

I.S. 2 - Junior Year Integrative Seminar, Spring Term

Instructor: Professor Kevin Moroney
Course Design by The Rev. Emily Wachner

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Meetings: Thursdays each week, 11:00am-12:30pm

Field work: Sunday mornings, 8am - 12pm (with some variation)

Co-requisite: I.S. 1, or permission of the instructor

Course Description

The goal of the sequence of integrative courses, when paired with field education and contextual experience, is to enable students to integrate what they are learning in the course of their classroom theological education, with what they experience in various field sites; and to develop a strong and consistent priestly identity.

The focus of I.S. 2 in the 2016-2017 academic year is to introduce students to a variety of church contexts throughout the New York metro area and beyond; through these contextual experiences, to foster skills of observation, interpretation, and self-awareness; and finally, through group work and systematic reflection and evaluation, to develop a sense of the breadth of church life and practice (particularly in Episcopal contexts).

All visits, research, and reports will be completed in pairs or small groups.

Course Activities and Expectations

I.S. 2 is a field-based course with a seminar component. The success and content of the course is largely dependent upon the committed and enthusiastic participation of students themselves, particularly in the weekly commitment to observation of and participation in Sunday morning worship. This same level of activity and commitment is expected in Thursday morning's active-learning classroom - for the most part, you, the students, bring and shape the content of the seminar each week.

This class requires thorough preparation - each week, you will be required to complete three parts of a unified assignment (preparatory research; worship participation; field report). Late weekly assignments will not be accepted, as they are to be done in preparation for class that day.

Finally, you are expected to be thoroughly familiar with the CAMS system (where most reading assignments will be posted) to access digital resources when necessary.

Weekly Work

Most weeks, you will complete three parts of the same standard assignment (which is, essentially, participation in and evaluation of a Sunday morning at a local church).

1. **Preparatory Research:** Thorough investigation of the church's web-presence, including evaluation of the church website, Wikipedia page, and Google search results. Calling the church office to inquire about worship times, etc. Planning transportation and Sunday schedule.
2. **Worship Participation:** Attendance at the selected church's primary worship service (in some cases, this may entail two consecutive services) and coffee hour.
3. **Field Report:** This is a document to be prepared and turned in each week at the beginning of class, to be presented orally on Thursday morning. Copies must be provided by the students to the instructor and all classmates. The report will follow a standard form, but may be modified throughout the semester.

Occasional reading assignments may be chosen by the instructor, not to exceed 30 minutes per week, of material relevant to field experiences. These assignments will either be posted on CAMS or handed out via hard copy in class.

Collaborative Nature of Work

Each assignment will be completed as part of a team or trio, and all reports and papers will be submitted / presented as group work (except materials for Worship 8 and for the final paper). It will be up to each team of students to determine how to contribute equitably to each assignment; all students will be expected to take an equal role in research, classroom presentations, and report preparation. The instructor will monitor each student's ability to work collaboratively, which will count for 10% of the final grade.

Sunday visits will be completed somewhat anonymously (i.e. there is no need to arrange your visit in advance, but also it is not necessary to conceal your identity as a seminarian).

Instructor Feedback

Each week, the instructor will collect your written worship evaluations, will read them, and will return them to you the following week with written feedback.

Weekly Folder

It is highly recommended that you keep a large binder, containing research, worship notes, reports, and other paraphernalia (welcome cards, pamphlets, bulletins, etc.) for each Sunday visit. This will help you when you prepare your final paper at the end of the semester.

Final Paper

Due on Tuesday, May 16th at midnight, the final paper (2,500-3,000 words) will offer an opportunity to compare, synthesize, and reflect on the Sunday experiences you will have in this class. Specific questions to be given in writing by the instructor by Thursday, April 27th.

