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)

If you previously received a copy of this precourse work there was a required book by Susan White listed in the textbook area, however it is been removed from the precourse assignments. If you have already purchased the White book you may wish to return it or keep it for reference but it will not be used in this course. 10/28/14
**Precourse Assignments**

*All papers should be double-spaced. For each assignment, demonstrate that you have read and understood the book covered in that 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. Student books 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 a journal form that cites the page number for each exercise.


3. Read Hoyt Hickman’s *Worshiping with United Methodists*. After reading the book, choose a recent Sunday morning worship service and write a 3 - 5 page paper answering the following questions:
   - What might Hoyt Hickman appreciate about this worship service? Be sure to explain why you think he would appreciate those elements and reference the concepts in the reading that back up your ideas.
   - How do you see different elements in the service demonstrating concepts described in the book (be specific)?
   - What ideas have you learned from this reading that you would like to implement to strengthen the worship experience in your local church. Be sure to explain the concepts chosen and why you think these would enhance worship in your setting.

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.

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.
**Final Project:** Final projects will be due the last day of class (July 30).

*The new compressed schedule for summer COS does not allow as much time for homework as the past schedule. Students may find it helpful to bring a draft of the final project to class as a starting point. Please be prepared to make changes to this draft to reflect what you have learned in class; your grade on this project will reflect your ability to integrate information from the readings with what you learned in class sessions.*

Design a worship service around either baptism or communion. The goal of this service is for the participants to not only learn more about our theology of the sacrament you have chosen, but to experience the richness of the sacrament.

Include:

- Order of worship
  - Hymns and special music (Include words)
  - Prayers and responses (include full copy)
  - Scripture(s)
  - Sermon Title
  - One sentence focus statement for sermon and/or other teaching elements
  - Brief description of ideas, dramas, faith stories, etc.
- Notes to show how you will transition from one element to the next
- Description of set-up, decorations, etc.

**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** michelle.levan@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 May 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 May 1st at 11:59pm will be subject to a late penalty.
      • Precourse work received between May 2 – June 1 is 1 letter grade deduction.
      • Precourse work received between June 2 – June 20 is 2 letter grade deductions.
      • You will be drop from any course for which precourse work has not been received after June 20th. 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 113
   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. You should send only one attachment with all course assignments; emails sent with multiple documents will not be accepted.

5. **Your FULL name, phone number and email, should all be clearly included at the beginning of your email. See Example**

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.