



# The Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies

The Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies (IWS) offers two degree programs: the Master of Worship Studies ([MWS](#)) and the Doctor of Worship Studies ([DWS](#)). The [purpose](#) of the programs offered through IWS is to further equip worship leaders, instructors, and others interested in the theory and practice of Christian worship, for their responsibilities in the local church and other settings. Given this purpose, fourteen program outcomes have been identified ([seven for DWS](#) and [seven for MWS](#)).

In addition to [student-based feedback](#), IWS assesses the program outcomes through faculty-based and alumni-based feedback, both of which are provided below.

The faculty-based assessment data triangulates student achievement on artifacts, exit interviews, and course evaluations, all of which are directly tied to program outcomes. The faculty have also set benchmarks for each program to help determine the extent to which outcomes are being met.

Degree: Doctor of Worship Studies				
Program Outcome	Means of Assessment	Criteria for Success	Assessment Results	Analysis of Results
DWS PO1. The student will understand, as well as demonstrate the ability to articulate and evaluate, worship rooted in and declaring the story of the Triune God as expressed in the Scriptures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Artifact A from DWS 701;</li> <li>◆ Course Evaluations from Students;</li> <li>◆ Exit Interviews from Graduates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 80% of students receive a cumulative score <math>\geq</math> 80% on criteria listed on rubric for artifact;</li> <li>◆ Average of 3.25 or higher in each identified category on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆ 85% of students will self-report having achieved program goal with a rating of moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 100% of students scored 80% or higher on artifacts as of 12/2021;</li> <li>◆ Average score of 4.8 on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆ 100% of exit interviewers rated moderately or higher</li> </ul>	Benchmark achieved; continuing to monitor.

<p>DWS PO2. The student will understand, as well as demonstrate the ability to articulate and evaluate, major trajectories in the practice of Christian worship through culture and time for use in assessing current expressions of Christian worship.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Artifact A from DWS 701;</li> <li>◆ Course Evaluations from Students;</li> <li>◆ Exit Interviews from Graduates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 80% of students receive a cumulative score <math>\geq 80\%</math> on criteria listed on rubric for artifact;</li> <li>◆ Average of 3.25 or higher in each identified category on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆ 85% of students will self-report having achieved program goal with a rating of moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 80% of students scored 80% or higher on artifacts as of 12/2021;</li> <li>◆ Average score of 4.7 on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆ 100% of exit interviewers rated moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<p>Benchmark achieved; continuing to monitor.</p>
<p>DWS PO3. The student will understand, as well as demonstrate the ability to articulate, a scripturally rooted, historically informed Christian theology of worship to guide the planning and evaluation of Christian worship.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Artifact A from DWS 702;</li> <li>◆ Course Evaluations from Students;</li> <li>◆ Exit Interviews from Graduates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 80% of students receive a cumulative score <math>\geq 80\%</math> on criteria listed on rubric for artifact;</li> <li>◆ Average of 3.25 or higher in each identified category on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆ 85% of students will self-report having achieved program goal with a rating of moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 83% of students scored 80% or higher on artifacts as of 12/2021;</li> <li>◆ Average score of 4.7 on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆ 98% of exit interviewers rated moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<p>Benchmark achieved; continuing to monitor.</p>
<p>DWS PO4. The student will understand, as well as demonstrate the ability to articulate and evaluate, ways in which culture informs and shapes expressions of Christian worship, past and present.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Artifact A from DWS 703;</li> <li>◆ Course Evaluations from Students;</li> <li>◆ Exit Interviews from Graduates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 80% of students receive a cumulative score <math>\geq 80\%</math> on criteria listed on rubric for artifact;</li> <li>◆ Average of 3.25 or higher in each identified category on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆ 85% of students will self-report having achieved program goal with a rating of moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 81% of students scored 80% or higher on artifacts as of 12/2021;</li> <li>◆ Average score of 4.2 on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆ 98% of exit interviewers rated moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<p>Benchmark achieved; continuing to monitor.</p>

