

MASTER OF ARTS IN WORSHIP MINISTRIES

Vocational Calling

To serve the local church in the area of worship leadership. Foundational courses offering a broad theological understanding are complemented by in-depth studies in the field of worship. Three tracks are available: a research track for those interested in a primarily academic understanding of a particular aspect of worship; a leadership track for those whose primary interest is acquiring the leadership skills necessary to develop and oversee a worship ministry; and a music track for those who wish to acquire a fundamental knowledge of the musical skills needed to lead worship music.

Basic Ministerial Competency Component (21 hours)

Foundational Studies Component	(21 hours)
Exploring the Old Testament	3 hours
Exploring the New Testament	3 hours
Studies in Christian Doctrine	3 hours
Baptist Heritage	3 hours
Supervised Ministry 1	2 hours
Basic Church and Education Administration	3 hours
Spiritual Formation 1	1 hour
Spiritual Formation 2	1 hour
Servant Leadership	2 hours

Worship Studies Competency Component (14 hours)

Worship Studies Component	(14 hours)
Theology of Worship	2 hours
History and Philosophy of Worship	2 hours
Survey of Church Song	3 hours
Advanced Reading in Worship	2 hours
Worship Leadership	3 hours
Technology in Worship Ministry	2 hours

Individual Tracks Component (14 hours)

Research Track	
Thesis*	4 hours
Electives**	6 hours
<i>4 hours to be chosen from:</i>	4 hours
Contemporary Trends in Church Music Philosophy and Administration	2 hours
Contemporary Worship	2 hours
Worship and Music in the 21st Century	2 hours

Leadership Track	
Worship and Music in the 21st Century	2 hours
Worship Leadership Lab	1 hour
Guided Ministry Project	1 hour
<i>7 hours to be chosen from the following courses:</i>	7 hours
Interpersonal Relationship Skills	3 hours
Conflict Management	2 hours
Church Growth: Leadership	2 hours
Pastoral Ministries	3 hours
Stress and Conflict Management	3 hours
Christian Ministry in the 21st Century	1 hour
Leadership Theory and Practice	2 hours
Church Staff Relations	2 hours
Contemporary Ministry Issues and Principles	3 hours
3 hours to be chosen from music track courses	3 hours

Music Track	
Piano or acoustic guitar proficiency, and voice proficiency	no credit
Performance***	4 hours
Practical Worship Leading	3 hours
Fundamentals of Music for Worship Leading	3 hours
Worship and Music in the 21st Century	2 hours
Worship Leadership Lab	1 hour
Guided Ministry Project	1 hour

Total Required: 49 hours

**Consists of Worship Research and Writing (1 hour) and Thesis Preparation (3 hours)*

***Must be approved by advisor, with the majority of electives related to the topic of the thesis.*

****Ensembles and/or private instruction. Must include a minimum of 2 hours of ensembles.*

Master of Arts in Worship Ministries

(Continued)

Admission Requirements

Admission to the Master of Arts in Worship Ministries requires the following:

- Applicants must fulfill all the normal admission requirements for NOBTS, including the admission form, transcript, church endorsement, statement of call, medical clearance, TOEFL for international students, etc.
- Applicants must have earned a baccalaureate degree, normally with at least a 3.0 grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale, from an institution accredited by a regional accreditation agency recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or holding membership in the Association of Universities and Colleges in Canada, or the educational equivalent.

Academic Requirements

The 49-hour course requirement of the Master of Arts in Worship Ministries degree is intended to introduce students to Christian worship in its biblical, historical and theological dimensions, and its implications in the church of the 21st century. This two-year program of study distinctively incorporates training in the worship leadership practicum setting, in a graduate project, and in curricular offerings. In the research track, a thesis is required. In the leadership and music tracks, a project is required. Students in the program must maintain at least a B average. Those who do not will go on probation status after the first semester, and will be dismissed after the second consecutive semester with less than a 3.0 average.

For Research Track

Electives

A total of six hours of electives are required in the research track. Prior to enrolling, these electives must be approved by the student's advisor, in order for their credit hours to apply toward the M.A.W.M. degree. The intention is that student will choose electives that are pertinent to the topic of his/her thesis.

Thesis

Three hours of credit will be given for a completed thesis. The topic must be approved by the student's advisor. Two additional readers will be selected from the faculty; one by the Music Division Chair and the other by the student, to approve the final draft of the thesis. The thesis should be 40-80 double-spaced, typed pages in Turabian format, and should represent thorough research on the topic reflecting the highest academic standards. It is important that the thesis topic be selected and approved as early as possible, so that elective choices may be made and completed within an appropriate time frame.

For Leadership Track

Local Church Ministry Involvement

It is expected that all M.A.W.M. leadership track students will be involved in some capacity of leadership in the worship ministry of a local church during each of the four semesters he/she is enrolled. The position may be volunteer or paid, and can be any position designated by the church as a worship leadership position. Positions of this kind are plentiful in the New Orleans area, and should not be difficult to procure.

For Music Track

Proficiency Examinations

Each M.A.W.M. student on the music track must pass either the piano proficiency examination or the acoustic guitar proficiency examination, and the voice proficiency examination. Requirements are included in the Division of Church Music Ministries Handbook, which may be obtained in the Music Division Office.

Local Church Ministry Involvement

It is expected that all M.A.W.M. music track students will be involved in some capacity of leadership in the worship ministry of a local church during each of the four semesters he/she is enrolled. The position may be volunteer or paid, and can be any position designated by the church as a worship leadership position. Positions of this kind are plentiful in the New Orleans area, and should not be difficult to procure.

Recital Attendance

Recital Laboratory is required of all enrolled music students. M.A.W.M. music track students must attend 75% of all calendar-scheduled events for three semesters. Students without a college degree in music must attend an additional semester.

Ensemble Requirements

All M.A.W.M. music track students must enroll in a minimum of two semesters of ensembles during the course of their degree.

Ph.D. Eligibility

Students who complete all the degree requirements of the M.A. in Worship Ministries would have to have the equivalency of a Master of Divinity degree in order to be eligible to apply to the Ph.D. program at NOBTS.