

Baylor University Chapel  
CHA 1088  
Spring 2015

Instructors:

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University Chaplain  
Dean for Spiritual Life

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Associate Chaplain  
Director for Chapel & Worship

Baylor University maintains the rich tradition of chapel for several reasons. The most important of these reasons is your opportunity as a student to engage the community in worship and programming that inspires and enriches, nurtures and transforms. There are some things that cannot be known in a lecture or a lab. Authentic worship, artistic expression, prophetic witness, and passionate testimony are all traditional means for people of faith to experience and know God. University Chapel is an opportunity to remember and give thanks to God, to pray for one another and the world, to confess and commit to the faith that binds us, to receive again or perhaps for the first time, the grace of God.

All students are welcome to attend Chapel even if they are not in need of academic credit. Many students have found this practice helpful throughout their years at Baylor. Our hope is that you will find a communion with God and with your peers during this Chapel experience that will set a precedent for your spiritual growth throughout your time at Baylor.

Office Hours:

Chapel Staff can be contacted by visiting the Bobo Spiritual Life Center, or by calling our office at 254.710.3517. E-mail [Baylor\\_chapel@baylor.edu](mailto:Baylor_chapel@baylor.edu) or call for appointment.

Class times:

Monday & Wednesday  
Waco Hall  
9:05, 10:10 & 11:15

Class Description:

University Chapel at Baylor is the largest weekly, ongoing gathering of the Baylor community and, as a part of the required curriculum, is also a class where students encounter the worship, work, and witness of the Church.

Schedule of Chapels:

Students can access a complete schedule of chapels and other important information by visiting [www.baylor.edu/spirituallife](http://www.baylor.edu/spirituallife).

### **Course Requirements / Attendance Policy:**

Receiving credit for chapel at Baylor is simple: **Show up on time and be respectfully present.**

Chapel policy requires that to earn credit in this course the student must attend at least 75% of all chapel sessions. There are **NO** excused absences in Chapel under any circumstances. Remember, YOU are responsible for checking your own attendance to ensure you will receive credit!

Due to the nature of chapel, **you cannot be counted present if you are late.** Any student coming into Waco Hall after the auditorium doors have been shut will not be allowed to receive credit for that day. Due to the large number of students enrolled in chapel, students **MUST** attend the service in which they are officially enrolled to receive credit.

**Pastoral Care:** If you would like to speak to a Chaplain for any reason, please do not hesitate to call (710.3517) or e-mail, [Baylor\\_Chapel@baylor.edu](mailto:Baylor_Chapel@baylor.edu). Baylor Chaplains meet with students for a variety of reasons every week and would welcome an opportunity to meet with you.

**Chapel Alternatives:** While the great majority of students will receive their two chapel credits through traditional University Chapel, some students may receive one credit in a chapel alternative. Examples of chapel alternatives include: prayer services in our residential colleges, small group experiences, theological forums, and mission trips. Interested students should contact the office of Spiritual Life for more information.

## Important Chapel Guidelines, Procedures, and Policies:

**Conduct:** We are all adults embarking on a spiritual journey together. We are all expected to be respectful of the hour and behave appropriately. Courtesy toward the chaplains and chapel staff is expected. Disrespectful conduct (arguing with staff, acting in a rude manner, etc) could result in a referral to student conduct administration. Students will not be re-admitted to chapel until the process with student conduct administration is complete.

**Electronics:** Unless medically necessary, please turn off and put away all electronic devices prior to entering Waco Hall and be prepared to take an active role in the program. **Use of cell phones, ipods, laptops, e-readers or other types of electronic devices is prohibited.** *Headphones or earbuds should never be worn inside of Waco Hall.* If you are asked to leave chapel, you will receive an absence for that chapel session.

**Attendance:** Students are required to slide a Baylor ID card at the completion of the chapel service and then check to see if the card was accepted. Problems with attendance being incorrectly recorded must be dealt with **within two weeks of the chapel service in question.** This means you must check your attendance often ([www.baylor.edu/spirituallife](http://www.baylor.edu/spirituallife)). It is the student's responsibility to deal with attendance problems in a timely manner. You may not dispute an absence after the two-week dispute period.

**VOUCHERS & Your Baylor ID:** Students without a working ID may ask the chapel staff **before leaving the hall** for a voucher. Students may only use **3 vouchers** during a semester. The voucher system is a backup system of attendance and is NOT intended to be a substitute system for card scanning. It is the student's responsibility to have a working ID card.

**75% Attendance:** There are **NO** excused absences. All absences from chapel are treated the same whether they be for an illness, an out-of-town trip, or simply oversleeping. Students are strongly encouraged to be present for all chapels in the event that illness or an emergency causes excessive absences later in the semester.

**Honor Code:** Any attempt to cheat in chapel (i.e. sneaking in to slide a card, claiming to have been present when you were not) could result in failure for the semester. Any student found cheating will be referred to the Office of Academic Integrity and Honor Code.

## **Frequently Asked Questions:**

**How many absences can I have?** A chapel student in BU or University 1000 may miss 8 times and still receive credit. All other students may only have 7 absences. We encourage you to hold onto several absences in the event you are sick or have a family emergency that causes you to miss chapel at the semester's end.

**If I register late, are Chapels held before I attend counted as absences?** Yes.

**Bearweb has me marked absent today and I was there, what can I do?** It takes 8-24 hours after each Chapel session before attendance is reflected on the web page. If you are still marked absent after 24 hours, please fill out the absence inquiry form found on the Spiritual Life website.

**Why can't we eat or drink at Chapel?** Waco Hall prohibits any food or drink inside the auditorium.

**What do I do if I leave something in Chapel?** Go to the voucher stand and have a Chapel supervisor enter Waco Hall with you. ***No one is allowed to enter the auditorium until everyone has exited.***

**May I suggest someone as a Chapel Speaker or Performer?** YES! You can e-mail [Baylor\\_Chapel@Baylor.edu](mailto:Baylor_Chapel@Baylor.edu) with your suggestion. Please include as much contact information as possible.

**May I bring a guest to Chapel?** YES! Guests are welcome anytime! Guests can be students or non-students and are not asked to scan an ID on the way out of the auditorium.