



MUHI 9303 Music in the Biblical World
NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Division of Church Music Ministries
Spring 2023

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Mission Statement

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

Course Description

This course examines the development of music and worship in the Ancient Near East and in the Bible. Attention is given to archeological information, cultural context, historical development, worship design and content in the Old and New Testaments, instruments, and performance practice.

Student Objectives

1. Students will demonstrate knowledge of important sources in the area of worship and music in the Bible.
2. Students will demonstrate a grasp of foundational information regarding historical development of worship and music in the Bible.
3. Students will demonstrate knowledge of social and cultural backgrounds in the biblical world.
4. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the facets of events involved in worship in the biblical world.
5. Students will demonstrate knowledge of instruments and performance practice of worship in the Bible.
6. Students will demonstrate a capacity to make application of principles of biblical worship and music to the worship and music of the twenty-first century church.

Required Texts:

- Braun, Joachim. *Music in Ancient Israel/Palestine: Archaeological, Written, and Comparative Sources*. Translated by Douglas W. Stott. The Bible in its World, ed. David Noel Freedman. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2002.
- Hill, Andrew E. *Enter His Courts with Praise!: Old Testament Worship for the New Testament Church*. 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House Co., 1996.
- Friedmann, Jonathan. *Music in Biblical Life: The Roles of Song in Ancient Israel*, McFarland, 2013.
- Rubin, Emanuel. *Music in Jewish History and Culture*. Harmonie Park Press, 2006.
- Sendrey, Alfred. *Music in Ancient Israel* New York: Philosophical Library, 1969.
- B. Waltke & J. Houston, w/ E. Moore. *The Psalms as Christian Worship: A Historical Commentary*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2010

Course Teaching Methodology

The course will involve the following methodologies: reading assignments, book reviews, class discussion of the reading, a research paper, personal presentations, and research paper critiques.

Requirements

1. Students will read all required textbooks. In addition, students are expected to read widely from the works listed in the seminar bibliography. Reading assignments in other books and journals will be made throughout the semester.
2. Students will write critical reviews of two books selected in consultation with the instructor. The reviews should be written in acceptable style and be 8-10 double-spaced pages following the guidelines of the current edition of Turabian. A brief presentation will be made in a seminar session with discussion from other students and faculty following. The review should include
 1. Biographical sketch of the author
 2. Summary of contents (3-6 pages)
 3. Statement of author's purpose and critical analyses of the author's success or failure to realize the purpose. (3-6 pages)
 4. Consideration of the uniqueness of the book
 5. Concluding evaluation, including an assessment of the book's contribution to worship, music, and biblical studies.
 6. Critical Book Review #1: Feb. 10-11; Critical Book Review #2: March 24-25
3. QQTP - Questions, Quotations & Talking Points
In response to the assigned chapters in the texts, students will write a one-page paper for each text including each of the following:
 - a. **Questions:** Note the points at which a question comes to mind as you read the each textbook. For each chapter you are assigned to present, write a thoughtful question that invites analysis, synthesis, or evaluation of the material, or makes connections between the readings and previous readings.
 - b. **Quotation:** For each chapter you are assigned to present, select a quotation that is especially pertinent or relevant to the main points of the readings. The quotation should be neither too short (1-2 lines), nor too long (10-12 lines). Cite the source.
 - c. **Talking Points.** Write a talking point for each text that show that you have thought seriously and critically about the readings. You do not need to answer your question here, but you may talk about it if you wish. Write at least a detailed talking point that covers a specific topic from the reading. [20 minutes]
4. Students will complete and present one formal paper on a topic chosen by the student and approved by the professor. A problem statement and outline should be approved before work begins. The paper should be written in acceptable style and be 20-25 double-spaced pages of text, following the guidelines of the current edition of Turabian. Papers are due one week before presentation and copies should be provided for all students and professor [April 21]. The presentation of the paper should be one hour in length and will be followed by response from seminar participants. [30 minutes]
5. Each student will complete a 1-2 page Critical Response to every other student's research paper.]. The Critical Response must include commentary on the following: [a] strengths, [b] weaknesses, [c] Turabian format, and [d] research. Responses will be shared during Seminar 3, April 28-29.

