of the 5 principles. You are not being graded on how well your church currently lives into each principle, but on your thoughtful critique of your church’s worship based on the principles.

4. Read *This Holy Mystery*. Imagine someone in your church comes to you saying he/she does not like it when your church does communion and that he/she wants you to do it less often. Based on what you have learned in *This Holy Mystery*, write a 2 – 3 page paper describing what you might teach this person about communion that would help him or her understand communion and appreciate its benefits. Be sure to demonstrate understanding of theological concepts covered in the text.

5. Read *By Water and the Spirit*. Based on what you learn from your reading, write a 2 – 3 page paper explaining Baptism as a sacrament and how our sacramental theology becomes the basis of our practice of baptizing infants. Be sure to demonstrate understanding of the theological concepts covered in the text.

6. After April 1, when the on-line classes are posted, watch and participate in each online segment. Based on your learnings from the on-line course work, review your papers and make any edits or corrections that might strengthen your work. If you do not have a Blackboard User ID please contact the COS Office to request one at courseofstudy@emory.edu.
Final Project: Due the last day of Class

(With the new compressed schedule of COS, there is less time to complete final projects during your time on campus. Final project information is provided so that you can begin thinking about and drafting ideas to bring with you to COS.)

Design a worship service around either baptism or communion. The goal of this service is for participants to not only learn more about the theology of the sacrament you have chosen, but to experience the richness of the sacrament. Please choose only one or two theological concepts to teach in your service.

The project should include:

- A statement of the theological concept(s) to be taught in this worship experience
- A description of any special set up or decorations
- An order of worship with the following included:
  - Words for hymns and special music to demonstrate that these are on theme
  - Scripture citation and key verse or summary of longer text
  - Sermon title
  - A one sentence focus statement for the sermon and/or teaching elements
  - A brief description of dramas, faith stories, etc. that are included
  - Notes to show how you will transition from one element to the next

- Helpful Hints:
  - Be creative
  - Demonstrate mastery of the information covered in your precourse work and in class.
  - Make your descriptions so complete I could pick up your paper, walk into your church and lead the service.

- Your goal is to create something you could (and hopefully will!) use with your congregation!

Guidelines for Written Assignments

- All papers should be typed, double-spaced, on 8 ½” by 11” paper, unless the instructor has asked for a different format specifically within the precourse work. Font should be Times New Roman or something similar and no larger than size 12. Margins are to be 1” on all four sides of each page.
- All papers must include a page number and the last name of the student in either the header or footer of every page.
- You should note the question you are answering at the beginning of each new section of materials.
- All papers should provide citations for all quoted material. You may use MLA, Turabain, APA or Chicago Style.
- Punctuation should be consistent; clarity of meaning is the primary purpose of punctuation. Edit and retype material as needed and check spelling in a standard dictionary.
- All papers should attempt to eliminate discriminatory language—for example: racism, ageism, sexism, classism, and prejudicial usage concerning handicapping conditions.
Inclusive Language Covenant

The faculty of Emory Course of Study School has adopted a covenant statement encouraging inclusiveness in the use of language, as follows:

The Inclusive Language Covenant is designed to create a linguistic environment in which all students, staff, and faculty can grow in understanding and appreciating the rich diversity of God’s people. The COS faculty commits itself—through continued discussion, reflection, and exploration—to using language in such a way that we respond to the fullness of God’s presence among us as much by our choice of words as by our care for one another. Recognizing that our experience with inclusive language is an integral part of theological formation, we invite students and others to share as partners with us in this learning process.

We understand “covenant” more in terms of its biblical and theological meaning than in a legal or contractual context. Covenant signifies the common commitment of a community of faith in response to God’s revelation and in partnership with one another. The values implied in the covenant have morally persuaded us to try to generate patterns of speech and behavior that bond the members of the community in mutual respect. We expect all members of the community to address issues of diversity constructively. The entire Inclusive Language Covenant can be found on the COS website, and you are encouraged to read the whole covenant.

Directions to Email Precourse Assignments

Please read all the directions below before emailing your assignments to the COS Office, any emails received that do not follow the directions below will not be accepted. You will receive an email confirmation of receipt and if your email is not submitted correctly an email indicating you will need to resend your assignments.

1. Email only courseofstudy@emory.edu your precourse assignments, do not email assignments to the instructors. You are encouraged to email the instructors questions about the assignments.
2. Email must be received no later than 11:59pm on the deadline of June 1st.
   a. Please note that the cut off time is EASTERN STANDARD TIME zone, so email your assignments accordingly.
   b. Any precourse work received after June 1st at 11:59pm will be subject to a late penalty.
      • Precourse work received between June 2 – June 30 is 2 letter grade deductions.
      • You will be drop from any course for which precourse work has not been received after June 30th. No precourse work will be accepted at check-in.
3. The course number and the phrase “precourse work” should be the subject of your email:
   Example - Precourse Work 223
   a. You will need to send a separate email for each course you are registered to attend.
4. Precourse work must be sent as an attached document and not in the body of the email.
   a. Any version of Microsoft Word will be accepted; PDF, Word Perfect, and Mac-Pages documents will not be accepted. If you are using another type of word processing program please convert your document to a version of Microsoft Word before sending.
   b. All assignments for each course must be in one document, multiple documents are not acceptable. If you have five assignments for one class, combine all assignments into one paper before sending. You should send only one attachment per-class with all course assignments; emails sent with multiple documents will not be accepted.
5. Your FULL name, phone number, and email address should be included in the body of your email.
6. Plagiarism Policy and Plagiarism Defined

   The plagiarism Policy and Defined paragraphs below must be included in the body of your email (both are below), not within your precourse work. The inclusion of the policy and definition in the body of the email, verifies that you agree to it and your email will represent your signature (which is a requirement). If the email does not include the plagiarism policy and definition it will not be accepted. Your email, with the plagiarism policy and definition will be printed and used as the cover sheet for your precourse assignments, because it has the verification of date and time.
received, and your agreement to the plagiarism policy and definition.

**Plagiarism Policy** - I have read the plagiarism definition below and verify that this assignment represents my own work, except where credit is given.

**Plagiarism Defined**: “You plagiarize when, intentionally or not, you use someone else’s words or ideas but fail to credit that person, leading your readers to think that those words are yours. In all fields, you plagiarize when you use a source’s words or ideas without citing that source. In most fields, you plagiarize even when you do credit the source but use its exact words without using quotation marks or block indentation” (201-202). Booth, Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams. *The Craft of Research, Second Edition*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 2003.

7. If you do not follow the procedure your precourse work WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED! You will receive a confirmation of receipt within 24 hours or notice to resubmit following the process.