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 for download at www.gbod.org/worship
- *By Water and the Spirit: A United Methodist Understanding of Baptism*
  Available for download at www.gbod.org/worship
- *The United Methodist Hymnal*
- *The United Methodist Book of Worship*
A Note about the Hybrid Format
This course is offered in a hybrid format. That means that 15 of the 20 contact hours will occur in class and the remaining 5 hours will occur online (before and after the class meets). If you have any problems with the technology aspect of this course, please call Amy Walker at 404.727.4587. She’s here to help!

There are two major phases in the class:
• The PRE-CLASS PHASE is meant to set the foundation for our time together in person. In advance of class, students will view the online video lectures, complete short writing responses, and read selections from required textbooks.
• The IN-CLASS PHASE will be devoted to digging into the course material through lecture and discussion.

Pre-Class Assignments
Pre-Class Assignments 1, 2, 6, 7 & 8 should be emailed to amy.elizabeth.walker@emory.edu by June 1 in one Word document with the start of each new assignment clearly marked.

  o Be sure to read all instructions before beginning work.
  o Follow writing guidelines provided by COS (on page 5 of this syllabus)
  o For each assignment, demonstrate that you have read and understood the text covered in that assignment.
  o Be sure to cover all parts of each assignment.

PRE-CLASS ASSIGNMENT #1

PRE-CLASS ASSIGNMENT #2
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. (12% of grade)

PRE-CLASS ASSIGNMENT #3
Read This Holy Mystery.

PRE-CLASS ASSIGNMENT #4
Read By Water and the Spirit.
PRE-CLASS ASSIGNMENT #5
Watch the seven online video lectures. Be sure to take notes on what you learn as you will use these notes for discussion in class.

PRE-CLASS ASSIGNMENT #6
Write a brief but complete answer to the reflection questions in each of the seven online video lectures. This paper will generally be between 4 and 6 pages. (12% of grade)

PRE-CLASS ASSIGNMENT #7
Based on your reading and the online lectures, write a paper in which you 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 and lectures. (12% of grade)

PRE-CLASS ASSIGNMENT #8
Based on what you learn from your reading and what you learn in the on-line class lectures, write a 2 – 3 page paper explaining why United Methodist’s baptize infants. Assume I am a skeptic of infant baptism who knows nothing of our baptism theology. Explain how our sacramental theology paves the way for infant baptism. Be sure to demonstrate understanding of the theological concepts covered in the text and lectures. (12% of grade)
**In-Class Assignments**

**PARTICIPATION**
Participate fully in all class and small group activities during class time. (15% of grade)

**FINAL PROJECT** – **please bring this assignment with you to class on July 27** (25% of grade)
Design a worship service and write up your plan to include the following:
- A statement of the theological focus 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
  - Words for all prayers, affirmations of faith, etc.
  - Scripture citation(s) 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 pre-course 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!
This must be a new worship service; you may not write up a service you have already planned or in which you have been a participant.

**How Your Final Course Grade Is Determined**
12% Pre-Class Assignment #1
12% Pre-Class Assignment #2
12% Pre-Class Assignment #6
12% Pre-Class Assignment #7
12% Pre-Class Assignment #8
15% Class Participation
25% Final Project

**COS Grading Scale**

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Guidelines for Written Assignments

- All papers should be typed, double-spaced, and on 8.5x11” paper.
- The font should be Times New Roman, 12 point.
- Margins should be 1” on all sides.
- All papers must include a page number and the student’s last name in the header or footer.
- Note the question you are answering at the beginning of each new section or page.
- All papers must be properly cited. Please use MLA formatting. This is the best website for learning more about MLA format: https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/1/

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 participation 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 Pre-Class Assignments

DEADLINE – Email must be received no later than 11:59p.m. EST on June 1, 2017.
Pre-class work received after the deadline will be subject to the late penalty schedule below:
- Pre-class work received between June 2-8 will receive a one-letter grade deduction.
- Pre-class work received between June 9-15 will receive a two-letter grade deduction.
- Students who have not turned in pre-class work by June 15 will be dropped from the class.

EMAIL SUBJECT LINE – The subject of your email should be “Pre-Class Work – COS 223”

THE EMAIL – Your full name, phone number, and email address should be included at the beginning of your email. Pre-class work must be sent as an attachment and not in the body of the email.
  a. Only Microsoft Word documents will be accepted.
  b. All assignments for each class must be in one document. You should send only one attachment with all class assignments; emails sent with multiple documents will not be accepted.

PLAGIARISM – The “Plagiarism Policy” and “Plagiarism Defined” paragraphs below (in red) must be included in the body of your email, not within your pre-class 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.

  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.

You will receive a confirmation of receipt within 72 hours of submitting your pre-class work.