

Syllabus for LT2

LT2—Book of Common Prayer

Summary of Course:

The 1979 Book of Common Prayer in light of the evolution of Anglican worship is the topic of this course. Having established the context for our discussion by reviewing the background and creation of The Book of Common Prayer, the class sessions will cover the spirituality and the practicality of the Book. With “Prayer Book Reform” discussions and forums active on social media, we will also consider which parts of our Prayerbook tradition should remain and be retained, as well as what might be discarded. Though the course is a historical survey, each session will use historical material to address the current 1979 Book of Common Prayer, and the question of what still needs to be reformed.

Time of the course on Saturdays: 10:30-11:45 a.m.

Instructor: The Rt. Rev. Dr. R. William Franklin

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Cell phone number: 716-861-1563

Books and Articles for the Course:

1. Charles Hefling and Cynthia Shattuck, *The Oxford Guide to the Book of Common Prayer*, Oxford University Press, 2006.
2. R. William Franklin and Joseph M. Shaw, *The Case for Christian Humanism* (W.B. Eerdmans, 1991)
3. Winnie Varghese, *Church Meets World: Church’s Teachings for a Changing World*, Vol. 4, Morehouse Publishing, 2016.

4. Additional Articles by R. William Franklin on E.B. Pusey, the Liturgical Movement, and Charles Henry Brent (to be sent out by instructor before appropriate class session)

Topics of the Specific Sessions along with Readings Assigned for those Sessions:

1. February 15: Worship in the Background of the Reformation—the Patristic and Medieval Heritage
The Case for Christian Humanism, ix-44, 97-139.
2. March 21: The Formation of the English Book of Common Prayer: The Sixteenth Century
The Oxford Guide to the Book of Common Prayer, 9-20, 21-28, 39-43, 64-72, 61-63.
3. April 18: The Formation of the American Book of Common Prayer: The Eighteenth Century:
The Oxford Guide to the Book of Common Prayer, 153-165, 176-185, 214-217.
4. May 9: The Impact of the Liturgical Movements on Prayerbook Revision as a Guide to Needed Reform Today: The Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries
The Case for Christian Humanism, 140-176, *The Oxford Guide to the Book of Common Prayer*, 249-260, 445-451, R. William Franklin, “Pusey and Worship in Industrial Society,” (instructor will email this to you), R. William Franklin, “The Nineteenth-Century Liturgical Movement,” (instructor will email this to you).

5. June 20: The Creation of the 1979 Book of Common Prayer and the Future of the Prayerbook—What Should be Kept and What Should be Left Out: The Twentieth and Twenty-first Centuries *Church Meets World*, v-90, R. William Franklin, “Charles Henry Brent and Disagreement on the Way to the United Church: The Case of the Faith and Order Movement,” (instructor will email this to you).

Student Assessment: The course will include lecture, class, discussion, and presentations by students taking course for credit on occasion. There will be one class paper due in April, and a final examination based on the General Ordination Model of testing at the end of the course.

NOTE ON BOOKS

Completing the reading assignments in advance of the class is essential to receiving the full benefit of the in-class conversation. Because tuition is funded largely by the Mercer Scholarship Fund, we do not obtain books for auditors, and charge only a minimal administrative fee of \$25 per course. All the books are priced new under \$30, and many are available used or new through third party sellers at significant discounts. Kindle versions of *Church Meets World* and the *Oxford Guide* are also available at a significantly lower price. Given that *The Case for Christian Humanism* is the highest priced book, and only about eighty pages from the book are assigned to be read prior to the first class meeting, pdf versions of the assigned sections will be emailed in advance.