Grading

50% - Weekly Work (research preparation, weekly reports, Sunday attendance)*
20% - Final Paper

20% - Classroom Attendance

10% - Collaboration (self-reported and peer-evaluated)

Classroom Policies

Attendance: You are expected to attend all classes and to complete all Sunday morning worship attendance. An excused absence truly will only be granted due to a death, or to a serious illness (or a sick child), a required diocesan meeting, or a funeral. If you or your child are ill, you must let the instructor know ahead of time, in writing (email or text is fine), and are still expected to turn in your weekly work prior to the start of class that day (via email or through a classmate). Each unexcused Sunday absence will drop your overall course grade by 5%; each unexcused classroom absence will also drop your overall course grade by 5%.

Technology: If you wish to show a church's website as part of your weekly presentation, you may do so using Sherred 1B's overhead projection system, which is very easy to use. If you would like to show a power point at any time, please email the material to yourself and download it onto the 1B computer, or transfer the material via USB drive. This will eliminate the need for personal computers in class.

Note-taking is for personal use only (and not for testing) and therefore computers will not be necessary to take notes - please bring a notebook or loose-leaf paper to take notes. Phones are, obviously, prohibited (except during break). If you are waiting for an important phone call (for example, from your bishop), please inform the instructor before class.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism consists of "the appropriating and presenting as one's own work, the writings of work of another person ... without acknowledgment." It is academic dishonesty and bad scholarship, and therefore may result in failure of this class, and other penalties "up to and including dismissal from the seminary." (GTS Catalog 2016-2017, "Academic Honesty")

Accommodations: If you have a disability that requires any modification of class activities or requirements, please contact the seminary's Registrar, Stacie Waring (registrar@gts.edu), before the second class session to register the disability officially. The Registrar will then authorize me to provide any modifications needed for your participation in the course.

Communication: It is expected that all communication outside of class, particularly email, will reflect our dual academic and professional contexts. Email is primary mode of communication; text should only be used in an urgent situation, such as sudden illness. I tend not to respond to work emails after 7p or before 8a, and do not expect you to, either.

Required Text

None

Schedule, Topics, and Assignments

Note: The schedule is subject to change, depending on class progress, weather, curricular adjustments, and a number of other factors. A new version will be issued in hard copy (and posted on CAMS) in the event of a major change.

Thursday, February 02nd

Preparation: Description of your ideal worship experience and context (2-3p)
Classroom Activity: Introduction to the Syllabus
Consideration of the Worship Report, Discussion of Sections
Presentation of 'Worship Experience and Preferences' Assignment

Thursday, February 09th

Preparation: Research for Worship 1
Due Today: Reflection on Prior Worship Experience and Preferences (2-3p)
Classroom Activity: Group Discussion of Prior Worship Experience and Preferences
Presentations on Upcoming Worship 1

Sunday, February 12th: **Worship 1: Fancy 'Avenue' Churches**

Thursday, February 16th

Preparation: Research for Worship 2
Due Today: Report on Worship 1
Classroom Activity: Oral Report on Worship 1
Presentation of Research for Worship 2

Sunday, February 19th: **Worship 2: Evangelical Episcopal**

Thursday, February 23rd

Preparation: Research for Worship 3
Due Today: Report on Worship 2
Classroom Activity: Oral Report on Worship 2
Presentation of Research for Worship 3

Sunday, February 26th: **Worship 3: Bilingual Congregation**

Thursday, March 02nd

Preparation: Research for Worship 4
Due Today: Report on Worship 3
Classroom Activity: Oral Report on Worship 3
Presentation of Research for Worship 4

Sunday, March 05th: **Worship 4: Family Church**

Thursday, March 09th

Preparation: TBD - Reading per Instructor
Due Today: Report on Worship 4
Classroom Activity: Oral Report on Worship 4
Discussion of Reading

Sunday, March 12th: NO WORSHIP - SPRING BREAK

Thursday, March 16th

NO CLASS - SPRING BREAK

Sunday, March 19th: NO WORSHIP - SPRING BREAK

Thursday, March 23rd

Preparation: Research for Worship 5
Due Today: N/A
Classroom Activity: Mid-Semester Discussion of Worship Experiences So Far
Presentation of Research for Worship 5

