

Worship and Sacraments Course

Course Description

Courses offered in the area of worship and sacraments explore the theology and practice of Christian worship and sacraments from a Reformed perspective. In addition, courses explore the relationships between worship, sacraments, and education in a congregational context. Courses aim to enhance the participants' participation in, leadership of, preparation for, and teaching about worship and sacraments.

Course Standards

Competencies / Dimensions	Theoretical Perspective	Skills	Contextual Awareness	Self-Critical Awareness
Theological Dimension	Identify doctrine(s) which undergird Reformed understandings of worship	Using the Directory for Worship, assist leadership in understanding PCUSA theology of worship	Compare and contrast with 3 other denominations the understanding of worship	How does your personal theology impact you in the area of worship and sacraments?
Liturgical Dimension	Define worship and sacraments in the Reformed tradition	Using the Directory for Worship, outline the practice of the Lord's Supper, Baptism, and Prayer in the PCUSA	Identify the similarities and differences in your context with Reformed worship as outlined in the Directory for Worship	In what ways does your worship life feed your spiritual well-being?
Educational Dimension	Define an educational theory and method that is conducive to the teaching of worship and sacraments	Develop a learning experience around the teaching of worship and sacraments (i.e. baptism, communion, worship liturgy)	Explore the educational and missional aspects of worship in your context	In what ways do you function as a liturgical educator?

Suggested Resources

PCUSA Constitution: *Book of Confessions* and *Book of Order* (particularly Directory for Worship)
Reformed Worship, Rice and Huffstutler
Worship for the Whole People of God, Ruth Duck
Beyond the Worship Wars, Tom Long
Introduction to Christian Worship, James White
The Future of Protestant Worship and Beyond the Worship Wars, Ron Byars