Evaluation

QQTP of Article Discussions, and Readings	25%
Formal Paper Responses	25%
Book Reviews	25%
Formal Paper and Presentation	25%

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Seminar 1: February 10-11 Seminar Introduction: Early History of Music in the Ancient Near East

Read Braun: Sections I - III; Friedmann,, Sendry, Sections I-VI

Book Reviews:

- Bayer, Bathja. *Material Relics of Music in Ancient Palestine and Its Environs*
- Burgh, Theodore. *Listening to the Artifacts: Music Culture in the Ancient Palestine*, Bloomsbury/T & T Clark, 2006
- Manniche, Lise. *Music and Musicians in Ancient Egypt*
- Foster, John L. *Hymns, Prayers, and Songs: An Anthology of Ancient Egyptian Lyric Poetry*
- Dumbrill, Richard. *Music of the Ancient Near East: The Musicology and Organology of the Ancient Near East 3500-500 BC*
- Sachs, Curt. *The Rise of Music in the Ancient World (East and West)*
- Suter, Ann. Editor. *Lament: Studies in the Ancient Mediterranean and Beyond*
- White, James F. *A Brief History of Christian Worship*
- Gordley, Matthew. *Teaching Through Song in Antiquity*. Tübingen, Germany: Mohr Siebeck, 2011. [Chapters 8-11]

Seminar 2: March 24-25 Music in the Old Testament [Research Paper Topics Due]

Read Braun: Sections IV; Rubin: 1-7, Waltke: 1-8, Sendry, Sections VII-XII

Book Reviews:

- C. Hassell Bullock, *Encountering the Psalms*
- Eaton, John. *The Psalms Come Alive: Capturing the Voice and Art of Israel's Songs*
- Gordley, Matthew. *Teaching Through Song in Antiquity*. Tübingen, Germany: Mohr Siebeck, 2011. [Chapters 5-7]
- Kleinig, John W. *The Lord's Song: The Basis, Function and Significance of Choral Music in Chronicles*
- Pierce, Timothy M. *Enthroned on Our Praise: An Old Testament Theology of Worship*
- Smith, John Arthur. *Music in Ancient Judaism and Early Christianity*, Ashgate,
- Peterson, David. *Engaging with God*
- Comotti, Giovanni. *Music in Greek and Roman Culture*
- West, M. L. *Ancient Greek Music*, Oxford/Clarendon, 1994. 2011.

Seminar 3: April 28-29 Music in the New Testament and the Early Church

Read Braun Section V, Rubin: 9-15, Waltke: 9-16, Hill

Celebration of the Seder: Dr. Dennis Cole

Research Paper Presentation

Seminar 1 Detailed Schedule [tentative]

Friday, February 10, 2023

2:00 Welcome &: Dr. Steele
2:15 The Biblical World Overview: Dr. Cole
3:15 Break
QQTP over assigned readings
3:30 Braun: Section III _____
4:00 Sendry: Section I _____
5:00 Break for Supper: [Fiorella's Cafe,](#)
6:30 Sendry: Sections II & III _____
7:00 Sendry: Section IV _____
7:30 Friedmann: Chapters 1 & 2 _____
8:00 Friedmann: Chapters 3 _____
Topics for Research Paper Discussion

Saturday: February 11, 2023

Book Reviews:

8:00 _____
8:20 _____
8:40 _____
9:00 Break
9:15 _____
9:35 _____
9:55 _____

Research Paper Topic:

1. Nate _____
2. Jason _____
3. Juliana _____
4. Traci _____
5. Augustine _____
6. Chris _____

PreSeminar Video Meeting: January 19, 2023, 7:00 pm [CST]

Ed Steele is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: MUHI9303 Music in the Biblical World

Time: Jan 19, 2023 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82769561290>

Meeting ID: 827 6956 1290

Passcode: 019365

Meeting ID: 827 6956 1290

Passcode: 019365

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kX0P2mEBu>

Selected Bibliography

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- Beale, G. K. *We Become What We Worship: A Biblical Theology of Idolatry*. Downers Grove, IL, IVP Academic, 2008.
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- Bockmuehl, Markus. "The Trumpet Shall Sound: Shofar Symbolism and its Reception in Early Christianity." *Templum Amicitiae: Essays on the Second Temple Presented to Ernst Bammel*. Sheffield: JSNT Press, 1991.
- Braun, Joachim. "Iron Age Seals from Ancient Israel Pertinent to Music." *Orbis Musicae* 10 (1991): 11-26.
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- Burgh, Theodore. *Listening to the Artifacts: Music Culture in the Ancient Palestine*, Bloomsbury/T & T Clark, 2006
- Chapell, Bryan. *Christ-Centered Worship: Letting the Gospel Shape Our Practice*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2009.
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