<p>DWS PO5. The student will understand, as well as demonstrate the ability to articulate and evaluate, the centrality of God’s mission, with respect to the Church’s worship, founded on the scriptural revelation of the Triune God.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Artifact A from DWS 704 and Artifact B from Practicum;</li> <li>◆ Course Evaluations from Students;</li> <li>◆ Exit Interviews from Graduates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 80% of students receive a cumulative score <math>\geq 80\%</math> on criteria listed on rubric for artifact;</li> <li>◆ Average of 3.25 or higher in each identified category on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆ 85% of students will self-report having achieved program goal with a rating of moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 87% of students scored 80% or higher on artifacts as of 12/2021;</li> <li>◆ Average score of 4.5 on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆ 98% of exit interviewers rated moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<p>Benchmark achieved; continuing to monitor.</p>
<p>DWS PO6. The student will demonstrate the ability to research, evaluate and articulate concepts related to Christian worship, using scholarly materials (primary and secondary) and the theological action-research methodology.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Artifact A from DWS 801;</li> <li>◆ Course Evaluations from Students;</li> <li>◆ Exit Interviews from Graduates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 80% of students receive a cumulative score <math>\geq 80\%</math> on criteria listed on rubric for artifact;</li> <li>◆ Average of 3.25 or higher in each identified category on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆ 85% of students will self-report having achieved program goal with a rating of moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 94% of students scored 80% or higher on artifacts as of 12/2021;</li> <li>◆ Average score of 4.7 on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆ 98% of exit interviewers rated moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<p>Benchmark achieved; continuing to monitor.</p>
<p>DWS PO7. The student will understand, as well as demonstrate the ability to articulate, implement and evaluate, key concepts related to Christian worship in a particular setting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Artifact A from DWS Practicum;</li> <li>◆ Course Evaluations from Students;</li> <li>◆ Exit Interviews from Graduates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 80% of students receive a cumulative score <math>\geq 80\%</math> on criteria listed on rubric for artifact;</li> <li>◆ Average of 3.25 or higher in each identified category on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆ 85% of students will self-report having achieved program goal with a rating of moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 100% of students scored 80% or higher on artifacts as of 12/2021;</li> <li>◆ Average score of 4.6 on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆ 100% of exit interviewers rated moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<p>Benchmark achieved; continuing to monitor.</p>

## Degree: Master of Worship Studies

Program Outcome	Means of Assessment	Criteria for Success	Assessment Results	Analysis of Results
<p>MWS PO1. The student will understand, as well as demonstrate the ability to articulate and evaluate, Biblical evidence for worship as participation in the story of the Triune God.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Artifact A from MWS 501;</li> <li>◆ Course Evaluations from Students;</li> <li>◆ Exit Interviews from Graduates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 80% of students receive a cumulative score <math>\geq</math> 80% on criteria listed on rubric for artifact;</li> <li>◆ Average of 3.25 or higher in each identified category on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆ 85% of students will self-report having achieved program goal with a rating of moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 100% of students scored 80% or higher on Artifact A as of 12/2021;</li> <li>◆ Average score of 4.73 on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆ 96% of exit interviewers rated moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<p>Benchmark achieved; continuing to monitor.</p>
<p>MWS PO2. The student will understand, as well as demonstrate the ability to articulate and evaluate, the historical development of Christian worship practices and theology.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Artifact A from MWS 501;</li> <li>◆ Artifact B from MWS 502;</li> <li>◆ Course Evaluations from Students;</li> <li>◆ Exit Interviews from Graduates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 80% of students receive a cumulative score <math>\geq</math> 80% on criteria listed on rubric for artifact;</li> <li>◆ Average of 3.25 or higher in each identified category on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆ 85% of students will self-report having achieved program goal with a rating of moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 83% of students scored 80% or higher on Artifact A as of 12/2021;</li> <li>◆ 100% of students scored 80% or higher on Artifact B as of 12/2021;</li> <li>◆ Average score of 4.5 on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆ 95% of exit interviewers rated moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<p>Benchmark achieved; continuing to monitor.</p>
<p>MWS PO3. The student will understand, as well as demonstrate the ability to articulate and evaluate, the role of theology, philosophy and epistemology in Christian formation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Artifact A from MWS 502;</li> <li>◆ Artifact B from MWS 503;</li> <li>◆ Course Evaluations from Students;</li> <li>◆ Exit Interviews from Graduates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 80% of students receive a cumulative score <math>\geq</math> 80% on criteria listed on rubric for artifact;</li> <li>◆ Average of 3.25 or higher in each identified category on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆ 85% of students will self-report having achieved program goal with a rating of moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 100% of students scored 80% or higher on Artifact A as of 12/2021;</li> <li>◆ 89% of students scored 80% or higher on Artifact B as of 12/2021;</li> <li>◆ Average score of 4.6 on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆ 100% of exit interviewers rated moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<p>Benchmark achieved; continuing to monitor.</p>

