



NEW COURSES JANUARY 2009

Revised 10-15-08

PW3133

Women & Worship (3 credits)

In this course we will study the experiences of women as resources for worship, with particular attention given to voices from groups that are marginalized in multiple ways in U.S. culture and religion. We will consider biblical texts with particular relevance to women and how these could interact with worship ritual; we will review the history of women's ritual traditions in the Bible and the church. We will also take into account notions of the sacred and how they fit or do not fit with women's bodies. How does the construction of gender interact with worship and are ideas of purity still influential in current thinking about the presence of women in worship? Through engagement with story, presentations, development of ritual and reflection on liturgical practices we hope to address situations of exclusion and attempt to redraft alternative forms of worship in which both male and female are both fully present in worship of the Holy.

CM4303

Clay Forms: Restorative Table Justice (3 credits)

This class will use the integration of arts and theology through pottery to deepen our understanding of Reformed Sacramental Theology, particularly as we examine justice issues of who is welcome around the Table and who is excluded, through artistic expression in a liturgical context. We will engage with theological and biblical texts through clay. Each participant in the class will make a set of clay Eucharistic vessels: chalice, paten, baptismal bowl and pitcher, learning throwing and hand building pottery techniques. We will visit several local pottery studios, and learn about glazing and firing pottery. Students will work together to lead clay workshops at three Louisville churches: Anchorage Presbyterian Church, Central Presbyterian Church and Crescent Hill Presbyterian Church. Finally, we will explore sacramental vessels in the context of our own community, creating clay vessels for the seminary community to use in worship. In addition to our time in class there will be plenty of open studio time to work on clay projects, with potters wheels, hand building tables, tools and clay provided.

PC2631

Ministry of Listening: Basic Skills for Pastoral Care-Givers (1 credit) – Offered in Spring

This pastoral counseling course consists of 12 hours of intensive training designed to provide MDiv students with listening and attending skills necessary for ministry in a variety of contexts. Through assigned readings, lectures, and structured exercises, basic counseling skills are presented, practiced, and reflected upon as vital aspects of ministry. The instructor is a licensed marriage and family therapist and clinical supervisor with membership in both the American Association of Pastoral Counselors and the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists.