

Saint Louis Christian College
PWM 401 Worship Leading & Planning
Professor Kent Sanders
2 Credit Hours

Fall Semester 2014
Music Building
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Wednesdays & Fridays
1:30 – 2:20 p.m.

Mission Statement

Saint Louis Christian College pursues excellence in the Word and develops servant leaders for urban, suburban, rural, and global ministry.

Course Description

This “hands-on” course examines the skills needed to plan and lead effective worship services. Topics include leading a worship team, conducting rehearsals, planning services, facilitating congregational singing, copyright issues, creating a budget, and other matters related to worship leadership. Students will also be involved in planning chapel services.

Course Rationale

This course provides the student with a comprehensive overview of the skills and resources needed to lead worship in a local church worship ministry. Music training, performance skills and classroom education are of little value unless a student is able to put them to work in a real-life church setting. This course helps students to develop worship leading skills and various concerns related to planning effective corporate worship services.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the students should be able to:

1. Cognitive Area (Knowledge)
 - 1) Articulate the biblical role of a worship leader.
 - 2) Discuss the fundamental principles of worship planning
 - 3) Understand basic principles of copyright law and its application to worship ministry.
 - 4) Understand basic principles of good relationships with application for ministry.
2. Affective Area (Attitudes)
 - 1) Commit to developing the heart of a worship leader.
 - 2) Value teamwork and collaboration.
 - 3) Model a positive attitude and commitment to excellence as a leader and example.
 - 4) Develop confidence in his/her ability to lead worship.
3. Behavioral Area (Skills)
 - 1) Effectively work with a team to plan, prepare and rehearse for corporate worship.
 - 2) Develop a master song list appropriate for use in a local church setting.
 - 3) Develop a weekly worship team schedule.
 - 4) Effectively lead worship that models thoughtful planning and attention to flow.

- 5) Develop a detailed budget plan for a local church worship ministry.
- 6) Integrate creative elements into services (i.e. Scripture, drama, video, testimonies, performance music, etc.).
- 7) Effectively lead worship team rehearsals.

Course Requirements

* Please consult the Course Resources for additional information about each assignment.

Class Attendance and Participation. You are expected to attend class and participate in class discussions and learning experiences. Institutional “walks” do not count against your grade, but do count toward the 25% of class sessions you are allowed to miss without being academically withdrawn. An attendance chart will be available each class session, and it is your responsibility to make sure you sign it. If you miss more than 15 minutes of class, you will be counted absent.

Assignments:

1. **Reading Summaries (20% of final grade; see course schedule for due dates).** Please complete a Reading Worksheet for each class session in which reading is due. This gives evidence that you have completed the reading, and allows you the opportunity to integrate and reflect upon what you have read. For each chapter from the reading, write a 1-paragraph response to the question, “How does the material in this chapter apply to my current and future ministry as a worship leader?” In addition, indicate the percentage of reading completed.

The grade for each worksheet are based upon: 1) your understanding of the assigned reading, 2) the thoughtfulness of your response, and 3) the use of correct spelling grammar, and 4) the amount of reading completed. The grades for your worksheets will be averaged together for 20% of your final grade.

2. **Class Worship Leading (10% of final grade; schedule TBD in class).** Each student will be responsible for leading a class worship time of at least 30 minutes. You should prepare music, a 7-10 minute devotion, Scripture, prayer, and other creative elements of your choosing. Your worship time will be followed by a class evaluation. See Course Resources for more information about this assignment.
3. **Chapel Worship Leading (30% of final grade; schedule TBD in class).** Each student in the class will lead worship twice in Chapel during the semester. This is an opportunity to put the principles of the class into action. You may choose to lead with a partner from the class. You will be expected to communicate with the speaker, sound techs, the Chapel Coordinator and any other relevant people. Some of the services may be videotaped and evaluated in class. The worship leading schedule will be determined in class. See Course Resources for more information about this assignment.
4. **Off-Campus Worship Leading (10% of final grade).** Each student in the class will lead worship off-campus twice during the semester. Ideas for places to lead include: your local church main services or youth group, children’s church, dorm or campus devotions, retreat, or other special events. See Course Resources for more information about this assignment.
5. **Personal Ministry Portfolio (10% of final grade; due 11/19).** The goal of this project is to help you prepare materials to submit to a local church when you seek a ministry position. The portfolio will

consist of a packet of materials that will showcase your skills, ministry philosophy, and potential for leadership in a local church. See Course Resources for more information.

6. **Worship Ministry Plan (20% of final grade; outline due 10/29, first draft due 11/12, final draft due 12/05).** Each student will work with a partner to produce a comprehensive Worship Ministry Plan for use in local church ministry. Imagine that your team is the new worship ministry staff at a local church (attendance 500-600) and you are putting together a ministry plan for the coming year, beginning in Jan. 2015. This plan will guide your ministry in the coming year. See Course Resources for more information.

Course Assessment

Assignment	% of Final Grade
Reading Summaries	20%
Class Worship Leading	10%
Chapel Worship Leading	30%
Off-Campus Worship Leading	10%
Personal Ministry Portfolio	10%
Worship Ministry Plan	20%
TOTAL	100%

Course Policies

- All assignments should be submitted through the student portal dropbox unless otherwise indicated.
- Assignments are due at the beginning of the class period (1:30 p.m.). No late work accepted unless prior arrangements are made before the assignment is due. A request to submit late work must be sent in writing via email, and the Prof. must give you permission to submit the late work before you submit it.
- In the instance of institutional walks, the student is responsible for submitting the work by the deadline.
- All written assignments are to be typed in 12-point font and follow MLA style. Assignments should include the student's name, course name and number, and mailbox number. Handwritten work will not be accepted.
- Plagiarism is unacceptable and unethical. If plagiarism is found in an assignment, the student will receive no credit for that assignment. Any student who allows his/her work to be copied by another student will receive no credit for the assignment.
- The Prof. reserves the right to modify due dates, assignments and lecture topics as long as it does not add to the students' total workload.
- If you have a diagnosed learning disability, please see personnel in The Hundred (Student Center for Success) to discuss strategies that would enhance your ability to learn. I cannot implement any special accommodations without authorization from The Hundred.

Classroom Policies

- You are expected to conduct yourself in a mature manner. You may be asked to leave class for reasons such as excessive talking to other students; inattention (e.g. doodling); sleeping; using cell phones; and demonstrating a lack of respect for the professor and fellow students.

- Please do not eat in class. Drinks are acceptable as long as they have a lid.
- Computers should only be used for taking notes. Please do not text during class.

Course Student Learning Resources

Required

Kauflin, Bob. *Worship Matters: Leading Others to Encounter the Greatness of God*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2008.

Searcy, Nelson and Jason Hatley. *Engage: A Guide to Creating Life-Transforming Worship Services*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2011.

Recommended

*** A list of recommended resources will be available in the Course Resources.

Professor Contact Information

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Available on campus daily (usually until 3 p.m.). The professor's office is located upstairs in the Keystone Building.