Sunday, March 26th: Worship 5: 'Alternative' Worship

Thursday, March 30th

Preparation: Research for Worship 6
Due Today: Report on Worship 5
Classroom Activity: Oral Report on Worship 5
Presentation of Research for Worship 6

Sunday, April 02nd: Worship 6: Local / 'Neighborhood' Parish

Thursday, April 06th

Preparation: Research for Worship 7
Due Today: Report on Worship 6
Classroom Activity: Oral Report on Worship 6
Presentation of Research for Worship 7

Sunday, April 09th (Palm Sunday): Worship 7: Anglicatholic

Thursday, April 13th

NO CLASSES - MAUNDY THURSDAY

Sunday, April 16th (Easter Sunday): Worship 8: Choose Your Own Adventure (Individual)

Thursday, April 20th

Preparation: Research for Worship 9
Due Today: Report on Worship 7 & 8 (Holy Week)
Classroom Activity: Oral Report on Worship 7 & 8
Presentation of Research for Worship 9

Sunday, April 23rd: **Worship 9: Campus Ministry**

Thursday, April 27th

Preparation: Research for Worship 9
Due Today: Report on Worship 8
Classroom Activity: Oral Report on Worship 8
Presentation of Research for Worship 9
Distribution of Final Paper Questions

Sunday, April 30th: **Worship 10: Non-Episcopal / Large Church**

Thursday, May 02nd

Preparation:
Due Today: Report on Worship 10
Classroom Activity: Oral Report on Worship 10
Course Evaluations; Collaboration Evaluations (due before end of class)

FINAL PAPER: **2,500 - 3,000 words, i.e. 10-12 Pages, Due Tuesday, May 16th at
Midnight (via email)**

Spring 2017 Worship Locations (seminarians in parenthesis)

- Worship 1: Fancy 'Avenue' Churches**
Team NY: St. Thomas Fifth Avenue (seminarian: Michael Horvath)
Team NJ: St. Paul's Westfield
- Worship 2: Evangelical Episcopal**
Team NY: Calvary / St. George (both services) (Jay Gardner)
Team NJ: St. Luke's Gladstone (Sharon Sutton)
- Worship 3: Bilingual Congregations (must go to both English and Spanish services)**
Team NY: Choice of: St. Mark's Queens (John Shirley), Intercession (Deborah Lee, Alex Barton) or St. Edward the Martyr (Sebastian Morris)
Team NJ: All Saints Lakewood (10:30a and 12:30p)
- Worship 4: Family Church**
Team NY: St. Paul's Chapel 9:15am Service
Team NJ: Research and attend a weekly worship service for children / families in NJ
- Worship 5: 'Alternative' Ministry (Team NJ must worship in NYC)**
Team NY: St. Lydia's Dinner Church (Sunday night)
Team NJ: St. Lydia's Dinner Church (Monday night)
- Worship 6: Local / Neighborhood Parish**
Team NY: St. Ann & Holy Trinity Brooklyn Heights (Matt Burdette)
Team NJ: St. Paul's Chatham (Christopher McNabb)
- Worship 7: Palm Sunday: Anglocatholic**
Team NY: St. Mary the Virgin (Matt Jacobson)
Team NJ: Grace Church Newark
- Worship 8: Easter: Choose Your Own Adventure (Individual Work)**
- Worship 9: Campus Ministry (contact ahead of time)**
Team NY: Downtown Campus Ministry (6pm, Grace Church Broadway, followed by a meal)
Team NJ: Princeton Campus Ministry
- Worship 10: Non-Episcopal / Large Church (Team NJ must worship in NYC)**
Team NY: Redeemer Presbyterian (choice of campus - must choose as group)
Team NJ: Redeemer Presbyterian (choice of campus - must choose as group)