<p>MWS PO4. The student will understand, as well as demonstrate the ability to articulate and evaluate, the role of contextualization in engaging God's people in the dialogue of worship.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆Artifact A from MWS 503;</li> <li>◆Artifact B from MWS 504;</li> <li>◆Course Evaluations from Students;</li> <li>◆Exit Interviews from Graduates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆80% of students receive a cumulative score <math>\geq</math> 80% on criteria listed on rubric for artifact;</li> <li>◆Average of 3.25 or higher in each identified category on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆85% of students will self-report having achieved program goal with a rating of moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆91% of students scored 80% or higher on Artifact A as of 12/2021;</li> <li>◆85% of students scored 80% or higher on Artifact B as of 12/2021;</li> <li>◆Average score of 4.8 on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆100% of exit interviewers rated moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<p>Benchmark achieved; continuing to monitor.</p>
<p>MWS PO5. The student will understand, as well as demonstrate the ability to articulate and evaluate, the centrality of God's mission with respect to the Church's worship, including its global dimensions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆Artifact A from MWS 504;</li> <li>◆Course Evaluations from Students;</li> <li>◆Exit Interviews from Graduates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆80% of students receive a cumulative score <math>\geq</math> 80% on criteria listed on rubric for artifact;</li> <li>◆Average of 3.25 or higher in each identified category on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆85% of students will self-report having achieved program goal with a rating of moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆85% of students scored 80% or higher on artifacts as of 12/2021;</li> <li>◆Average score of 4.8 on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆100% of exit interviewers rated moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<p>Benchmark achieved; continuing to monitor.</p>
<p>MWS PO6. The student will demonstrate the ability to research, evaluate and articulate concepts related to Christian worship, using scholarly materials, as well as apply them to the spiritual life of the believer, with an emphasis upon the planning of corporate worship.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆Artifact A from MWS 601;</li> <li>◆Course Evaluations from Students;</li> <li>◆Exit Interviews from Graduates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆80% of students receive a cumulative score <math>\geq</math> 80% on criteria listed on rubric for artifact;</li> <li>◆Average of 3.25 or higher in each identified category on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆85% of students will self-report having achieved program goal with a rating of moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆100% of students scored 80% or higher on artifacts as of 12/2021;</li> <li>◆Collection of course evaluations will begin 2022;</li> <li>◆100% of exit interviewers rated moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<p>Benchmark achieved; continuing to monitor.</p>

MWS PO7. The student will demonstrate the ability to integrate and evaluate MWS course objectives within a local ministry context through specific, intentional and strategically supervised efforts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Artifact A from MWS 601;</li> <li>◆ Course Evaluations from Students;</li> <li>◆ Exit Interviews from Graduates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 80% of students receive a cumulative score <math>\geq</math> 80% on criteria listed on rubric for artifact;</li> <li>◆ Average of 3.25 or higher in each identified category on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆ 85% of students will self-report having achieved program goal with a rating of moderately or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 100% of students scored 80% or higher on artifacts as of 12/2021;</li> <li>◆ Average score of 4.8 on course evaluations;</li> <li>◆ 100% of exit interviewers rated moderately or higher</li> </ul>	Benchmark achieved; continuing to monitor.
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In addition to faculty-based feedback, IWS also assesses the program outcomes through alumni-based feedback. IWS annually distributes an exit interview to that year's graduating class. Compiling feedback from interviews of the last four graduating classes (2018-2021), the following data were compiled.

