

# PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Course Syllabus: Fall 2009

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My schedule for this Fall: "A" week: 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> hour Peer Ministry Rm. 204, 6<sup>th</sup> Hour Prayer and Worship, Rm. 220 , in the Campus ministry office at all other times.

## PURPOSE

To offer students the opportunity to explore, compare and contrast the prayer and worship styles of Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism and thereby grow in their appreciation and understanding for the place where they presently stand in relationship with God.

## TEXTBOOK

- *Pray All Ways* – Fr. Ed Hays (Student Purchased)

## REFERENCES IN THE CLASS:

- *Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home* – Richard J. Foster
- *A Beginner's Guide to Constructing the Universe: Mathematical Archetypes of Nature, Art, and Science* - Michael S. Schneider
- *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*. Second Vatican Council
- *Nostra Aetate: Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions*. Second Vatican Council
- *The World's Religions* – Houston Smith

## MATERIALS

All of the following items must be brought to class by Monday, August 24, 2009 for 20 points

- One inch, 3 ring binder, with student's name on the front cover.
- Section dividers labeled: "Notes", "Returned Assignments", "Journal"  
Notebooks will be collected quarterly for a grade.
- At least 6 pieces of notebook paper in the "Notes" and "Journal" section
- Compass, straight edge, pencil (not a mechanical pencil)
- Five colored pencils (you choose the colors, don't need to be brand new...)
- Pencil bag or pencil box to contain the above supplies (this will stay in the room)
- *Pray All Ways*, textbook

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

### PRAYER

**"What we believe, acknowledge, and become by praying are deep features of what we profess about God."** ~ Don E. Saliers, *Worship as Theology: Foretaste of Glory Divine*

Throughout the semester we will delve into the prayer styles of different faith traditions and examine how posture, word, action, and our multiple intelligences influence an individual's life of prayer. In light of our text, the testimony of guest speakers, and class discussion, students will discover the possibilities of "praying all ways".

### WORSHIP

**"I love you when you bow in your mosque, kneel in your temple, pray in your church."**

~Kahlil Gibran, *Lebanese American artist, poet, writer, philosopher and theologian*.

We will engage in an inter-faith study of why, how and where people gather to worship as a community; what is the language and action of these gatherings and if there is a specific purpose to the architecture and décor of the buildings or spaces where they meet. This will lay the foundation for visits to places of worship here in Kansas City.

## GRADES

Grades will be based on the following:

- 45% tests and quizzes, projects
- 45% daily assignments
- 10% respectful class participation. (Taking out books and materials for other classes during this class and not giving your attention to the person who is sharing their insights, will affect this part of your grade)
- No final exams are given for Prayer and Worship.

Grades will be posted online every two weeks.

## CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT

As expressed in our Mission Statement: “Sion continues the tradition of the Congregation of Notre Dame de Sion, cultivating awareness and appreciation for the beliefs and practices of others.”

Although students will not reach full agreement on all issues, respect for those with beliefs and convictions different from one’s own is required.

## EXPECTATIONS

In addition to showing respect for oneself and others, students are expected to come to class prepared and ready to fully participate.

- Failure to be in the classroom when the bell rings, with the required materials and in correct uniform or failure to respectfully participate will result in a pink slip.
- When the bell rings to signal the beginning of class, the only items on a student’s desk should be their prayer and worship notebook and a writing utensil. Books and materials for other classes must be stowed under the desk in the hanging metal “basket”.
- Space on either side of a student’s desk should be clear of books bags, purses, pencil bags etc. No purses, pencil bags or sweaters on the lap during class. Cell phones are turned off and out of sight.
- No food, drinks or gum in the classroom. Exception: water in a transparent bottle.

## PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is using others’ ideas and words without clearly acknowledging the source of the information. Notre Dame de Sion is a Christian institution where a student’s ethical conduct is at least as highly valued as is her academic achievement. Plagiarism is unacceptable and will result in academic and disciplinary consequences. Any essay or report that includes sections from a source that is not acknowledged will result in a zero for that assignment.

## MAKE-UP ASSIGNMENTS

Make-up work due to an absence is always the responsibility of the student. If you are absent, please speak to me upon your return for make up work. See student handbook, page 11 for details.

## LATE WORK

Each day the assignment is late, 10% will be deducted from the grade, with no more than 40% deducted for late assignments. An assignment is considered late if it is not on **my desk in the campus ministry office** by 3:15 p.m. on the day it is due.

## YOUR STYLE OF LEARNING

Please contact me by email or schedule a visit if I need to know about any challenges you have had in the past with taking tests, completing projects, classroom environment, etc. Every student should be able to learn and demonstrate their knowledge in a manner which enables the student to do their personal best.