Utilizing a 3 point scale (3 = significantly, 2 = moderately, 1 = slightly), our alumni rated the extent to which their courses fulfilled the program outcomes:

## Alumni Responses: Program Outcomes for the Doctor of Worship Studies

### 34 respondents of 95 alumni (2018-2021 graduating classes)

#### 1. **Biblical foundation of Christian worship**

The student will understand, as well as demonstrate the ability to articulate and evaluate, worship rooted in and declaring the story of the Triune God as expressed in the Scriptures. (2.9/3.0)

#### 2. **Historical development of Christian worship**

The student will understand, as well as demonstrate the ability to articulate and evaluate, major trajectories in the practice of Christian worship through culture and time for use in assessing current expressions of Christian worship. (2.8/3.0)

#### 3. **Theological reflection on Christian worship**

The student will understand, as well as demonstrate the ability to articulate, a scripturally rooted, historically informed Christian theology of worship to guide the planning and evaluation of Christian worship. (2.9/3.0)

#### 4. **Cultural reflection on Christian worship**

The student will understand, as well as demonstrate the ability to articulate and evaluate, ways in which culture informs and shapes expressions of Christian worship, past and present. (2.7/3.0)

#### 5. **Missiological reflection on Christian worship**

The student will understand, as well as demonstrate the ability to articulate and evaluate, the centrality of God's mission, with respect to the Church's worship, founded on the scriptural revelation of the Triune God. (2.8/3.0)

6. **Methodological skills for studies in Christian worship**

The student will demonstrate the ability to research, evaluate and articulate concepts related to Christian worship, using scholarly materials (primary and secondary) and the theological action-research methodology. (2.8/3.0)

7. **Ministerial skills in Christian worship**

The student will understand, as well as demonstrate the ability to articulate, implement and evaluate, key concepts related to Christian worship in a particular setting. (2.9/3.0)

## Alumni Responses: Program Outcomes for the Master of Worship Studies

### 17 respondents of 56 alumni (2018-2021 graduating classes)

1. **Biblical foundation of Christian worship**

The student will understand, as well as demonstrate the ability to articulate and evaluate, Biblical evidence for worship as participation in the story of the Triune God. (2.8/3.0)

2. **Historical development of Christian worship**

The student will understand, as well as demonstrate the ability to articulate and evaluate, the historical development of Christian worship practices and theology. (2.6/3.0)

3. **Theological reflection on Christian worship**

The student will understand, as well as demonstrate the ability to articulate and evaluate, the role of theology, philosophy and epistemology in Christian formation. (2.6/3.0)

4. **Cultural reflection on Christian worship**

The student will understand, as well as demonstrate the ability to articulate and evaluate, the role of contextualization in engaging God's people in the dialogue of worship. (2.9/3.0)

5. **Missiological reflection on Christian worship**

The student will understand, as well as demonstrate the ability to articulate and evaluate, the centrality of God's mission with respect to the Church's worship, including its global dimensions. (2.9/3.0)

6. **Methodological skills for studies in Christian worship**

The student will demonstrate the ability to research, evaluate and articulate concepts related to Christian worship, using scholarly materials, as well as apply them to the spiritual life of the believer, with an emphasis upon the planning of corporate worship. (2.9/3.0)

7. **Ministerial skills in Christian worship**

The student will demonstrate the ability to integrate and evaluate MWS course objectives within a local ministry context through specific, intentional and strategically supervised efforts. (3.0/3.0)